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INSTALLATION OF RECYCLED / REMILLED FLOORBOARDS

We recommend that all our products - especially remilled timber flooring - be installed as an overlay on sheet underlay. This recommendation applies to 19mm as well as 12mm or 15mm products. Although boards 19mm and thicker will successfully fix direct to joists, and this meets general standards of building practice, there are benefits in fixing as overlay.

The Five Benefits of Installing on a Structural Sheet Base

- **Filling** Minor natural feature penetrations or nail holes have an effective base and can be colour-matched or contrast-filled with water-based putty, rather than cut out.
- **Waste** The amount of offcut is minimized.
- **Protection from Ground Moisture** Sites susceptible to subfloor moisture or in renovation work where clearance is low or ventilation poor.
- **5-Star rating** An increase in the energy rating of the finished project. Overlay installations are standard practice in Europe and North America and look likely to become so here in the future.
- **Building Sites, Schedules & Warranty** Floor is protected from wet trades and the humidity of new plaster. It can be installed at the end of building project as a seamless, clean and dust-free installation, sanding, coating process, without interruption by other trades.

The sheet flooring may be either plywood or yellowtongue particleboard installed over joists or over concrete slab. **Do not fix solid timber boards directly to slab.** If used as an open-to-weather construction platform during framing and plastering, the sheet must be allowed to dry to moisture content (MC) not exceeding 15%.

Because of 'seaming' with particle board edges after exposure to weather, the underlay must be flat-sanded or seam-sanded to level before floorboards are installed. Boards can be fixed using (secret-nail) staple gun to pin to underlay. **The primary fixing agent is polyurethane timber glue.** General construction adhesives should be avoided. Manufacturers such as Bostik, Ramset and Sika have purpose-specific products for this task. The glue is applied ahead of the boards with a notched trowel as they are fixed - or applied as a wiggle or glue-joist from a sausage cartridge and applicator gun. Many failures of overlay floors can be attributed to inadequate quantities of applied glue. These are mainly spot or localized failures in a project but are expensive to remedy.

Boards may be coated with either water-based urethanes, Tung oil preparations or other oil-modified urethanes. The use of solvent-based polyurethane finishes is not recommended as they are more likely to cause edge-bonding problems with solid timber flooring.

Our display areas at Spotswood are finished with Bonatech **Traffic** and **Loba** durable water-based urethanes in a matt or lo-sheen finish (by Loba Australasia). Coating products are best sourced or specified via your sanding contractor. You do not have to locate sales outlets yourself.