



THE  
**FLOORING**  
FOUNDATION

Hard  
Flooring  
Guide







# A Guide to Selecting the Right Hardwood Floor

**Choosing from such an extensive variety of flooring types, styles and colours can be daunting. To help you navigate through these decisions, we have put together the following pages so you can select the perfect flooring for your home, lifestyle and budget.**

1. **Zones:** Where in the home will your new flooring be used? How much foot traffic will there be? This will help you narrow down the type of flooring best suited to your space.
2. **Colours:** Colour can help enhance the mood and style of your room. Colour can also alter the perception of a room's size and shape. We have provided a few examples to help you choose the right colour to create the look and feel that's right for you.
3. **Styles:** Each flooring type also has its own unique look, profile, and finish. We will help you choose the right size of plank or tile for your space and lifestyle needs.



# Zones Within Your Home

**Choosing the right flooring type to suit your household is crucial in ensuring your floor looks good for years to come.**

The zones of your home can be broken down into three categories, high traffic areas, like entrance-ways, kitchens and dining, low traffic, quiet areas such as your bedroom, and wet areas such as bathrooms and laundries. Our timber and timber look floors are designed to withstand constant movement and traffic, the trick is to determine how busy your household is. Do you have young children? Or is your household quieter? Do you intend to install hard flooring into a wet room?





## Which range is best for which zone?

### Timber Floors



Great for all general use areas of your home. Perfect if you are looking for texture, warmth and authenticity for your interior.

Not suitable for bathroom, toilets and laundry.

### Laminate Floors



Best for high-traffic areas, perfect if you are looking for something durable, affordable, and comfortable underfoot. Also offers a high level of tolerance to UV rays, so great for rooms with prolonged and direct sunlight.

### Hybrid Floors



Great for all areas of your home. All round product that is completely waterproof, with acoustics benefits and improved thermal comfort underfoot.

### Vinyl Plank Floors



Best for busy areas where accidents are bound to happen, perfect if you are looking for something easy to clean and budget friendly.





## Kitchen Perfection

The kitchen is usually the busiest room in the house. It is where you cook, eat, socialise and then clean up afterwards. It should be beautiful but able to withstand the fun and chaos!

In an open floor plan layout, using the same flooring in your living, dining and kitchen is an easy way to unify the space.

For busy households consider extra protection with hard wearing products like Vinyl Plank, Hybrid or Laminate containing spill protect properties.

These extremely durable products are made of several layers of compressed materials finished with high end topical coating systems preventing most stains and damage from liquids.



## Master the Living Room

Does your living space serve as an active family room where children and friends gather? Or do you use this space for reading and relaxation?

The way you want your living space to function, look and feel will naturally influence your choice.

Timber floors will provide a premium natural feel, with a unique look for your living space with distinct knots and beautiful colour variation and grain.

With Laminate floors, you will enjoy the beauty of a real timber look floor, without the maintenance and with a more affordable price tag. Or you can opt for hard wearing mediums like Hybrid or Vinyl Plank.



## Bathroom Basics

The modern bathroom is a luxurious space to relax and restore. Your bathroom floor also needs to be waterproof, non-slip and easy to clean. This is where Vinyl Plank, Hybrid and water resistant Laminate collections shine.

Choose Vinyl Plank for a completely bonded waterproof, easy care option or define texture with Hybrid or Laminate and can generally be installed over any sub floor in your bathroom.

As a floating floor, both Hybrid and Vinyl Planks can be installed over any sub-floor in your bathroom. They are softer than ceramic tiles and offer warmth underfoot all year round.

\*Please consult with your floor provider to ensure floating floor installations in bathrooms will meet design and build requirements.

## Dream Bedroom

The bedroom is an intimate space where you want to feel relaxed, comfortable and secure. Create beautiful spaces that are easy care and use rugs to accentuate space and texture.

The feel of textured Timber underfoot will be a wonderful beginning and end to your day. In children's bedrooms, low maintenance Laminate floors are also a savvy choice.

Both Timber and Laminate floors feel great underfoot.













## Colours

The style and appearance of your room is strongly influenced by the colour of your floor. To help you with the big decisions, check out our latest colour scheme ideas and interior trends.

## Warm Tones

### Naturals

Light ash, oak, beech and maple hard flooring colours create harmony. The peaceful character of a floor in natural tones is a timeless choice.

Lighter natural tones can make a dark room feel sunnier. These provide a neutral blank canvas, allowing furnishings and accessories in the space to take centre stage.

### Browns

Dark oak, wenge and walnut colours give interiors a cosy, intimate and homely feeling and work well for a variety of styles, from traditional to contemporary. Go bold and pair with bright white interiors for drama or create ambience with pops of vibrant colour and texture — think velvet curtains and gorgeous throws.

Chocolate and brown hard flooring options are especially suited to a sitting room, bedroom, and hallway.

### Golden Hues

Honey tones from light blonde to warm chestnut are a beautiful choice and will add character to a space, perfect for a heritage home.

Floors with caramel tones complement neutral walls. They provide an exotic warmth and bring a sense of rich luxury to a room, ideal for formal living room and dining room.

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#### Expert tip

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Just like buying paint, always take swatches of your favourite flooring options home to see how they work in your space.







## Cool Tones

### Black Impacts

Black floors are an ideal foundation for a unique space and brings a classy feeling to every room. This creates a dramatic and contemporary look when paired with crisp white walls.

Colour can be added with accessories or painted accent wall, creating an eye-catching and personality-filled space.

### Whites

Scandinavian style white floors suit all manner of interior trends and are not as high maintenance as you may think. White floors are increasing in popularity as they make a room feel more spacious and bring a light, airy feel to a home.

White on white walls and furnishings mixed with a white floor creates a great breezy, coastal vibe.

### Shades of Grey

Grey tone floors offer a soothing and chic vibe which is a great base for the modern home. Choose cool or warm tones to create mood. Because grey is neutral, it works well with almost every other colour, making it one of the easiest options for matching furniture.

Grey floors look stylish combined with white walls, but also work well using an accent wall in a striking colour or a patterned wallpaper design.

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### Expert tip

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Most hard floors can be finished with a variety of trim options. Colour matched trims become part of your floor providing a seamless finish.







## Wall, Flooring and Ceiling Combinations

Use room colour to create specific emotions and moods in your home, anchored by your floor design.

### Go Neutral

The easiest way to ensure that your flooring coordinates with your walls is to choose a neutral paint shade. A light floor with light walls and light ceiling will feel particularly spatial. Use neutral walls as a backdrop to display artwork, home furnishings, and accessories for more flair.

### Choose Complementary Colours

To spice up a room, choose a comparable wall colour that has similar undertones to your floor. If your wood floor has golden, orange, or reddish undertones, look for a warm-toned wall colour that will complement those tones. If your wood has grey or ashy undertones, a cool colour like blue or green will blend seamlessly with your walls.

### Create Bold Contrast

Creating a sharp contrast between the floor colour to the walls will make both surfaces stand out. If you have dark floors, opt for a light wall colour and vice versa. Dark floors can stand up to bold colours and make a statement when paired with contrasting walls. A dark floor with light walls and light ceiling will make the room seem larger and emphasise the horizontal lines in the space.

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#### Expert tip

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Lighter flooring colours will open up a room. Darker colours will draw the eye in creating more mood. Look at the wall colours and flooring samples together. Paint some patches in various rooms near the baseboard and lay your flooring samples up against the baseboard. The colours you might have initially chosen together may not be the ones you like the most when they are in the neutral space. Consider them over the course of 24 hours to see how the light at different times of day and night impacts upon the installation.





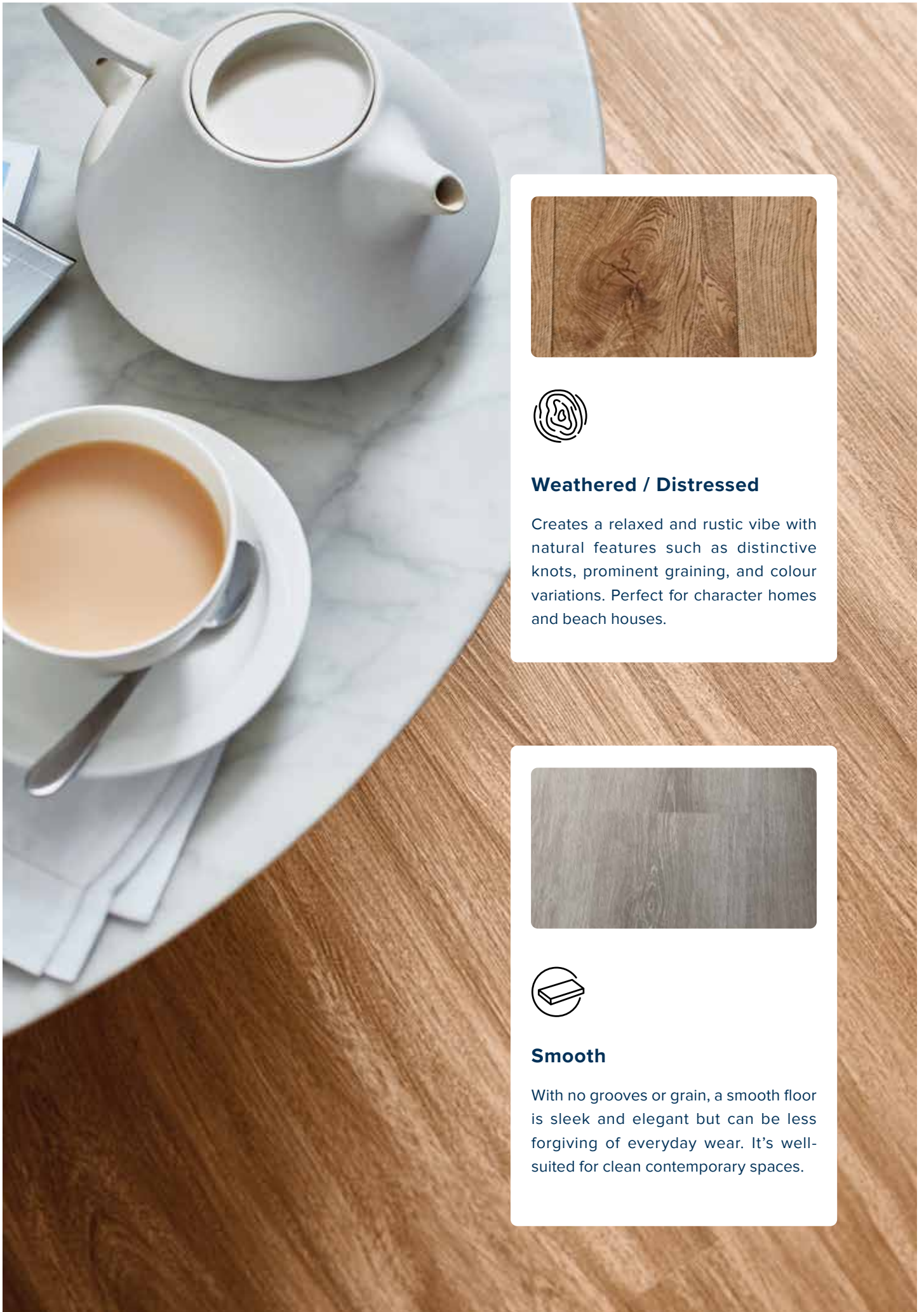




## Styles

**Just like colour, the texture and size of the plank, as well as the direction in which flooring is laid can make a difference to the look and feel of your room.**

Smooth, matt, grainy, glossy? Long or short, wide or narrow planks? If you are confused over what seems like an endless list of choices, check out the following top tips and interior advice.



### **Weathered / Distressed**

Creates a relaxed and rustic vibe with natural features such as distinctive knots, prominent graining, and colour variations. Perfect for character homes and beach houses.



### **Smooth**

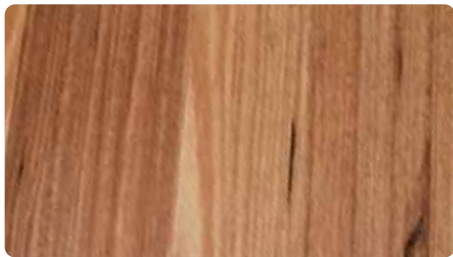
With no grooves or grain, a smooth floor is sleek and elegant but can be less forgiving of everyday wear. It's well-suited for clean contemporary spaces.





### **Matt**

Matt is where it is at. A modern and natural finish which is forgiving and copes well with the wear and tear of daily life. Great for open-plan living areas and contemporary industrial spaces.



### **Satin**

Ideal for elegant, polished interiors, such as formal living and dining rooms. The glossy finish reflects light back into a room, making the space seem larger.









## Profiles

Edge type can be defined as the finished sides and end joints of each plank. The edge profile you select can make a big difference in the overall effect of how your floors look once installed.



### Bevel and Micro-bevel Edge

A beveled edge hard flooring has a more distinctive deep V groove that emphasizes the uniqueness of each individual plank. This edge style typically lends itself to a more traditional or rustic type of décor, although it also works in a modern setting.

The micro-beveled edge hard flooring has a shallow V groove that is not as deep as the beveled edge. This micro-bevel helps accentuate the depth and characteristics of each plank in a slight and subtle way. This style typically lends itself to the sleeker design styles such as transitional and modern.



### Round Edge

This edge style typically lends itself to a more traditional or rustic type of décor, although it also works in a modern setting.

Rounded edge hard flooring features gently curved edges, creating softer transitions throughout your flooring. Offering a smooth and inviting look, rounded edge flooring is perfect for modern-classic interior design. Built to help cover and correct surface irregularities, it can hide any minor flaws that the floor may have.



### Square Edge

Square edge hard flooring is made up of boards cut to exactly 90 degrees, so perfectly perpendicular square edges. When you choose square edge wood flooring, the boards fit snugly together so you barely see the join between one board and another. This creates a final finish that's super-clean and super-sleek. It also a great way of avoiding having little dust traps in your floor! Square edge flooring is the perfect backdrop to minimalist and contemporary spaces.

## Room Shape and Plank Direction

The direction of your floor boards has a huge impact on a room's overall appearance. As a rule, make sure to lay your floor in the same direction as the main light source in a room and in the same line as the most frequently used entrance. If there are several doors and windows, then opt for the direction that is the easiest to install.

Consider direction through the entire house and layout through narrow spaces like hallways and direction into stairs.

Want to add some useful 'optical effects' to your room? Then follow these three practical tips:

### Across the Room

In a narrow room, we recommend laying flooring perpendicular to the longest wall to avoid a bowling alley effect. When the boards are laid across the room, the lines between the boards and the wood pattern visually widen the room. To enhance this even further, use lighter colours for the floor and walls to create the impression of space.

### Lengthwise in the Room

If you are laying your floor in a shorter room, you may want to add a sense of depth. Make the room look longer by installing your floor parallel to the longest wall. Want to increase the effect of lengthwise installation? Make sure to combine a light-coloured floor with darker walls, this will add even more depth to your room.

### Custom Patterns

To really spruce up a room with minimal extra effort, you can lay flooring diagonally to the wall, most commonly at a 45 degree angle. Laying your floor diagonally is one of the most effective ways to create a larger space. It also tricks the eye into seeing the wood pattern in a different perspective, which also creates more visual interest, texture and depth.















## Plank Sizing and Pattern

Floor planks come in many sizes and colours, so it is important to choose the right option for your interior. Here are some simple, basic rules to help:

### Wide Planks

Wide planks create an impressive floor and are ideally suited to larger, free-flowing spaces. This feature suits both rustic and ultra-modern interiors. Wide planks truly accentuate a large space, especially in airy loft areas as they emphasize the size of the room and make the room feel cosier. Wide planks can also be well suited to smaller spaces, with less joins visible compared to narrow planks that can leave a space feeling cramped and busy. However, too large a plank can make a small room look out of proportion. Wide solid Timber Planks were once an expensive option, but Laminate and Engineered Timber floorboards have made wide planks affordable.

### Narrow Planks

Narrow planks create an elongated and linear look, which can make a small room appear longer and more formal. However, they can also make the room look busier than wide boards. Narrow planks tend to have a more traditional and formal look and are perfectly suited for character homes and a modern classic style. If your decor is quite simple, you may want to add more texture to the room or make a statement by installing narrow planks.

### Mix Widths

You do not have to stick to one plank size throughout the entire space. Some homes have vast open-plan areas as well as smaller spaces such as bedrooms. You may want to think about using a standard width plank for the bedrooms as opposed to a wide plank for the larger areas.

### High Colour and Pattern Variation

To add more character to a large space, you can create a multi-toned floor. High-variation flooring means your floor will have more variety in colours and shades. It is a unique visual design effect among wood and wood-look flooring that will bring depth and texture to the area. Those types of floors typically come in a similar colour palette, but tonal variation amid the boards creates more of a statement with its design.







# Hard Flooring Options For You

## Vinyl Plank Flooring

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Affordable, incredibly durable and stain resistant Vinyl Planks are also quieter underfoot. Perfect for use in wet areas of your home thanks to its waterproof construction, Vinyl Planks can be used in kitchens, laundries and bathrooms, subject to proper installation and maintenance. Vinyl Plank flooring is an excellent low maintenance and cost-effective flooring option.

## Laminate Flooring

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Laminate flooring blends complete durability with stunning aesthetics, designed to look and feel like real timber. Available in a variety of styles, colours and patterns, Laminate floors durable surface coating protects against wear and fading, making it the perfect solution for busy households and those sunny, high heat, north facing spaces. There are also water resistant Laminate options available for wet areas.

## Hybrid Flooring

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Hybrid flooring combines the durability and strength of Vinyl Plank and the appealing look and feel of Laminate into one fantastic product offering. With a thicker format profile, Hybrid flooring provides warmth and insulation underfoot. It also contains great acoustic properties insulating those downstairs areas against impact noise.

## Timber Flooring

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Engineered Timber flooring is the absolute pinnacle in flooring solutions. Completely natural and sustainable, Timber floors accentuate the warmth and beauty of any interior. Knots, grains and patterns vary from log to log and provides a floor that is uniquely yours. Real Timber flooring adds value and character to any home with a living floor straight out of the pages of a design magazine.



Heavy Traffic



Waterproof<sup>^</sup>



Easy to Clean





# Vinyl Plank

**Synonymous with durability, ease of maintenance and a budget-friendly price.**

Vinyl Plank flooring is flexible, waterproof\* and easy to clean. Vinyl Plank floors are designed to look and feel like natural hardwood floors. Vinyl Planks can be installed in wet areas, delivering a moisture impervious floor that can be wet mopped. A built-in anti-microbial agent inhibits the growth of mould and mildew, making it ideal for all areas of your house including those high use wet area zones such as bathrooms, toilets and laundries.

Featuring a durable top layer to resist scratching and general wear in high traffic areas of your home, wear layers are tested and approved in all residential zones and many commercial applications, making them ideal for busy households.

Recommended for use throughout the house, Vinyl Plank flooring is easy to install and simple to maintain.

\*Subject to proper installation and maintenance.

# Vinyl Plank Construction



1. Protective layer: protects your floors from dirt, stains and scratches, and makes them easy to clean and maintain.
2. Decor film: the high-grade printing technique used for this layer gives your Vinyl floor its unique and authentic design appearance.
3. Waterproof and sound-reducing Vinyl core provides comfort and durability.
4. Stabilising layer: this layer contains super dense fibres to give the Vinyl floor additional dimensional stability.
5. Impact-resistant Vinyl backing: this moisture-resistant layer guarantees a perfectly balanced floor board which prevents cupping or warping.









Matte Finish



Waterproof^



Easy to Clean





# Hybrid Flooring

## **The next generation of waterproof<sup>^</sup> flooring.**

Hybrid flooring combines the durability and strength of Vinyl Planks and the appealing look and feel of Laminate. A fantastic floating Hybrid floor is perfect for New Zealand homes. It is 100% waterproof<sup>^</sup> so you can take this flooring throughout all areas of your home. Perfect for demanding areas such as laundries and high spill zones like kitchens.

Hybrid flooring represents next generation manufacturing techniques utilising the recently developed Trigon™ core technology, made of 80% limestone and 20% Vinyl powder. This means your new floor can even be installed directly over your old floor without the need for uplift\*.

Each plank incorporates an acoustic underlay backing that also delivers excellent noise reduction and a softer feeling underfoot. This makes Hybrid flooring a perfect solution for renovating older homes, upstairs bedrooms, playrooms or apartments.

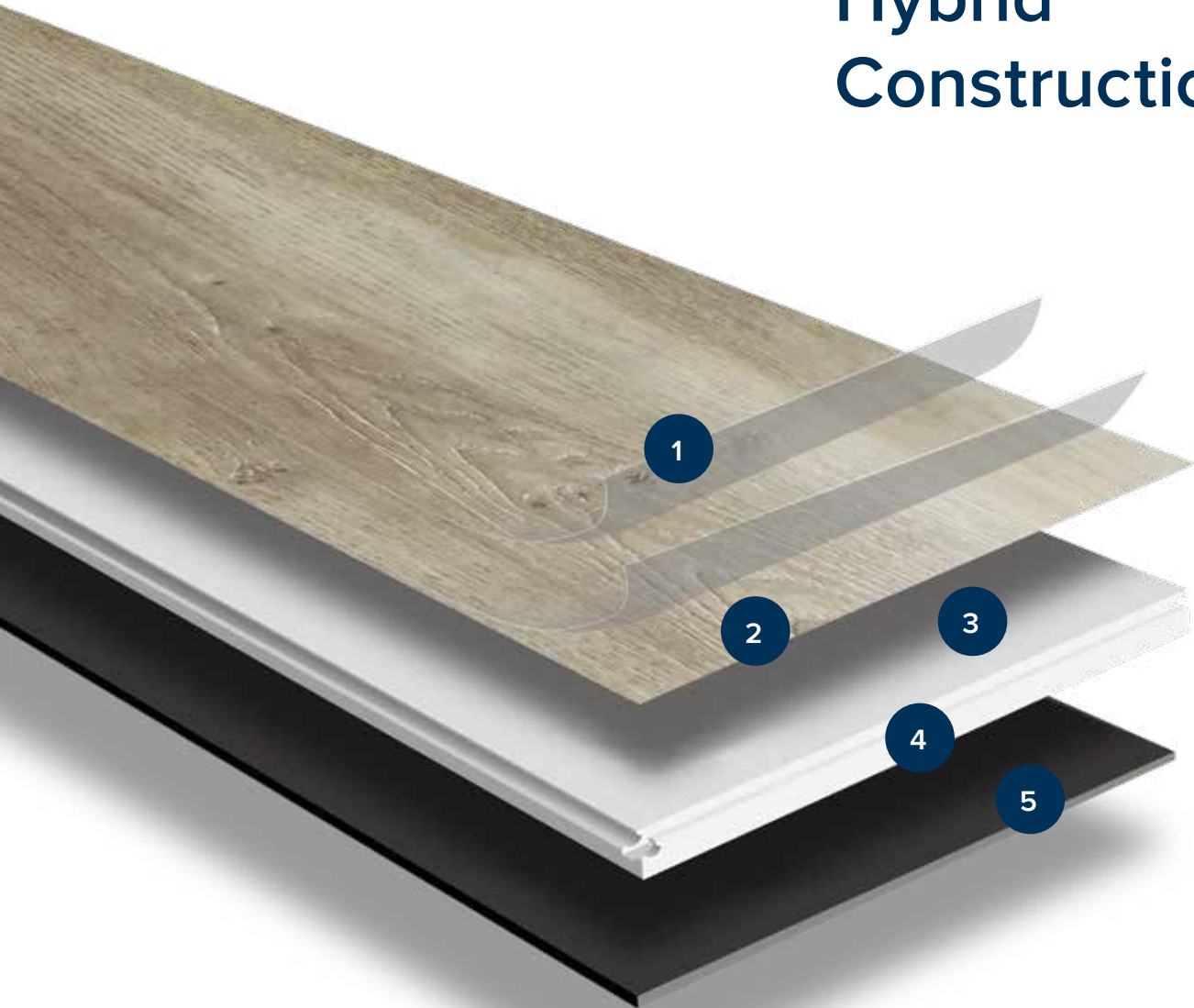
Hybrid flooring features a high grade commercial wear layer resulting in a robust floor that can withstand the heaviest of foot traffic at home.

Available in a range of striking designs and stunning colours, hybrid floors will enhance the beauty of any space.

<sup>^</sup>Subject to proper installation and maintenance.

\*Refer to installation instructions for guidance.

# Hybrid Construction



1. UV Coating provides, bacteria and dirt resistance, easy to clean surface and assists with protection from discolouration.
2. Wear Layer, providing a hard wearing surface with high impact resistance.
3. Decorative paper, offering a realistic hardwood or stone look with high-definition imagery.
4. Limestone composite core providing 100% waterproof non-porous product. A core that provides rigidity to the plank allowing for multipurpose use with floating installations and ease of renovation with any flooring substrates.
5. Pre-adhered underlay for comfort underfoot and improved acoustics, enabling use in multi residential applications.









Fade Resistant



Stain Resistant



Heavy Traffic





# Laminate Flooring

## **The worry-free choice.**

Choose from sleek, contemporary or go bold with character. Laminate flooring offers beautiful, affordable and durable flooring options. Available in a variety of striking designs and colours, our ranges are bursting with character and will accentuate the beauty of any home.

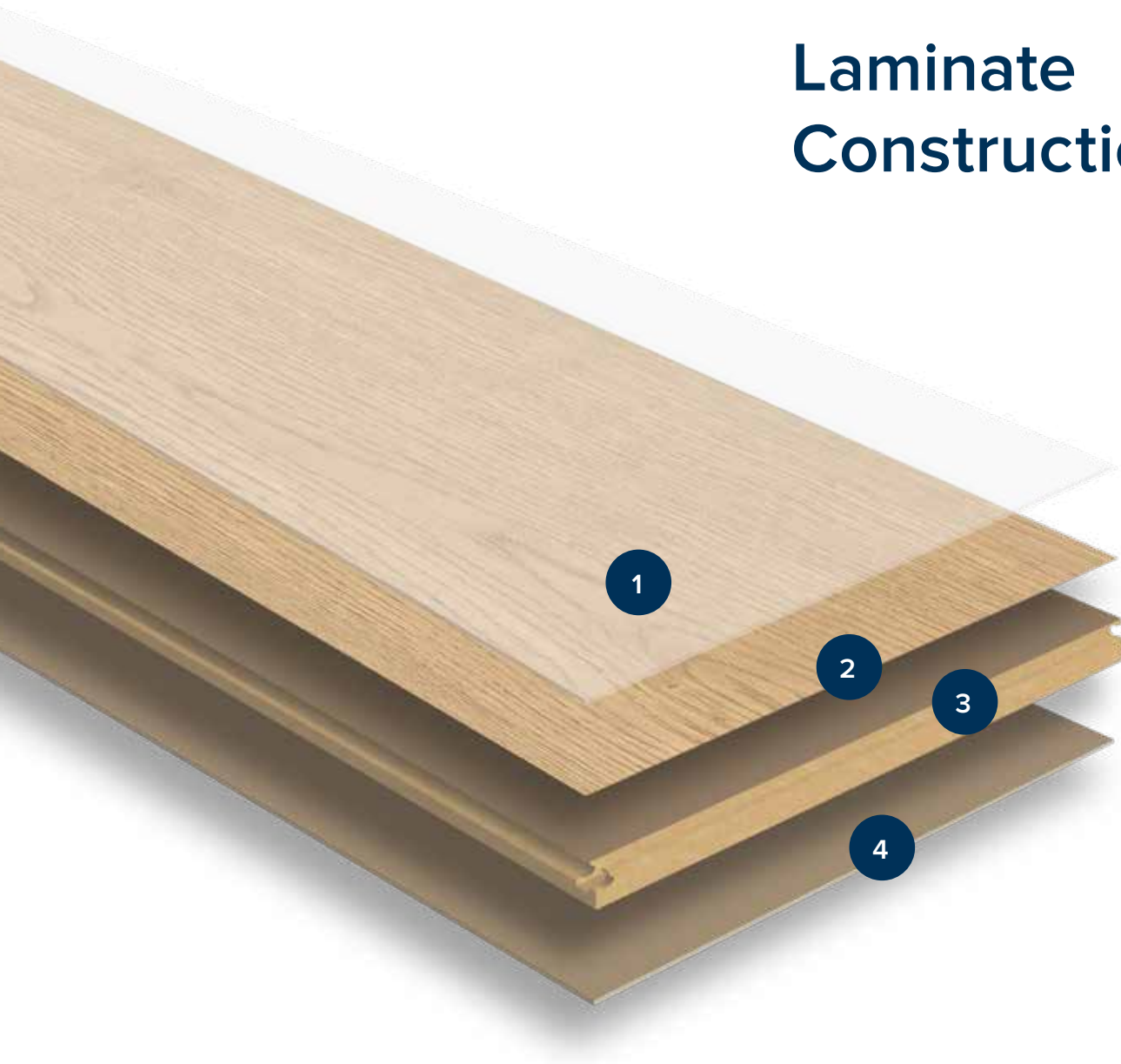
Laminate is a robust, hard-wearing, multi-layer flooring product, fused together with a lamination process. Laminate floors deliver gorgeous timber looks with grain and colour that you can see and feel. To the untrained eye it can now be difficult to tell a Laminate floor from a real wood floor!

Laminate floors are very easy to look after, requiring very little maintenance beyond regular vacuuming or sweeping and a light wipe with a damp mop. Perfect for busy households with pets or children, the family beach house, the office or showroom, Laminate flooring is a stylish and versatile solution.

Consider an upgrade to water resistant<sup>^</sup> Laminate ranges, providing further protection against accidents and spills. These ranges are suitable for all areas of your home including bathrooms and other wet areas<sup>^</sup>.

<sup>^</sup>Subject to proper installation and maintenance.

# Laminate Construction



1. The wear layer is an aluminum oxide overlay, providing an incredibly hard, scratch and impact resistant surface resulting in an extremely durable finish.
2. The decorative layer provides design aesthetics and definition of colour. Boards are further coloured to provide variation to emulate timber and are also embossed to provide grain and texture that you can see and feel.
3. The core is made from high-density fibreboard (HDF) and provides stability and impact resistance.
4. Melamine backing beneath, giving increased stability and moisture protection.









Real Oak



Each Board is Unique



Knots and Grain





# Timber Flooring

## **Bringing the timeless beauty of nature to you.**

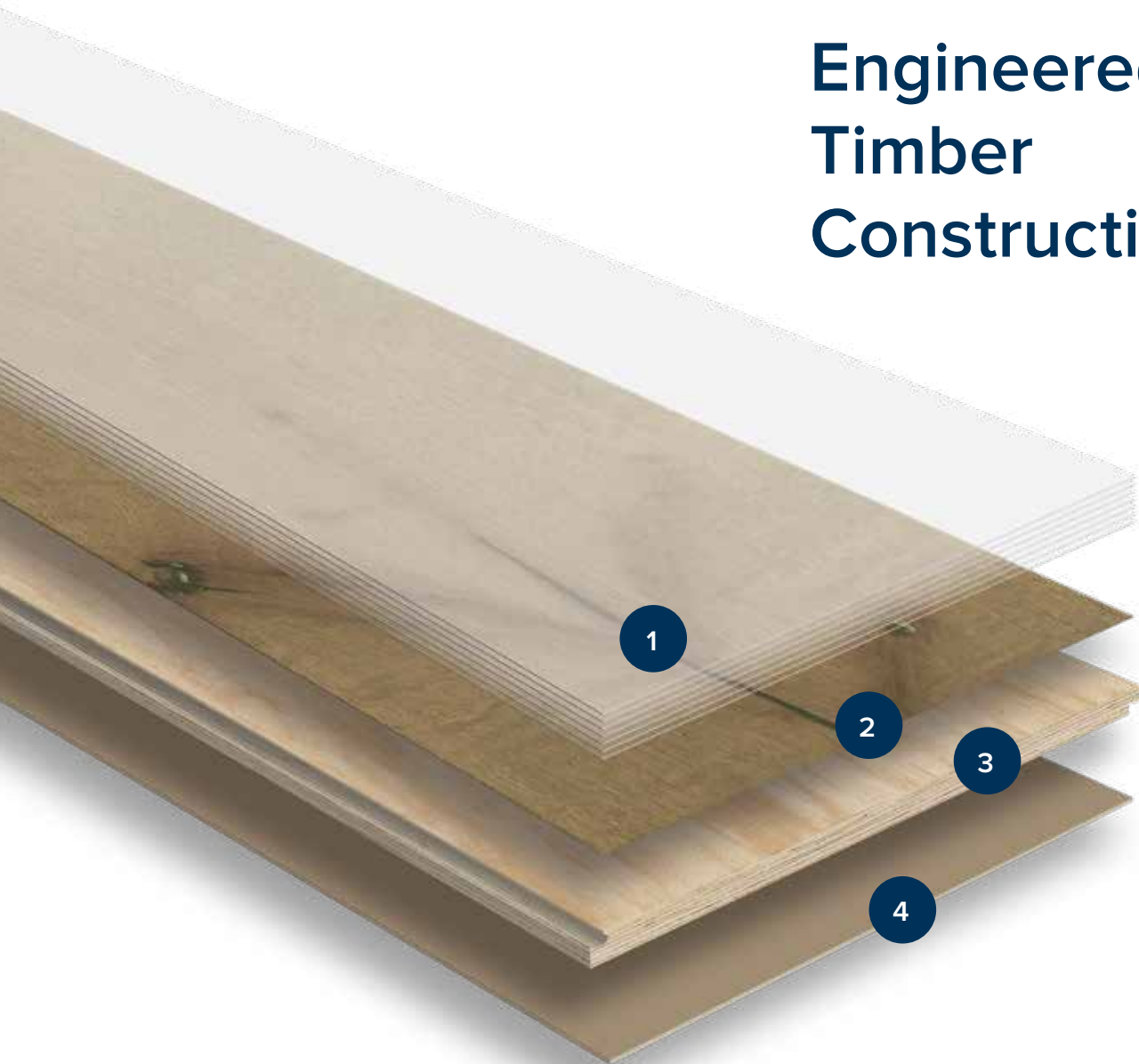
Engineered Timber flooring is sustainable, using only a small proportion of the oak tree for the top layer. The core layers of our planks are made of fast growing timber species, helping us preserve nature's resources.

Engineered Timber is also more stable than the old traditional solid wood products. This plank contains design and engineering features with a multi layer core construction, making it less prone to seasonal movement, cracking and warping.

Choose a sophisticated minimalist look, or go rustic with knots and grains. No two planks of wood are alike, and once installed your Timber floor is entirely unique. Embrace the depth of colour and beautiful variation that only natural timber can deliver. Use this product to incorporate texture and warmth to your home.

Engineered Timber flooring is an excellent option for any new build or renovation. It can be installed over concrete and timber, floated or glued down. All products arrive completely finished and coated. This means you can walk on your floors as soon as they are finished.

# Engineered Timber Construction



1. Wearguard® is a hardy 7 coat Polyurethane system that protects your Timber floor from everyday wear and tear.
2. A carefully selected, solid wood layer in a vast array of colours and grains, providing a unique look to every plank.
3. The middle layer or “core” runs in the opposite direction to the hardwood top for greater stability. This layer perfectly absorbs stress and strain and ensures that engineered Timber remains stable in almost any condition.
4. A bottom balancing layer runs in the same direction as the hardwood top for grounding stability.





# Accessories

Finish your floor to perfection with the following accessory options.

## Underlay

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Underlay is a high density, closed cell foam underlay that significantly reduces the noise of footsteps and integrates a moisture suppressant layer between your floor and existing subfloor.

Offered in the standard version or upgrade for a premium thicker underlay for increased sound protection from footfall and through-floor noise transfer.

- Reduces the drum sounds of your floor
- Enhances underfoot comfort
- Excellent tear, tensile & compression strength
- Lays flat for easy installation
- Will not mildew or hold moisture

## Scotia

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We offer a variety of scotia ranges tailored to each type of flooring and is the perfect way to conceal the expansion gap where your newly laid floor joins skirting boards, kickboards and the walls of the room, when installed in a floating manner.



## Trims and Profiles

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Compartmentalisation through doorway or same height transitions.



Finish flooring along a wall or a window.



Variation in height from one floor to another.



Transition from hard flooring to carpet.

## Stair Nosing

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## Protect Your Floor

### Follow these simple steps to achieve many years of enjoyment from your floor:

- Place entrance mats (which must not have a rubber backing) at all exterior doorways and entrances to trap dirt, sand, grit, moisture and other substances from shoes. Double mats (a coarse exterior mat and medium interior mat) are recommended for residential installations and triple commercial mats with a minimum walk off zone of 3.5 metres for commercial installations. Clean mats regularly.
- Use non-staining felt protectors under all pieces of furniture. Fit office chairs, filing trolleys, mobile containers and furniture, with soft treads or castors. Chair pads should be used under desk chairs with castors.
- Heavy objects and furniture such as large bookcases, full sized billiard tables or kitchen units should not be situated on any floating installation. This can lead to the floor failing to respond to contraction and expansion, which can cause squeaking, gapping and possible failure.
- Never drag, slide or roll furniture or appliances across your floor. Protect the surface if using a trolley to move heavy objects.
- Spiked heels or shoes in need of repair can severely damage your floor. In areas of excessive traffic and wear, make use of runners or area rugs. Rugs should be cleaned regularly.
- Pet claws can scratch your floor. Keep nails trimmed.
- Floor to ceiling windows coupled with the harsh New Zealand sun can create floor temperatures of over 70°C. Your floor should be protected from extreme temperatures and strong, direct sunlight by the use of interior temperature and humidity control (recommended temperatures 10-30°C and relative humidity between 30% and 70%), window tinting, awnings and/or curtains/blinds. Dramatic temperature changes and/or extreme humidity can cause joints to lip/gap and prolonged direct sunlight will cause fading.

### Care & Maintenance

Your floor has been designed with low maintenance in mind to give you more time to enjoy your new floor. To ensure long-lasting beauty and durability of your hard flooring, a regular care and maintenance program is essential. Routine cleaning involves sweeping, dust mopping, or vacuuming using the bare floor setting to remove dust and dirt. Clean spills immediately with a dry or slightly damp cloth. For details on caring for your specific flooring, please consult the manufacturer's care and maintenance guide provided with the installation.





## Installation

**Your floors should be installed in accordance with the product specific manufacturer Instructions and appropriate flooring standards available.**

For a quality finish, please ensure your floor is installed by a professional trained tradesperson. If the floor is improperly installed this may void the manufacturer Warranty.

Before installing your floor, installers should check to make sure it is undamaged, of the right size with no visual defects when viewed standing up in daylight at the installation site. If any boards are visibly faulty or deemed visually or structurally inappropriate, they should not be installed and the fault should be immediately reported to the retailer.

Care needs to be taken to properly inspect the flooring before it is installed as the manufacturer may refuse a claim where a reasonable inspection of the flooring before installation would have identified the fault.

