

# Cattle Flooring Fitting Guidelines

Cattle Flooring can be laid either as a floating floor or, if purchased on the thicker base plywood, secret nailed to joists. Using either of these methods it is important that the environmental conditions within the property are conducive to the fitting of a wooden floor, for example:

- The building must be weather tight
- The heating system must be tested, operative and switched on if it is the heating season.
- Wet trades such as screeding, plastering and any other which may contribute to the moisture in the room must have been completed for at least 2 weeks
- The relative humidity of the room should be between 40 – 60%
- The room temperature must be between 16 – 23 degrees.

Cattle Flooring can be laid as a floating floor on any load bearing subfloor i.e. Concrete, 18mm + flooring grade chipboard, 18mm + plywood, existing timber flooring.

Laying guidelines:

- Ensure concrete has a moisture content of 4% or less. For wooden sub floors the moisture content should be no more than 15%
- The sub floor must be level – no more than a 3mm deviance under a 3 metre straight edge
- A suitable damp proof membrane is to be laid on the concrete i.e. Visqueen, or a flooring underlay with a built in DPM e.g. Kahrs Tuplex. Ensure the joints are well taped and this must be run approximately 35mm up the walls to ‘tank’ the floor area.
- If not already in use lay a suitable 3mm flooring underlay on top of the DPM.
- Lay the floor by gluing the tongue and groove joints on all four edges using a suitable PVA wood glue.
- Ensure the header joints in adjacent rows are at least 450mm apart and do not fall in line with each other any closer than 3 rows apart.
- A suitable expansion gap should be left around the perimeter of the floor area and under doorframes. On a standard size room i.e. up to 70m<sup>2</sup> this is recommended to be 15mm, on larger rooms please call us for further advice.

## For Secret / Face Nailing

Cattle Flooring can be used on joisted or battened floors, to be suitable it needs to be supplied on the thicker 15mm plywood base.

Laying guidelines:

- Ensure the wooden sub floor the moisture content is no more than 15%
- The joists must be level – no more than a 3mm deviance under a 3 metre straight edge
- The joists must be at no more than 450mm centres and be of suitable load bearing strength.
- A suitable damp proof membrane is to be laid over the joists i.e. Visqueen,
- 1mm Cardboard interlay must be placed on top of the DPM, this is to help absorb any condensation build up between the DPM and the back of the floor boards.

- The Cattle Flooring can then be either secret nailed at an angle of 45 degrees through the tongue, or face nailed.
- Ensure the header joints in adjacent rows are at least 450mm apart and do not fall in line with each other any closer than 3 rows apart.
- A suitable expansion gap should be left around the perimeter of the floor area and under doorframes. On a standard size room i.e. up to 70m<sup>2</sup> this is recommended to be 15mm, on larger rooms please call us for further advice.

### **When fitting Cattle Floor onto under-floor heating**

- Follow standard fitting guidelines above.
- The temperature of the Cattle Floor surface shall not exceed 26°C by a humidity of 50 – 60%.
- The thickness of any screed over heating pipes shall be at least 30mm.
- The heating shall be turned on at least 3 weeks before laying, with ventilation of the rooms in order to evacuate any released moisture.
- Ensure concrete has a moisture content of 4% or less
- The heating must be turned off 2 days before the Cattle Floor is laid and turned on very gradually over a few days after laying, while making sure that the control system operates properly.
- **The thermal insulation coefficient of 17.5mm Cattle Flooring laid floating (inc. underlay) is 0.12 m<sup>2</sup>K/W.**
- **The thermal resistance of a floor covering must not exceed 0.15 m<sup>2</sup>K/W.**
- The use of visqueen as a moisture barrier is recommended.