



02. CODE OF PRACTICE

PREFERRED METHODS OF CONSTRUCTION

02.01 STRIP FLOORING – OVER CONCRETE

Recognising that installation of timber floors over unventilated sub bases should be avoided, as this creates an environment in which the raw underside of the board is exposed to a different environment from that which is above the floor. These factors regularly translates into a distorted surface (cupped or curled boards) as condensation is often drawn to the underside of the board while direct sun light may excessively heat/dry the top surface of boards, usually coated with multiple layers of high solids coating material.

This response in timber boards is even more pronounced in coastal regions, where increased humidity can further exacerbate the problem.

RECOMMENDED METHODOLOGY

Check that tolerances of concrete sub base conform to minimum requirements of plainness and levelness of the code, being maximum 3 mm deviation anywhere under a 3 metre straightedge.

Adjust sub floor levels as necessary, using only highest quality concrete underlayments, used strictly in accordance with the manufacturers printed instructions.

Fix minimum thickness 18 mm Exterior Waterproof Structural Plywood to prepared concrete floor utilising a high quality Waterproof Polyurethane Adhesive System in accordance with the manufacturers printed instructions, leaving a 4 mm joint between sheets. Mechanically fasten plywood sheets to structural concrete using steel anchors of sufficient length to achieve minimum of 50 mm purchase into parent slab.

(NOTE: this means assessing thickness of any topping or underlayment before selecting choice of anchor length)

Strategically fix not less than 15 anchors per sheet, with perimeter anchors set not less than 50 mm from edge of sheets

Presand plywood as necessary to flatten (raised edges etc)

Fix T & G Strip Flooring directly to level, clean and dry plywood sub base.

Secret Nailed Profiled Boards up to 85 mm wide, secret nail as normal.

Boards over 85 mm wide should be glued and face nailed directly to plywood sub base.