

Flooring Systems

Standard T&G
3-3/4" Wide
Plank Dims:
23-5/8" L x 3-3/4" W x 3/8" H

Flooring Accessories

Quarter Round  Baseboard  3/8" Stair Nosing  Stair Riser  Stair Tread
3/8" Threshold  3/8" Reducer  T-Molding  10" Air Register  12" Air Register
Before you begin installation, remember to P.A.C.E. yourself with the checklist below. Full installation instructions and maintenance guidelines can also be found online at www.CaliBamboo.com

**Pre-Installation**

**P A C E**

**PREPARE THE SUBFLOOR**

Use Titebond® 531+ On Concrete

Make sure the subfloor is flat, level, clean and free of debris. New concrete must be cured for at least 60 days. Test the subfloor moisture prior to installation and apply an appropriate moisture barrier such as Titebond® 531+ on concrete subfloors.

**ACCLIMATE FLOORING**

Acclimate Your Solid Flooring For At Least 5 Days

Cross-stack flooring on a pallet, mixing boards from each box. Acclimate your floor as close to the installation area as possible, for at least 5 days in normal living conditions. More time is necessary in extreme climates.

**CONTROL ENVIRONMENT**

40-60% rH

As a general rule, the ideal indoor humidity range for hardwood is 40-60% relative humidity. In some climates or households, the average humidity range may be higher or lower. That’s okay! In this case, simply extend the acclimation period, and maintain humidity levels at normal living conditions set during acclimation.

**EXPANSION GAPS**

Leave at least 1/2” expansion spaces between flooring and ALL vertical objects (walls, cabinets, pipes, etc.) Large flooring runs may require additional expansion space. Undercut door jambs and casings to provide adequate expansion space.
Pre-Installation

Proper installation and maintenance are key elements in achieving best flooring results. It is the responsibility of the installer/owner to follow all guidelines provided by Cali Bamboo for success. Please note: Herringbone flooring requires a very difficult installation, Cali Bamboo highly recommends professional help for installing. Please read through this document completely, additional installation materials such as videos, illustrations and more can also be found at www.calibamboo.com.

Important Pre-Installation Notes

Note: Flooring not used for its intended purpose will not be covered under warranty.

The following information provided by Cali Bamboo is intended to serve as a reference guide only. Please carefully read Cali Bamboo’s installation, maintenance and warranty documentation prior to installation. Follow the National Wood Flooring Association (NWFA) Installation Guidelines when installing your floor.

Cali Bamboo offers in house technical support as a courtesy to our customers. Consult with one of our bamboo flooring experts to find answers to your specific installation questions unique to your application. Contact us by email: customerservice@calibamboo.com; or by phone: 1(877) 237-2254 ext. 2.

• Determine the best installation method that suits your application. Cali Bamboo® herringbone floors may be Glued, or Nailed. Follow the instructions designated for the most suitable installation method for your project.

• Upon ordering of wood floor material consider adding an additional 8% to allow for cutting waste (5%) and grading allowance (3%).

• Cali Bamboo® flooring is manufactured in accordance with accepted industry standards, which permit manufacturing, grading and natural deficiencies not to exceed 5%. If more than 5% of the material is unusable, do not install the flooring. Immediately contact the distributor/retailer from which the flooring was purchased. No claim will be accepted for materials with visible defects once they are installed. Installation of any material serves as acceptance of the material delivered.

• Installer/Owner assumes all responsibility to inspect all flooring before installation. Boards deemed unacceptable in appearance can be placed in closets, near walls or simply not be used. Pieces with glaring defects that can be seen from a standing position should be cut off or not be used as use constitutes acceptance. The use of putty, filler sticks or markers to touch-up flooring during installation is considered normal practice.

• As bamboo is a natural product, natural variations in color may occur within and between individual flooring planks. To visualize the range of colors within the flooring style you are considering, compare your samples to the photos on our web site. During installation, work from several cartons at a time to achieve a uniform appearance across the entire floor. Mix and mingle planks when dry laying the floor for maximum aesthetic appearance. Blend moldings to planks that have similar color. Natural variations in color are not covered under warranty.

• It is the responsibility of the installer/homeowner to determine if the job site conditions, environmental conditions and sub-floor are acceptable for the installation of Cali Bamboo® flooring. Prior to installation, the installer/owner must determine that the jobsite meets or exceeds all applicable National Wood Flooring Association’s Installation Guidelines. Cali Bamboo does NOT warrant against failure resulting from or connected with subfloor, job site damage, or environmental deficiencies after installation.

• Cali Bamboo makes no warranty or guarantee of the quality of the chosen installer’s work or of a particular installation performed by him or her. Cali Bamboo disclaims all liability for any errors or improprieties in the installation of its products by an installer. Please contact the National Wood Flooring Association (800-422-4556) to find a certified installer in your area, or for more information on installation.

• Controlling flooring moisture content is important for success. Bamboo, like all hardwood flooring species, is hygroscopic; its size and shape changes naturally with the absorption or release of moisture. The amount of movement varies depending on the preventative steps taken at the time of installation (i.e. acclimation, moisture barrier application, etc.) and the stability home environment thereafter. Care should be taken to control fluctuating levels of moisture indoors.
Pre-Installation

• Floor noise is normal and will vary from one installation type to the next. Occasional noise is due to structural movement and may relate to sub-floor type, flatness, deflection, and/or related to the fasteners, changes in environmental conditions, relative humidity and the amount of topside pressure applied to the flooring. For these reasons floor noise is not considered a product or manufacturer defect.

• Cali Bamboo® flooring is intended for installation on or above grade only. Flooring installed below grade is not covered under warranty.

Prior to Installation of Cali Bamboo Flooring

Job Site Preparation

Prior to installation, it is the installer’s responsibility to determine that the jobsite, environment and subfloor conditions all meet the requirements of the National Wood Flooring Association. Do not deliver flooring to jobsite until the building has been enclosed with windows and doors, all cement, plastering, and other “wet” work has been completed, and a consistent room temperature has been reached. Confirm proper drainage exists around the structure. Lack of moisture protection can allow excessive water or moisture to penetrate basement walls, flow beneath concrete slabs, basement floors, and into crawl spaces. In crawl spaces, exposed earth must be fully covered with minimum 6-mil polyethylene sheeting. Crawl space vents must be open. A moisture retardant such as 6 mil polyethylene film must be placed in crawl spaces. Heating units or non-insulated ductwork close to the flooring or subfloor may cause “hot spots” which must be eliminated prior to installation.

During installation, it is the installer’s responsibility to document all jobsite conditions and measurements including the installation date, flooring moisture content, site relative humidity, temperature, and subfloor moisture content. This information must be retained by the installer and left with the property owner as a permanent record. For a complete list of points to address prior to installation, refer to the NWFA’s Jobsite Checklist.

Subfloor Requirements

General: Subfloor must be structurally sound and meet all NWFA guidelines. All subfloors must be flat to a tolerance of 3/16” in a 10’ radius. More importantly, with herringbone flooring it is crucial to use appropriate leveling products for correcting subfloor deficiencies. Subfloor surfaces must be smooth, clean, dry and free of contaminants that would interfere with an adhesive bond. All subfloors should be tested for moisture content (see “Subfloor Moisture Testing”). If high moisture readings are found, identify the moisture source and correct the problem before installation. Do not install flooring directly over floor joist without proper subflooring.

Appropriate Wood Subfloors Materials:

• CD Exposure 1 plywood (grade stamped US PS1-95)
• Exposure 1 OSB
• Solid-board subflooring should be ¾” x 5½” (1” x 6” nominal), Group 1 dense softwoods, No. 2 Common, kiln dried

Acceptable Subfloor Thickness Requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Joist System Spacing (inches on center)</th>
<th>Minimum Thickness</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12”</td>
<td>5/8”</td>
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<tr>
<td>12” to 16”</td>
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<td>16” to 19.2”</td>
<td>7/8”</td>
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<tr>
<td>19.3” to 24”</td>
<td>1-1/8”</td>
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Concrete Subfloors: Subfloor must meet all above requirements. Concrete must be fully cured and at least 60 days old. Concrete must be free of dirt, oil, paint, old adhesive, wax, sealers and curing agents. Concrete that is not properly leveled can cause improper adhesive transfer, hollow spots, and squeaks. Sand or grind down high spots. Level low spots with appropriate leveling material; allow extra drying time for the leveling compounds. Test subfloor moisture content. To minimize moisture transfer from the slab, apply: Titebond 531+ Moisture Control System.

Moisture Testing Subfloor

General: Test the subfloor for moisture content before installation. If high moisture readings are found, identify the moisture source and correct the problem. Extend acclimation time and increase ventilation until the proper conditions have been met. Apply a moisture barrier. Please note that test results are only applicable the day of testing and will not ensure that moisture will not fluctuate with seasonal changes. Regardless of subfloor moisture content, the use of a moisture barrier is required for
**Wood Subfloors:** Use moisture meter to test wood subfloor moisture content. If results show moisture vapor at or exceeding 12%, determine its source and correct problem. Do not install the floor without a vapor barrier. Cali Bamboo always recommends using a moisture/vapor barrier, especially if the moisture content of the flooring and subfloor vary greater than 3%.

**Concrete Subfloors:** Concrete subfloors must be tested for moisture vapor pressure in more than one place for consistent readings. If test results show moisture vapor exceeds the minimum requirements below, do not install the floor without an impermeable vapor retarder with a perm rating of less than 0.13 designed to permanently block this moisture.

- **Calcium Chloride Test (ASTM F 1869):** Maximum vapor emissions cannot exceed 3lbs/1000SF in 24 hours
- **Tramex Concrete Moisture Encounter:** Moisture readings should not exceed 4% on upper scale
- **In-Situ Probe Method (ASTM F 2170):** Relative Humidity levels should not exceed 75%

**Moisture Testing Bamboo Floor**

Use a reliable moisture meter that is acceptable for strand bamboo flooring. Examples of acceptable moisture meters include Delmhorst or a Lignomat SDM. Contact the meter manufacture to verify settings for strand bamboo. Please note that some meters require the use of a substitute setting for bamboo, and thus must have the moisture content readings converted in order to get an accurate measurement (such as Delmhorst; see table; right*).

**Moisture Barrier Requirements**

**General:** Unexpected changes to subfloor moisture content may cause dimensional changes to the floor. To ensure a lifetime of satisfaction, it is strongly recommended that Cali Bamboo® flooring be installed over a moisture barrier or vapor retarder (following manufactures guidelines) per the following specifications:

**Wood Subfloors:** For best results, use a moisture barrier with a perm rating between 0.7 and 50 when tested in accordance with ASTM E-96 Method A. Install as recommended by the manufacturer. Examples of acceptable moisture barriers for wood subfloors include: Asphalt laminated paper (UU-B-790a, Grade B, Type I, Style 1a,) and: Asphalt-saturated kraft paper.

**Concrete Subfloors:** For concrete applications, a moisture barrier/vapor retarder should be chosen based on concrete moisture content. For unlimited moisture protection, use Titebond® 531+ Moisture Control System. Install as recommended by the manufacturer.

**Acclimation & Conditioning of Cali Bamboo® Flooring**

The goal of acclimation is to allow the moisture content (MC) of the flooring to fully adjust to its new surroundings before installation.

- **Determine Normal Living Conditions** - Ideal interior environmental conditions vary from region to region and jobsite to jobsite. It is the installer’s responsibility to know what the “ideal” climate conditions are and customize the acclimation of the floor around those conditions. For a general view of moisture content averages by region, see the map below.

- **Control Home Conditions Accordingly** - Acclimation should occur at normal living conditions. Before opening the cartons, the indoor environment should reflect the room temperature and relative humidity levels expected to be present before, during, and most importantly, after installation. Operate temperature / humidity control systems as normal. Allow normal ventilation through rooms.

- **Cross-Stacking Flooring Planks** - For maximum stability, Cali Bamboo recommends cross stacking the flooring at the installation site while it acclimates. Remove the flooring from boxes and cross stack planks at least 4” off the subfloor with even spacing between planks to allow for complete and even air-circulation around the flooring.
**Pre-Installation**

- **Acceptable Areas for Acclimation** - Acclimate the flooring as close to the center of the installation area as possible. Do not store flooring next to outside walls, in direct sunlight, near air vents or under conditions that don’t reflect the normal home environment. Garages, and exterior patios, for example, are not acceptable areas to store wood flooring during acclimation.

- **Determine Appropriate Acclimation Time Frame** - Cali Bamboo® flooring should be allowed to acclimate on the job site for a minimum of 5 days. Extended conditioning may be necessary depending on the climate. For regions or conditions that are extremely dry, humid or highly-fluctuating, 2 or more weeks may be necessary for acclimation.

### Optimum Flooring Moisture Content (%) by U.S. Region

This map is provided by the NWFA and relates to all hardwood flooring species. For each region, the average equilibrium moisture content (EMC) for hardwood is identified for both January and July. The EMC is the MC (%) that the floor will reach once it has fully acclimated to its environment. This is also the optimum MC for installation, and will provide a general idea of what acclimation measures to take. In each pair of figures, the first number is the average EMC during January; the second is the average EMC during July.

**Note:** Actual moisture content conditions in any location may differ significantly from these numbers. This map cannot be reliably used as a basis for installation. The most reliable moisture-content numbers can be obtained at the job site. Take moisture content readings of the flooring, subfloor and relative humidity to be sure.

To better understand the specific acclimation requirements for your home, refer to the chart below for correlations between relative humidity (RH), temperature, and flooring moisture content (%). Referencing the weather conditions in your area, find the combination of temperature and RH on the chart. This value represents the flooring moisture content to achieve during acclimation for best results.

Values within chart’s shaded area represent environments with relative humidity (RH) and temperature capable of maintaining the delivered moisture content of 6-10%. These are optimum conditions for maximum flooring stability. For environments outside of this range, allow more time for acclimation. Depending on your local in-home conditions, the use of humidification/dehumidification equipment may be recommended to maintain proper in-home environment.

**Here is an example of how to use the chart (on the following page):**

- My home is normally and currently maintained at an average temperature of: 70°F
- My home is normally and currently maintained at an average relative humidity of: 40% RH
- The combination of 70°F and 40%RH on the chart shows that the floor should be acclimated moisture content of: 7.7%
- The value of 7.7% MC falls within the shaded area on the chart.
Continue acclimating until the flooring has reached an equilibrium with the home environment. Testing of the flooring, subfloor and relative humidity of the job site can determine this (see Subfloor & Flooring Moisture Testing) sections. You know that equilibrium has been met when the moisture content of the flooring is no longer fluctuating.

**Note:** Not properly acclimating wood flooring may cause excessive expansion, shrinkage, dimensional distortion or structural damage. The worst case scenario is one in which wood flooring is stored outside of the area in which the wood is to be installed. Acclimation is the responsibility of the installer/homeowner. A video tutorial is also available at www.CaliBamboo.com

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### MOISTURE CONTENT OF WOOD
**AT VARIOUS TEMPERATURES AND RELATIVE HUMIDITY READINGS**

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### Radiant Heat Systems

Cali Bamboo® flooring is only recommended for use over radiant heat systems if the special requirements specified by the National Wood Flooring Association are met (please refer to the NWFA’s Radiant Heat Guidelines). Ensuring stable job site conditions, subfloor suitability and proper acclimation are especially important when installing over a radiant heat system. It is the responsibility of the installer to ensure that the recommended environmental conditions are met for installation. Refer to your radiant heat system manufacturer to determine its compatibility with bamboo flooring, and to learn the specific requirements for installation.

- Because of the wide variety of systems on the market (Hydronic, embedded in concrete, electrical wire/coil, heating film/mat) each with its own features and applications it is recommended that the user consult with the radiant heating provider for best practices, installation methods and proper subfloors.
- Radiant heat system must be turned on and in operation for at least 6 days before installation.
- The flooring must be acclimated per Cali Bamboo’s Fossilized acclimation instruction over the radiant heat with the system turned on throughout the acclimation timeframe.
- The system must be turned down to 65°F and maintained 24 hours prior to installation.
- Once install is complete, turn system back on and slowly bring back up to normal operating temperature over a period 4-5 days.
- Floor should never be heated over 80°F. Consult with your radiant heating system manufacturer to successfully limit the maximum temperature.
- Always remember that rugs placed over radiant heated flooring can increase the surface temperature in that area by 3°-5°F degrees.
- Relative Humidity must be maintained between 40-60%. The use of a humidifier may be necessary to achieve this.
- When turning off the radiant heat system it must be turned down slowly at a rate of 1.5° degrees per day. You should never just turn the system off.
- For additional information on radiant heating systems please refer to [http://www.radiantpanelassociation.org](http://www.radiantpanelassociation.org) or the NWFA’s Radiant Heat Guidelines.
Installation of Cali Bamboo® Flooring

General Guidelines - All Installation Types

- Follow Cali Bamboo Maintenance & Care Guidelines to keep your floor looking its best after installation.
- Save extra flooring for future repairs.
- Do not install flooring under permanent or fixed cabinetry.
- Floor should be installed from several cartons at the same time to ensure good color, shade and appearance.
- Most installation failures result from jobsite moisture. Do not deliver flooring to the jobsite until problems are corrected.
- Cali Bamboo® flooring is intended for installation on or above grade only. Flooring installed below grade is not covered under warranty.
- Since bamboo expands with any increase in moisture content, we require leaving at least 1/2” expansion space between flooring and all walls and vertical objects, such as walls, cabinets, pipes, etc. If the installation flows into other rooms and continuous runs in excess of 30 feet, a greater expansion is required, approximately 1/16” for every ten (10) feet. NEVER install floors against any vertical fixed object such as fireplace, columns, floor outlets, etc. Failure to follow this guideline may result in tenting or buckled floors.
- 3M blue painter tape #2080 can be used to keep rows or sections of floor boards together until the adhesive has cured. (Incorrect or aggressive tape can harm the finish, do not leave on overnight.)
- During installation, it is the installer’s responsibility to document all jobsite conditions and measurements including the installation date, flooring moisture content, site relative humidity, temperature, and subfloor moisture content. This information must be retained by the installer and left with the property owner as a permanent record.

Expansion Space Is Required

- Since bamboo expands with any increase in moisture content, we require leaving at least 1/2” expansion space between flooring and all vertical objects (walls, cabinets, pipes, etc.). If the installation area exceeds 30 feet, a greater expansion space is required; approximately 1/16” for every additional ten (10) feet.
- Note that proper expansion space depends not only on the size and flow of the installation, but also on expected seasonal changes in temperature and humidity that may cause the flooring to gain or lose moisture content over time. For example, if an installation takes place when humidity conditions are low, it’s likely that the wood flooring will gain moisture and expand later during humid seasons. In those cases, incorporate additional expansion space through use of spacers or transition moldings.
- Hardwood floors must be able to expand/contract without interference. NEVER install flooring against any vertical or fixed object such as fireplace, columns, islands, door jambs, floor outlets, etc. Failure to follow this guideline may result in tenting, separation or buckled floors. Do not install cabinets or other permanent fixtures on top of the floor. If you have extremely heavy furniture items, install the floor using the glue-down method or nail-down method.
- To cover your expansion space, Cali Bamboo carries matching bamboo flooring moldings that include reducers, t-moldings, baseboards, quarter rounds, thresholds and vent registers. Matching stair parts are also available; including stair nosing, treads and risers. Cali Bamboo also provides all the glues and adhesives you will need for to complete your project. Please visit Cali Bamboo’s Flooring Accessories webpage.
- Undercut door casings and jambs. Remove any existing base, shoe mold or doorway thresholds. These items can be replaced after installation. When undercutting door casings the installer should confirm there is the recommended expansion space. The floor must have 1/16” clearance under the door casing to be able to float freely without vertical restriction. The installer should ensure that the plank can move freely under the door jamb.
Nail-Down Installation Method

The nail-down method is suitable for wood subfloors. Before you start, ensure that the job site, subfloor and environmental conditions are acceptable for installation of Cali Bamboo® flooring. All requirements specified in Cali Bamboo's Installation Guidelines must be met.

Recommended Tools

The selection and use of any nailer is at the discretion and responsibility of the installer/homeowner. Choose a nailer model that is specifically designed for tongue and groove applications. We recommend a Pneumatic 20 Gauge Flooring Nailer (such as Powernail 2000F or similar). It is the installer's responsibility to determine the correct pressure for their nailer, and to ensure that the fastener is properly seated. Dimpling of the flooring face or edge is not a manufacturing defect.

- Pneumatic 20-gauge tongue-and-groove flooring nailer
- Underlayment (see "Moisture Barrier Requirements")
- Tapping block (trimmed piece of flooring)
- Wood or plastic spacers (1/2")
- Flat bar or pull bar
- Miter saw (chop-saw)
- Undercut or jamb saw
- Use 1-1/4" to 2" long, 20 gauge cleats for Fossilized® flooring
- Earplugs & safety glasses
- Tape Measure
- Pencil
- Chalk line
- Hammer

Glue-Down Installation Method

Recommended Adhesive Products

Cali Bamboo® recommends using Titebond® flooring adhesive and moisture barrier systems in accordance with manufactures specifications to receive Titebond's Platinum installation warranty. Remember: Always Follow Flooring Adhesive Recommendations. Cali Bamboo does not warrant against adhesive related problems.

Recommended Glue-Down Floor Tools

- Flooring adhesive: Zero-VOC Adhesive by Titebond®
- Adhesive trowel as recommended by adhesive manufacturer
- Underlayment (see Moisture Barrier Requirements)
- Tapping block (trimmed piece of flooring)
- Wood or plastic spacers (1/2")
- Flat bar or pull bar
- Miter saw (chop-saw)
- Undercut or jamb saw
- Hammer
- Tape measure
- Chalk line
- Carpenter square
- Earplugs and safety glasses

Herringbone Installation

Herringbone is a challenging and unique layout wherein planks are installed in individual alternating strips at right angles to one another. As the installation progresses, a distinct directional pattern develops, placing great importance on orienting the layout in a visually appealing manner. Cali Bamboo highly recommends professional help when installing Herringbone flooring.

Herringbone direction should run in accordance with client preference. The pattern may look best with the points in the direction of the longest dimension of the room or toward a major focal point. Flatness of the subfloor is critical when dealing with a herringbone installation. Make sure the subfloor is flat and within the specified tolerance under Subfloor Requirements.

Trammel Points

Trammel points, which are used to scribe a circle or radius, consist of two points mounted on a beam – typically a piece of wood – designed to slide along the beam to increase or decrease the radius. Typically, one of the points is a pencil or pen, while the other is usually a metal point used to anchor the center of the circle or the radius. The size of the radius can be adjusted by sliding the marking point along the beam to the desired length and locking it into position.
Trammel Point Method for Squaring a Room and Finding the Center

1. Measure the width of the room from top to bottom left of center (Line A) in Figure 1.
2. Find the center of Line A and mark it (Point B).
3. Measure the width of the room from top to bottom right of center (Line C).
4. Find the center of Line C and mark it (Point D).
5. Adjust for any difference in center between Point B & Point D. For example, if Point B is one inch different than Point D, divide the difference by two to establish the new center point of Line A.
6. Snap a line the length of the room from Point B through Point D. This is now Line E.
7. Find the center point of Line E and mark it Point F.
8. From Point F, use trammel point at fixed position on flat board to mark through Line E left of center, and mark it Point G.
9. From Point F, use trammel point at the same fixed position on flat board to mark through Line E right of center, and mark it Point H.
10. From Point G, use trammel point at a fixed position on flat board to draw arc above Line E. Mark this Arc I.
11. From Point G, use trammel point at the same fixed position on flat board to draw arc below Line E. Mark this Arc J.
12. From Point H, use trammel point at the same fixed position on flat board to draw arc above Line E. Mark this Arc K.
13. From point H, use trammel point at the same fixed position on flat board to draw arc below Line E. Mark this Arc L.
14. Where Arc I and Arc K intersect, mark it Point M.
15. Where Arc J and Arc L intersect, mark it Point N.
16. Snap a line from Point M through Point N, and mark it Line O.
17. Where Line O intersects Line E is the center of the room. Line E and Line O also form a 90-degree angle.
18. Check the 90-degree angle using the 3-4-5 method as shown in Figure 2.
The overall board pattern is readily definable in herringbone layouts.

Tongues and grooves, used for Cali Bamboo Herringbone flooring, are unique in that tongue and groove boards have ‘left’ and ‘right’ pieces because the pattern is directional. When looking at the face of the boards, they are a mirror image of each other. Equal amounts of each style are shipped with flooring orders.

**Laying out a herringbone pattern:**

**Layout procedure** – Determine the diagonal dimension of the flooring

- Determine the herringbone pattern orientation in the room. Always confirm this information with the work order or your contact, customer, architect, salesperson, or designer.
- Measure the room for center and strike the main control, perpendicular and diagonal reference lines using the trammel point method.
- Measure for true center on the herringbone pattern to establish working lines.
- Divide the measurement by 4. For Cali Bamboo Herringbone flooring the measurement should be 1-5/16”.
- This is the dimension used to establish the working lines A and B on both sides of the control line.
- Strike two working lines alongside the main control line.
- Measure the distance from line A to line B. Line C should be ½ the distance and run parallel to lines A & B. The centerline of the room and the center of the pattern is represented by line C.
- Herringbone can be laid out parallel or at a 45-degree angle to the room. Regardless of the direction, herringbone will require a centerline and two working lines.
Note: The true center position of a herringbone pattern.

Dry lay a small section and measure to confirm a balanced layout.
Once the working lines established the installation can begin.
To keep the installation square, cut a square piece of plywood the size of the herringbone pattern and anchor it at the intersection of the working lines and diagonal lines.

Starting sequence for a herringbone installation.

Note that the tongue faces the direction of the build.
Installing a herringbone pattern:
• The starting point must have working lines and diagonal lines.
• For direct glue, do not spread adhesive over working lines.
• Start with the tongue towards the build direction.
• Install pattern one row at a time.
• Periodically check alignment.

To continue the pattern:
• Dry lay eight boards
• Lay a framing square from the points on the working line to the outermost point
• Record measurement A, this becomes your working line for the next course

Once measurement A has been established the working lines can be repeated throughout the installation.

After Installation:
• If nailed, the newly installed floor is complete and can be walked on immediately.
• If glued, allow the newly installed floor to fully cure based on adhesive recommendations before walking or moving furniture onto the floor.
• Always remove any adhesive from the surface of the flooring (smudges, fingerprints, etc.) before it dries. Use Bostik’s™ Ultimate Adhesive Remover Towels to immediately remove any adhesive on the flooring surface as you go.
• Use wood filler or putty to correct minor flooring damage that occurs during installation.
Cali Bamboo Care & Maintenance Guidelines

Cali Bamboo® flooring is treated with an industry-leading scratch resistant coating, and its density and strength surpasses almost any other flooring in the world. Bamboo flooring is tough, but all hardwood flooring is pervious to dents, scratches, discoloration or other natural or man-made damage. Prevention is a big part of the care for bamboo floors.

- Cali Bamboo recommends you vacuum or sweep the floor on a regular basis or as needed to remove dirt, sand or grit.
- Soak up spills immediately using a dry towel or dry mop.
- For general cleaning, use Bona Pro Hardwood Floor Cleaner & Bona Pro Hardwood Floor Mop.
- Fit furniture legs with felt tips or protective caps. Fix rolling furniture with soft rubber casters. Pick up heavy furniture or appliances; do not slide.
- Keep pets nails trimmed to avoid excess scratching.
- Limit direct sunlight on floor by using curtains and blinds in areas that are exposed to high UV rays.
- Maintain relative humidity between 40%-60%.
- Never wet-mop a hardwood floor. Standing water may cause permanent damage.
- Never use any of the following products on your floor: ammonia-based cleaners, acrylic finishes, wax-based products, detergents, bleach, polishes, oil soap, abrasive cleaning soaps, or acidic materials such as vinegar. Never apply wax treatments to your floor.
- Use interior and exterior doormats at entrances to prevent dirt and moisture from being tracked onto the floor. Area rugs are also recommended in front of kitchen sinks and in high traffic areas. Do not use rugs with solid rubber or vinyl backings. Rugs must be made of a breathable material to prevent moisture entrapment. We recommend using a breathable rug underlay. Mesh or grid patterns are best.

What is the best way to mop my Cali Bamboo floor?
Never wet (or damp) mop your floor. Standing water can damage the floor. You may periodically use a very slightly dampened (near dry) mop to spot-clean; however excessive moisture will dull the finish. For wood flooring in the kitchen, place an area rug in front of the kitchen sink. We recommend using Bona Pro Hardwood Floor Cleaner & Bona Pro Hardwood Floor Mop to clean your floor.

How can I protect the finish of my bamboo floor from wear over time?
Sweep and vacuum your floor regularly using a broom or dust mop. Brush or felt vacuum heads are recommended as opposed to vacuums with beater bars or hard heads. Use throw rugs both inside and outside doorways to prevent debris from being tracked onto floors. Keep pet’s claws trimmed to avoid excess scratches. Avoid contact with excess moisture. Avoid walking on your floors with cleats, sports shoes and high heels. Do not slide heavy furniture or appliances across the floor.

What are the best environmental conditions for my flooring?
As a general rule, with geographic exceptions, flooring will perform best when the interior environment is controlled to stay within a relative humidity range of 40%-60% and a temperature range of 60° to 80° Fahrenheit. (In some climates, the ideal humidity range might be higher or lower – 25 to 45 percent in desert areas for example.) It is the owner’s responsibility to maintain appropriate conditions via the use of humidifier and/or de-humidifier. In homes in which occupants are there for a short period of time (weekend home or vacation cabin), or in rooms that are closed off (not heated or air conditioned) to save energy, ventilation is a must even when the home is not occupied.

How do I fix a scratch on my finish?
If the scratch is white, the finish has not been compromised and is repairable. Simply using a flooring cleaner, like Bona, should eliminate these blemishes. If the scratch is deeper but the raw wood is not exposed, light buffing with a white polishing pad can shine up the dull area. Often the damage becomes less obvious. When removing stains from any wood floor, always begin at the outer edge of the stain and work toward the middle.

What changes can I expect in my flooring from season to season?
Cali Bamboo floors, like all species of hardwood flooring, are subject to changes in temperature and humidity. Seasonal fluctuations in relative humidity may cause the wood flooring to gain moisture with periods of high humidity, and lose moisture during low periods of humidity. These changes may be noticeable. During warm, humid weather, wood expands. During dry weather, wood contracts. This seasonal movement is a normal characteristic of wood flooring, and can be minimized by using a HVAC system to maintain relative humidity between 40%-60%.

Occasional Flooring Noise
Floor noise is normal and will vary from one installation type to the next. Occasional noise is due to structural movement and may relate to sub-floor type, flatness, deflection, and/or related to the fasteners, changes in environmental conditions, relative humidity and the amount of topside pressure applied to the flooring. For these reasons floor noise is not considered a product or manufacturer defect.