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## Architectural and Design Projects

These projects often have specific demanding client requirements with short lead times. It takes a wealth of experience to deliver such projects both within the time frame and on budget. One of the crucial roles in such projects is the supplier and as suppliers and manufacturers we have been involved in many successful completed projects both in the UK and abroad. Our wooden flooring is specifically designed for the UK market due to our specialist knowledge and experience of working with Architects and Interior Designers.

A large number of our products have evolved from Architect and Designers Specifications where we have been asked to manufacture a particular wooden floor to a very specific design. If we do not have the [wood floor](#) you require in our range we can manufacture your specific needs providing you meet the minimum m2 requirement. Our company have no middlemen or high overheads therefore our prices are less than half that of other manufacturers as we do not have the retail chains or other outlets to protect. We feel that our prices are the best in the market for the quality of wooden flooring available. Please visit our permanent display in the Building Centre, Central London.

We have advised and supplied to major contractors as well as supplying, fitting and finishing floors. A brief synopsis of our clients include Wildwood Design who advise Crew Clothing and we were honoured to be selected for their flagship store in Cardiff, Wetherspoon Inns, The White Hart Pub in Drury Lane London, Holy Trinity Church Finchley Road London, Major Galleries, Hotels as well as other major retailers throughout the UK.



Carbonised Oak in a night club



Carbonised Oak in a Crew Clothing Shop

We enjoy and love what we do and this is shown in the quality of our work. As well as many domestic installations we have worked alongside some of the UK's most prestigious house builders and property developers. Having over 40 years combined experience in the construction/ refurbishment industry we are confident that we can accommodate any flooring restoration, repair or installation you have.

With the skills, tools and transport to complete any given assignment I'm sure we can offer both you and your clients the level of service and commitment you have come to expect.

We always insist on supplying samples and are happy to deliver large panels to site or to your office for larger projects. We have one of the most extensive range of products in the UK and with our square edge unfinished Oak Floors we can create the ultimate designer look.

We feel the following points are important to any Architect or Designer:-

- Wooden flooring manufactured to British Standards
- Flooring made specifically for the UK market
- Extensive wood flooring information and specification
- One of the largest ranges of wooden flooring products on the market
- All our timber comes from sustainable sources
- Environmentally aware and Environmentally friendly products and finishes
- Large Stocks for immediate delivery
- Extensive unbiased advice and experience with large and small specialist projects
- Finishing on site which we provide to major retailers
- The ability to manufacture to the client's exact specification if we do not currently stock the product
- Product and installation guarantees if you use our fitters
- On site visits for consultation and helping to define the specification
- Knowledge and experience of under floor heating systems and wooden flooring installations
- Easy Specification of our products

Other Services, Advice and Installation of the following:

- *Solid Wood flooring*
- *Engineered / Overlay flooring*
- *Wooden Flooring for under floor heating*
- *Engineered Parquet panel flooring to your own design*
- *Pre-sprung installations, cradle & baton systems*
- *Sports floor systems*
- *Sub floor preparation – latex/screed*
- *Liquid damp proofing*
- *Acoustic underlay for floating floors*

# **Why Choose The Solid Wood Flooring Company**

## **Company Introduction**

The Solid Wood Flooring Company manufactures unique products with the best managed forest timber products. We will not purchase or machine any timber from the rainforests, such as Teak etc. A good managed forest will plant more trees than it harvests and in North America, parts of Russia and even China this is very much the case. We do not have many of our deciduous forests left now so oak in the UK is in short supply. All our products are unique to us as they are made to our exacting specification and are British quality controlled.

We have two main manufacturing facilities specialising in our solid and engineered flooring range. The two main facilities are FSC certified to ensure that all our products are sourced ethically with the environment in mind.

Wooden flooring products are just like us, every tree is individual and unique as this is how nature works. The grain and colour variation on any single species of tree will be different, just like every human being is different. Even identical twins will have personality differences even though they may look alike. The seasons and climate changes will have an impact on trees and can alter their hue, colour and structure.

## **Advantages of our Product range**

Over a period of years we have developed and extended our range of wooden flooring, many at the bequest of our Architect and Interior Designer clients. We place the most emphasis on quality and functionality and with no middlemen so you receive a top quality product at a reasonable price.

We are proud to offer you one of the largest ranges of solid and engineered wooden flooring in the UK market today.

## **Functionality and Under Floor Heating**

All our flooring is hard wearing and can be used in the home and commercially. We regularly test our products for use with underfloor heating (UFH), installation in the home, pubs, club, office, retail outlets and hotels in fact anywhere where there is a floor. All our engineered boards are suitable for use with UFH systems.

## **Expert Advice**

We are here to help and offer free friendly advice on all aspects of wooden flooring. We offer a survey service and help to enable you to choose the appropriate flooring for your environment. There are hundreds of documents and links on the web site to allow you to investigate every aspect of wooden flooring including help on any problems you may have with an existing floor.

## **Environment – We are FSC registered and a member of the Timber Trade Association**

This is very important to us and all our products come from sustainable sources with a chain of custody. Wood Flooring is a renewable source unlike carpets, vinyls, laminates etc which are manmade invariably from fossil fuels. When buying from us you know you are helping the environment and buying the best wooden flooring available.

### **Environmental Policy**

The Owners and Directors of The Solid Wood Flooring Company have made it a policy to only source from well managed legal sustainable forests and be responsible not only to the environment but also our clients, staff and contractors. We unreservedly condemn illegal logging and will not manufacture some exotic species as we believe that a lot are from questionable sources. With modern oiled finishes there are so many options that it seems a shame for companies to still sell flooring that comes from our ever reducing rain forest.

We only manufacture our own wooden flooring and can therefore control the sources of our raw material unlike a large number of our competitors who buy from traders, or where traders sell direct. We hold large stocks for immediate delivery.

We are members of The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) with a chain of custody certificate which means that all our FSC certified flooring can be traced back to the forest where it was harvested which ensures that it is properly managed. Further details can be found on the web site <http://www.fsc.org/>

We are also committed members of the Timber Trade Federation (TTF)



and implement their Environmental Code of Practice and responsible purchasing policy (RPP). The RPP is a key issue in the timber industry today as it will ensure that all forests will eventually become totally sustainable, and over time the rain forest will get replanted. Further information can be obtained directly from the TTF web site at [www.ttf.co.uk](http://www.ttf.co.uk).

By following this policy we can ensure that for every tree harvested there will be more than one replanted. Never buy cheap wood flooring as it will invariably come from illegal logging operations where there is no management and locals cutting down trees and selling the raw material cheaply, in well managed forests only the best and oldest timber is selected, allowing younger trees to prosper for future use.

The USA for example has always had a sustainable Forest Initiative as it has used timber in its house building and flooring in the early days of its evolution. The US has a regulatory framework enforces its good forestry practise throughout the US and Canada which is where our American White Oak, Walnut and Maple are sourced from.

We are also very ecological in our manufacturing using off-cuts of Oak and walnut to manufacture our Sandwich Engineered Oak and fine line flooring. This means less wastage from the timber harvested.

Timber is one of the major renewable sources in the building industry; bricks use a tremendous amount of energy and are not renewable, as are fossil fuel products like carpets, underlays, paints etc. Properly managed forests mean that more trees are planted than harvested which gives us an infinite supply of a fantastic building and flooring material. With clever use of our resources in manufacturing we can ensure that we use the oldest trees that have served their useful life in taking carbon dioxide out of the air and replacing it with Oxygen with younger trees whose growth will help reduce global warming.

We are the manufacturer with no expensive outlets or other major overheads. We source and buy our wood directly and therefore can afford to cut out the middle man and keep our margins lower than most retailers. These competitive prices along with using our recommended experienced teams of wooden flooring fitters can save you hundreds or even thousands of pounds depending on the size of your project.

Wood flooring is a big investment so always look for something that will last you a lifetime. It is important to note that all our flooring comes from sustainable managed forests and is a lifelong product of natural beauty and durability. All our stock is stored in our warehouse in Halstead Essex.

We do not employ agents or representatives we deal directly with our customers which means we can offer the best quality, advice and price for your project. We supply and manufacture solid and engineered wooden flooring which we feel is at the top end in terms of quality.

We can supply any variety of flooring from Oak and Bamboo to the more exotic boards such as Maple and Walnut, all harvested from sustainable woodlands. Nothing compares to the luxurious ambience and warmth of natural hardwood floors.

Available in a variety of stunning exotic and domestic species, hardwood flooring combines classic beauty and durability all in a cost effective flooring alternative that does not sacrifice quality. A sound long term investment increases the value of your home whilst the natural beauty and warm appearance enhances and compliments all decors and styles.

Our hardwood flooring is a sustainable source of flooring for the UK market with technology and quality that has been seen in the United States for years, where wooden flooring has always been the proffered option rather than carpets.

The Solid Wood Flooring Company's manufacturing cycle begins with a sustainable managed forest. The life cycle of these forest trees is over 150 years. This has enabled the felling each year of mature trees, leaving younger trees space to grow

and at the same time allowing new trees to be planted, in fact more new trees are planted than there are harvested.

Our bamboo flooring is the most environmentally friendly and we do not harvest where Panda Bears exist. We are very conservation minded and are always looking at ways to reduce deforestation and unnecessary tree felling. We always use the best available raw materials to guarantee the quality of our end products. Our specialists select the finest trees and carefully inspect all timber before accepting the logs into the manufacturing cycle.

In the manufacturing cycle, we maximize the log stability and strictly control the moisture level through our sawmill and kiln drying facility, all our floors are dried to less than 8% moisture content. Logs are precisely sawed to maximize output and reduce cost and then kiln dried to industry standards to increase the durability and dimensional stability of all our floors. Our very precise milling ensures an easy and impeccable installation. The planks are manufactured straight, with a constant thickness and width. Our high manufacturing standards and our quality control process assure an easy and worry free installation, which saves time and reduces wastage.

**The look and feel:**

Wooden flooring adds a natural charm to any room in your home or environments such as clubs, pubs, shops, museums, offices and commercial premises. There are endless possibilities in choosing a design to complement your current decor.



Carbonised oak E807 Engineered



Antique Smoke Oak Engineered



Antique Natural Oak Engineered



American Walnut Engineered

**Durability and longevity:**

Wooden flooring is more durable and lasts longer than ever before with the technology of modern protective finishes. Because of its longevity and durability solid hardwood flooring possibly provides the best value-for-money option compared to other types of flooring.

**Temperature and sound regulator:**

Wood is an insulator, helping to keep heat in when it is cold and the house cool when it is hot. Solid wood is also a fibrous material and it absorbs sound.

**Adds value to your home:**

Hardwood flooring will add value to your home making it a good investment. Installation is quick and easy on any surface if you use professional fitters.

**Low maintenance:**

Regular sweeping or vacuuming and the occasional mop (with the recommended cleaner) is all it takes to maintain any solid wood flooring and its lustre will remain because dirt and dust do not stick to hardwood surfaces. We also supply maintenance kits to keep your floor looking pristine.

**Safety:**

Wood will absorb impact better than other floor types because of its natural softness, making it potentially safer for places with children and babies.

**Allergies:**

Hardwood flooring is clean and dust mites or any other allergic organisms do not live on such floors making it ideal for the modern environment where so much pollution surrounds us. Hardwood flooring is perfect to combat asthma and numerous other allergies.

## Antique Hand Distressed Oak

Our Antique hand scraped oak boards are like old world classic floors and are the result of man working with the best of nature to create a unique wooden floor for your home. Like elegantly aged antiques, they create luxurious old world character giving the appearance of an aged floor that has been walked on for a hundred years.

We are proud of the craftsmanship and quality that goes into our antique oak floors which can adapt to a wide range of applications and lifestyles. Distinctive designs offer unlimited possibilities to help you create your dream room, with unique and beautifully crafted custom wood floors.

### **Hand Scraped Texture and Process:**

***We use manual methods of hand distressing not machines***

Distressed hardwood flooring is done by machine or by hand. The problem with machine distressing is, as you look across the floor, you see the same pattern repeating across the floor which lacks a natural feel. Some manufacturers are just denting, scooping, or roughing the floor. Others are sanding the floor unevenly to create a worn look.

We make our antique oak floors by scraping the entire surface of the flooring creating unique handmade boards.

Throughout the scraping process, our skilled craftsmen sculpt along the natural flow of the wood grain and character mark to accent the true grace of nature's beauty. True craftsmen can create a reclaimed look complete with wormholes, splits and other naturally occurring character markings.

We can offer our antique boards in solid or engineered oak available in shades of natural, smoke or burnt and widths of 150mm or 189mm. They are finished with a matt, hard wearing lacquer finish which is easy to clean and maintain.



Hand Distressed Engineered Smoke Oak

## Engineered Wooden Flooring

Engineered wooden floors are now becoming the most popular form of wood floors as they are more stable than any solid wood floor and if the top layer of an engineered board is 5mm thick then the distance between the top of the floor and the top of the tongue is the same.

It also means that we can create three times as much flooring from one tree as we are using faster growing species for the plywood back, such as birch.

Engineered wood flooring comes in a large range of finishes and styles. It also comes in different structures and it is important to understand the implications of how the boards are manufactured to appreciate the effect they can have on the application you want to use the flooring for. Finishes can range from **antique** hand distressed to tranquil **natural brushed boards** through to rustic and select finishes that can be used with under floor heating. You should never confuse Engineered wood flooring with the cheap laminated versions.

### **There are three basic structures of engineered floors**

Cross ply birch plywood back

Sandwich Board where the whole structure is made up of the same species of tree

Poplar back where you normally get just two layers of poplar, this is the cheapest engineered board and is probably the worst to use except in very limited applications.

Top quality plywood boards are the foundation for any quality engineered flooring. The plywood is made up of several layers of birch; each layer has the grain running in opposite directions which will ensure that the top layer has a very hard surface on which to adhere. You should always look for 100% birch plywood back to give extra stability. A mixture of woods is not good for the long term stability of any **engineered wooden floor.**

### **Solid Wood and Engineered Boards**

The difference between a solid wood floor board and a good quality engineered floor board that has a minimum top layer thickness of 5mm or 6mm is minimal. Solid boards are normally 18mm thick and good quality engineered wood flooring is 20 to 21mm thick.

The picture of actual boards opposite shows the end section of a solid board next to an engineered board and as can be seen there is no real difference between either. Therefore engineered boards offer huge advantages over solid wood flooring due to their stability and they will look the same as a solid board when laid.

The picture below shows the end grain of a modern solid oak where the heartwood is near the middle and the board will always "cup" towards the heartwood, this will not happen with an engineered board.

## **Micro Bevel and Square Edged Wood Floors**

### Micro Bevelled Floor Boards

With a prefinished wooden floor that is lacquered or oiled on a production line there will always be a micro bevel. This ensures that the oil or lacquer fully protects the board and its edges as well as preventing splintering of the edge during manufacturing.

The picture below shows a micro bevel on a lacquered board and one on a board that has been hand distressed to look like a reclaimed board, there is also a picture of the surface. The pictures below also show the end view of our engineered boards.

#### Micro Bevel Antique Board

This shows the faint line on the surface of two boards together. Micro bevels are much better than bevelled boards as you will always get dirt trapped in bevelled boards



### Square Edged Floor Boards

These are always unfinished wooden flooring as there will always be a tendency for the top edge of the board to splinter. If this happens it can easily be repaired before finally finishing the floor. With unfinished boards there is an infinite range of colours to choose from to suit your personal taste and decor. Our preferred choice of finishing products due to their latest innovations and infinite variety are Woodcare of Denmark and Blanchon both of which we can supply. The pictures below shows the square edge both from the top and side. With a square edge board you will not see a definitive line like the 4 boards joined together on the boards below



End View Square Edge



You can just about see the faint line of the boards

### **The Environment where the wooden floor is installed:**

**Solid wood flooring** will react more readily to changes in the environment, such as fluctuations in temperature and humidity. Under cold and dry conditions it will cause the wood to contract which will result in the appearance of gaps between boards. Likewise during warmer periods, heat and moisture in the air will cause the wood to expand, resulting in the boards cupping, buckling or warping. Therefore during installation of **solid wood floors**, it is vital to allow the boards enough time to acclimatise and adapt to the humidity within the environment where it is going to be installed, (preferably ten to fourteen days or more). Also you need to ensure there is sufficient space around the perimeter of the room to allow for the **natural expansion of a wooden floor**. This can be achieved by laying the floor before fixing any skirting boards or by leaving a gap of 18.5mm under the skirting board. This will ensure that there is sufficient space for the **wood to "move"** which does occur because wood is a natural product.

The installer assumes all responsibility for final inspection as to grade, manufacture and factory finish. This inspection of all flooring must be done prior to installation. Carefully examine the flooring for colour, finish and quality before installing it. The installer must use reasonable selectivity and discard or cut off pieces with deficiencies, whatever the cause. If the material is deemed not to be acceptable, do not install it and contact us immediately.

Prior to installation of any **hardwood-flooring** product the installer must determine that the job-site environment and the sub-surfaces involved meet or exceed all applicable standards. Recommendations of the construction and materials industries as well as local codes must be followed. These instructions recommend that the construction and sub-floor be dry, stiff and flat. The manufacturer declines any responsibility for job failure resulting from or associated with, sub-surface, sub flooring or job-site environmental deficiencies. The installer/owner has the final inspection responsibility with regard to grade, manufacture and factory finish. As a supplier of a natural product, industry standards state that we are allowed up to 5% of natural wastage.

- Use of stain, filler or putty stick for touch-up during installation should be accepted as normal procedure.
- When flooring is ordered, 8% should be added to the actual square metres required in order to allow for cutting, grading allowance and wastage.
- Should an individual piece be doubtful as to the grade, manufacture or factory finish, the installer should not use that piece.
- Use of appropriate products for correcting subfloor voids should be accepted as normal industry practice.



## Our Flooring Finishes



This guide explains our Floor finishes and the products we use to ensure a trouble free floor. The final finish will depend on your personal taste but as we use industrial strength lacquers our floors will stand up to most situations. If you want a higher gloss then you can use the Bona Polish Gloss product which you can apply with the Bona Micro Fibre applicator pad found in the Bona maintenance kits. We have three main finishes as follows and all are applied under strict factory and quality control procedures which will ensure a perfect floor. Full details of each company's products can be seen in the relevant PDF files in the Floor Finishing section.

**Diamond Range lacquered Floors one of the hardest finishes available** We use the Bona Natural for industrial applications and apply **9 coats**. The process is as follows and we have quoted the product codes for clarification:

1. One coat of UV Primer UW0310 this gives good adhesion and is cured using IR drying Lamps
2. Three coats of UV curing light filler UL0115 giving high abrasion resistance
3. One coat of UV Base coat (anti-scratch) UB0135 cured with a UV lamp
4. One coat of Bona Natural base coat UB8128 cured with a UV lamp
5. One coat of UV Base coat UB0123 cured with a UV lamp
6. Two coats of Bona Natural Top coats UT8098 cured with Mercury lamps and this top coat has a high resistance to scratching due to its industrial strength.

**Amethyst and Sapphire Range Lacquered Floors one of the toughest finishes available** For this range we use Treffert lacquers and apply 9 coats. The process is as follows

1. UV-PU INSULATION COAT 4713310000404
2. UV-Sealer Sandable for the back board 6613390000403
3. UV-FILLER TRANSPARENT PUMPABLE 6113330000403
4. UV-Duro Sealer (standard) 6613470000403
5. UV-Sealer Transparent 6613360000403
6. UV-Duro Sealer(standard) 6613470000403
7. UV-Sealer Sandable Colourless 6613330000403
8. HPC Anti Scratch Topcoat 6513341000403
9. HPC Anti Scratch Topcoat 6513341000403

**Natural Oiled Floors all Ranges** We use the WOCA Woodcare Denmark products for all our oiled floors and apply 2 coats at the factory. You can then use the master Oils to give the floor a deeper finish using a polishing mop and patina discs after it has been laid. We supply the WOCA maintenance oil and oil soap for cleaning.

**UV Oiled Floors all Ranges** We apply 3 coats at the factory and cure using infra red heat to ensure a very hard wearing surface that can easily be repaired. We use the WOCA UV oil and also supply maintenance kits with paste and soap oil for cleaning.

## **WOCA oiled finished boards and unfinished boards using WOCA Master Oils and Coloured Oil**

All of our Natural Oiled Pre-finished boards have WOCA Master Oil Natural applied to them at the factory. The WOCA oxidising Master Oil is a penetrating wood oil system. The Master Oil actually penetrates the surface, compared to other oils such as surface oils and lacquer type systems. The Master Oil actually cures within the wood, hardening and protecting the floor leaving a beautiful natural open pore surface. WOCA treatment oils were the obvious choice for the high traffic Euro star project in St Pancras which was opened by the Queen in November 2007. WOCA Master Oils were chosen because of the worldwide reputation of successfully treated and maintained high traffic projects, including Copenhagen Airport, where nearly 20,000 square metres were laid and then treated with WOCA Master Oils over 25 years ago. This has been maintained ever since with the WOCA Maintenance Products and the floor still looks magnificent. If you wish to treat our unfinished oak boards to achieve a natural look, use the WOCA Master Oil Natural.

For a White Sanded look you should use the WOCA Master Oil White on the unfinished board. If you wish to produce this finish there are two choices. WOCA Master Oil White or if you feel this is too light then simply mix the Master Oil White 50/50 with the Master Oil Natural.

### **WOCA Master Oil Application**

The application procedures are simple. Master Oil is to be applied to a pre-sanded floor (100/120 grit abrasion). All of our unfinished boards have this finish. If the floor is dirty or marked with grease or stains by the flooring fitters, you should first treat the floor with the WOCA Wood Cleaner. This will relieve the floor of dirt and grease therefore avoiding sealing it into the floor during the curing process of applying the oils.

Shake/stir the container well before and during the oiling process, apply the oil to the floor with a short haired paint-roller to create an even coat (see guidelines on the reverse of the container). Leave the oil to be absorbed for 5-10 minutes and then polish the oiled area until the floor appears saturated. The floor should not appear wet and there should be no excess oil left on the surface after polishing. If you wish to achieve a more silk matt surface, the finished floor can be buffed with 100ml of Master Oil and this will cover 15m<sup>2</sup> of flooring. This is done after the pre-hardening time and the oil must be polished carefully into the floor.

DO NOT expose the floor to water during the hardening process.

### **WOCA Coloured Master Oils and Wood Lyes**

Woodcare of Denmark can offer a wide range of coloured oils to allow you to obtain virtually any colour. Some examples are shown in this section of the Brochure.

When using softwood lyes it opens the grain and pulls the tannins out of the wood, this will darken Oak and when you apply Coloured Oils such as the Brazil Brown you achieve a deeper richer brown colour. You can see the contrast on some of our unfinished boards. These range from pre-colour white with White Master oil to the dark brazil brown where softwood lye has been applied first, to where we have just

applied Brazil Brown on its own. The range of colours available is too numerous to mention here. We are happy to apply them to samples and then send them free of charge to your office or home. Alternatively you can see a variety of Woca Master oils and coloured oils applied to our unfinished boards at the building centre.