

## FACTS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT BAMBOO FLOORING



- HOW IT IS PRODUCED

Bamboo trees (type : Mao or Moso) are split and shredded into long and thin strands, which are then boiled in boric acid to remove starch. Once dried, the strands are bonded together with heat sensitive low Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) adhesive and then compressed under 2,500 tons of pressure into blocks. After curing process, the blocks are then sliced into floor boards and cut with multiple profiling saws to create Valinge 2G locking profile. Finally, the floor boards are finished with water-based and solvent-free German UV acrylic urethane for the extra anti-scratch and abrasion resistance.

- HOT PRESS (COMPETITORS) VS. COLD PRESS (OUR GREEN EARTH)

**Hot Press** – Costs less to produce because it only takes 1 hour of baked time at extremely high temperature, causing uncontrollable high colour variation and less stability in the bamboo density and moisture content.

**Cold Press** – Costs more to produce because it takes 20 hours of baked time at room temperature, causing more consistency in colour and more stability in the bamboo density and moisture content.

According to the Australia Timber Flooring Association, the flooring product that has the highest number of claims or complaints submitted by unsatisfied consumers is Bamboo Flooring.

- MOST FREQUENT COMPLAINTS BY CUSTOMER

Warping & Buckling (see below photos)



The biggest market of bamboo flooring is USA, but their current housing crisis has resulted in significant drop in their buying volume. The bamboo factories in China have huge batch of finished goods but unable to ship. Hence, they have been actively promoting to Australia market at cheaper pricing. However, there is a big difference between USA climate and Australia climate. Some Australian importers attracted to the cheap pricing unknowingly importing bamboo that is specifically made for USA climate (Moisture content at 6%), which is drier than our Aussie Climate (Moisture content at 8%).

**The above photos show that the bamboo (USA spec) is adjusting to our higher humidity climate by expanding through moisture intake, until there is no more room to move except up, and this is called Warping and Buckling.**

**Creaking Noise – Many bamboo flooring products in Australia do not have wax on their click lock system. As click system installation does not require glue on the joint, when the boards expand and contract, they will rub against each other and cause this creaking noise when you walk on it.**

**Toxic Environment – some factories cut costs by using locally-made glue and coating chemicals that can be hazardous and toxic for human and pets.**

**Inconsistent Quality – All factories during production will always have some batches of finished products that do not pass Quality Control (QC). However, instead of disposing them or selling it as a “B” grade, they deliberately continue to sell as a standard quality product in order to maintain their profit. This is why some importers, especially smaller importers, sometimes get high quality product in one container and low quality product in the next container.**

**We, GREEN EARTH, are one of the factory’s biggest importing customer with monthly purchase of 20 containers of bamboo flooring. The factory simply cannot afford to lose us as a customer and will always act in our best interest. In addition, we have taken further measures to employ our own QC inspector to inspect and approve the product quality and Aussie climate moisture content at 8% before the container gets shipped. Our “Green Earth” has waxed edges to prevent creaking noise, produced with German quality formaldehyde that meets E1 standard and world-renowned Klumpp UV coating that are non hazardous and no VOC. Our “Valinge” licensed click locking technology has fold-down locking sytem on all four sides of the flooring, making it a super easy DIY installation without even the need to use a hammer.**