
The Briggs group – 100 years in timber – 1908 to 2008

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SEALING PRE-FINISHED T&G FLOORING for
RESISTANCE TO ACCIDENTAL WETTING and for
SEALING TO PREVENT DUST BUILD-UP and
CAVITIES FOR DUST MITES

If you have accidental wetting of your floor you should immediately wipe the floor dry. If it is left wet then water may soak through to the underside of the floor and cause the floor to distort and move. One or two accidental wettings in a year that are wiped dry promptly will not be a problem. If it is likely that accidental wetting will occur more often, in such locations as near a dish washer or laundry, then it is recommended that you apply silicone sealant to the joints between the boards. This may be done as follows:

While laying each run of boards apply bead of about 1mm to 1.5mm diameter of CLEAR SILICONE SEALANT to the top of the tongue OF THE END MATCH. The end match is the T&G that is on the end of the boards.

After each run of boards are in place and before the next run is positioned apply a bead of about 1mm to 1.5mm diameter of CLEAR SILICONE SEALANT to the TOP OF THE TONGUE ON THE SIDE PROFILE.

When the next boards are placed and cramped the silicone will seal the joints to stop fast flow of water the underside and allow more effective wiping dry. Any excess silicone should be removed. Follow the manufacturer of the silicone instructions for clean-up. Avoid letting silicone come in contact with the underside of the wood or the surface the wood is being applied to.

You can apply silicone to the cracks after the floor has been laid. This is not as effective and can fail. To do this make sure the cracks are cleaned as best you can with a strong vacuum cleaner and then squash the silicone into the crack, then wipe of the excess [as per silicone manufacturer's instructions].

The cracks between the boards can accumulate particles that are difficult to remove by normal sweeping practices. If you want to ensure this is minimized and ensure there are no voids for dust mites to hide then the application of the silicone seal is recommended.