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METHOD STATEMENT FOR INSTALLATION OF WOOD BLOCK FLOORING:

THIS IS TO BE ADAPTED TO SPECIFIC SPECIES, JOB SITES AND CLIMATES. PLEASE CONTACT OLD WOOD, LLC: www.oldwood.us for further details as necessary.

Wood blocks should be kept in a clean, dry, well-ventilated, shaded area and protected from moisture, excessive heat and other extremes of climate. Avoid exposure to direct sunlight or environmental extremes of any kind.

Blocks will be in boxes and these should be opened to the air to prevent any mildewing or molding.

Boxes are marked and labeled as to size; we recommend you sort them and store them in at least some sort of order in which they will be used, i.e. if a random pattern is to be laid, store blocks in mixed sizes so you will not have to ‘dig’ as you move ahead with the installation. Try to start organized and stay organized.

The blocks will be adequately dry upon leaving the factory, but they may need to be acclimated somewhat. For Kuala Lumpur with what we expect is high humidity, blocks will likely need to measure between 8-14% moisture.

Blocks are extremely moisture ‘variable’ and if exposed to any given climate will adapt within a day or two. If laid/spread out, they will adapt overnight.

CONDITIONS PRESENT FOR COMMENCEMENT OF INSTALLATION:

Substrate requirements:

Slab must be dry, sound, flat, clean, and fully stable.

Thoroughly cleaned immediately before installation. General area within 10 meters should be swept clean and the radius of cleanliness maintained.

Level: Flat to 5mm of a straight edge in a 3M radius

Slab should be the dry to industry standard levels, (3.5%) Perform calcium chloride or other industry/permitting authority approved tests to assure slab is indeed fully dried and at it’s expected EMC or equilibrium moisture content.

WOOD BLOCKS



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Wood blocks act as bio-hygrometers.

Higher than normal fluctuations in humidity call for increased spacing between blocks. In this case, Old Wood Citrifill should be used.

A 3-5 mm expansion gap may be included at 5-8 meter intervals across the floor or at the edges. The gap at the edge of the floor may be filled with Citrifill and may be replenished as necessary over time. Proper top coating with water-based polyurethane will seal the floor and the filler.

INSTALLATION: Once all of the above conditions are met, installation can begin.

LAYOUT: As Approved by designer. Do NOT lay blocks until you are positive that you are laying the first block, the right size and pattern. We have seen entire floors ruined because installers 'assumed' their pattern was the owner's pattern.

Grids should be created using chalk or laser lines. As necessary, establish waypoints or checkpoints for joints, straightness every 1-2 meters. Check and approve layout before installation. Check it again!

Keep design documents and this set of instructions on site in a folder in easy reach for ongoing reference.

GLUE: Use only a water-cured urethane adhesive in accordance with the glue manufacturers directions. We recommend certain glues. Contact us for information.

The proper trowels MUST be used or this may be a disaster. The size of the notch and its shape will define the adhesion model.

For ½" blocks, 3/16ths x ¼" square notch spacing is good, and must be kept clean at all times when not in use, any blocked notches must be cleaned.

How to Spread Glue:

Glue shall be neatly spread with the proper notched trowel no more than one half meter in front of the current 'Lay'. Never lay more glue than can be well covered and used within two minutes or less. Glue left exposed to the air longer than this or until it develops any skinning must be cleaned up and re-applied.



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Glue should be spread so neatly and with such care that there is never more than 1- 1.5 CM of glue showing beyond the edge of the blocks. Even this small amount **MUST** be cleaned up if stopping work for any amount of time.

Any wet glue cannot be allowed to harden, as it will cause the next lay or line of blocks to be ‘humped up’.

LAYING: The following is critical and is key to a successful wood block floor:

Follow the approved pattern, ensure only very small gaps and none larger than 3mm maximum unless perhaps on an edge. By all means avoid gaps in the middle of the sight lines.

DO NOT jam blocks them up tightly. You must allow each block to have a tiny bit of “wobble” room. If a given block has a rough edge or some irregularity, unless it is excessive, allow that space to become a built in expansion/contraction gap.

Wood blocks WILL expand and contract with humidity fluctuations, either seasonally or due to HVAC. Because of this proper, small spacing is vital.

Setting Blocks: Set, Wiggle, Tap.

#1: Set the block into its proper space. Check for size.

Any block more than .5-1mm below the surrounding blocks should be replaced immediately with a thicker block. If a low block is accidentally installed and the glue allowed to harden, place a piece of colored tape onto that block so that later on you may come back with a palm sander and smooth and taper any edges that may be present both prior and after overall floor sanding. Do not allow any low blocks into primary sight lines whatever you do. As you go, any slightly low blocks can be accumulated and used in groups at edges, under counters etc.

#2: Wiggle: This is intended to break any skin that may have formed on the adhesive to assure contact with wet glue on the back of the block and to check alignment and orientation of the block.

#3: Tap: A white rubber mallet or other non-marking hammer should be used on each end every block to assure all are fully and properly bedded into the adhesive substrate. Failure to tap each block may lead to significant failures later on.

Recommended Crew:



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Teams of three for large jobs, two for smaller: one to spread glue, one laying and tapping blocks and the third bringing blocks, cleaning or sweeping/cleaning ahead.

ROLLING: A one hundred pound roller (50kg) is recommended for a flat, well bonded appearance. Careful oversight and tapping with the specified hammer can substitute for the roller.

LEVEL AND STRAIGHT: Extreme care must be taken to look back over the blocks just laid.

Blocks can be adjusted fairly well minutes after laying but a half hour later it can be quite difficult. Keep the overall lay flat and level. If a given block is low or high, either adjust it or get rid of it. Low blocks are the hardest to fix as a LOT of sanding has to be done to get the surrounding floor level with the lowest one. To fix this it is perfectly acceptable to pop the block up and add a touch more glue or if it is more than 1 mm low, discard the block. High blocks can of course be easily sanded. If you see a low block fix it fast. This glue cures fast.

Hold to your pattern or your random lay model. If it is to be random, start that way and keep it that way. Don't allow the '#2' guy to just start adding patterns into a random lay; it will ruin you and you will run out of blocks.

CURING TIME: A minimum of 17-24 hours is required between gluing and first sanding or other traffic and operations or a per glue manufacturer's instructions. More time is better.

SANDING: Wood blocks are prone to marking from poor sanding. If sandpaper is too coarse it will leave lines that may not appear until staining/oiling so be careful to fully sand out the previous grit with the next grit in line and don't make excessive jumps from coarse to fine, i.e. 60-80 is alright but 60-100 will leave marks from the 60 grit that will appear on oiling.

Random vibratory sanding is recommended however a master sander with a drum sander can get great results. Drum sanders leave lines that must be finally removed with random sanders.

60 Grit will do in most cases for first cut. If low areas are to be blended in, then 36/40 grit may be desirable but it will take more work to remove the lines.

Sanding should progress in even passes in reasonably sized areas.

Final cut should be made with a 110 or finer screen. Final finish sanding may go as fine as 200 grit. Finer papers may be used as well if desired.

FILLING/SANDING: Sanding fines are desirable and should be retained and used as filler agent to



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be mixed with and used with Citrifill. Collect all sanding fines, keep them clean and dry.

If care is taken with sanding fines the sanding process itself will produce enough fine powder to fill the floor.

FILLING/OILING: If staining is to be done, make test samples regarding sequence to be followed: oil and fill first or stain first? Some stains should be applied prior to fill as the oil in Citrifill will change the way the wood takes the stain. If necessary, sand fully, stain nicely, let the stain dry overnight and then fill. You may touch up either way as necessary prior to final finishing.

Process: As sanding takes place, a man with a soft broom can follow on gently sweeping the fines using a dappling effect, up and down with the broom, to encourage the fines into the cracks between the blocks. The subsequent application of the Old Wood House Oil Blend or Citrifill mix, will impregnate these fines and within days cause them to catalyze into a cork like material that can be sanded and finished

Dry fill with fines first. This is critical. Work this into cracks as much as possible even compressing material in to any larger voids using a spatula edge or fine trowel.

Next, broom in fines. Take care not to sweep fines out of the cracks.

Wet fill with Citrifill mixture.

A plastic trowel, metal plastering trowel or round nosed spatula, will be used to press the paste down into the cracks. Do not allow air bubbles to form.

Take extra care to assure that Citrifill is fully pressed down into all gaps, voids, fills all depressions including any spots that may show as white due to dry powder which has not been fully oiled.

Oil: apply the House Oil Blend mixture by spraying, wiping or using staining pads. A squeegee can be used. Do not do anything to wipe the fill dust out of the cracks.

Apply enough oil that some residual is left over on the surface.

Look back over your surface to see what areas may have absorbed more and need re-applying. This first 'full soak' application is vital. Apply enough oil to do the job well but avoid waste.

If gaps persist, use the end or edge of the trowel to press filler in and get a good fill on any gaps.



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WIPE AND TOUCH UP: Touch up dry spots. Re-fill as necessary. Look at each and every block carefully. For oil finishes, touch-up oiling may go on for days and weeks. Keep the surface fully oiled and buffed, **but not wet.**

Take care on recently finished floors NOT to wipe out fill as you wipe on more oil mixture.

Keep the fill level flush with surrounding blocks until the mixture has time to set up, usually two to three weeks before it is completely cured. The hotter you mix the Citrifill the faster it will set up to about 2:1 catalyst to oil.

Urethane or other top-coating: we recommend water based, oxygen cross linking/catalyzed chemically bonding polyurethane. Test as necessary and follow manufacturers instructions at all times.

Be sure any oil finish applied to the floor, as with the Citrifill, has had a minimum of 48 hours of good temperature and ventilation to dry. There can be no excess oil on the surface prior to applying urethane however it will adhere and preserve the Citrifill within 24 hours. Full cure takes place generally within four to five days.

MAINTENANCE: Oil finishes: Regular application of oil every time it begins to look a bit dried out. Some touch up with Citrifill filler will likely be required as well periodically.

This will take place every few months for approximately one year. The oil will begin to get some 'build' to it and cure into a smooth hard finish.

Keep Old Wood House Oil Blend and Citrifill on hand for re-coating and touch up.

CLEANING: Use Old Wood House Oil Blend mixed at 1:5, Citrus/Oil. If found appropriate, a cleaner of 1:2 Citrus/Oil is a stronger cleaner. The citrus is a strong cleaner and at this concentration take care not to take the finish off of the wood.

For oil and urethane surfaces: for light cleaning you may use Murphy's Oil Soap. Oil finishes can be lightly damp mopped as long as care is taken to never wet the blocks or allow actual water into the finish. Damp is fine; wet is bad.

DO NOT USE overly caustic or concentrated soap mixtures. If Murphy's is not available, use a light mixture of the most basic white soap. Use enough to make a solution that will barely foam. Less is better. **Do not allow the cleaning crew to ruin your floor.**



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ACCIDENT CLEANUP: If at any time actual water is allowed to pool or soak into the floor, take all measures to dry it immediately. This would include the use of mops, rags, wet-dry vacuums, and plenty of fans and air circulation. Failure to dry the floor immediately can cause block failure.

In the event of a large floor area failure, new blocks can be easily replaced into the old structure. Contact Old Wood for further details on repairs.

REPAIRS: Loose blocks, cracked or otherwise defective blocks may be removed using a hammer and chisel or by sawing out larger sections using a circular saw. The removed area is to be cleaned with the chisel or other method and new blocks, properly stained and filled are then to be replaced. More extensive repair work will be covered during installation training.

Technical: Refer to our website: www.woodblockfloors.com/technical or go to www.oldwood.us

OLD WOOD CITRIFILL and OLD WOOD HOUSE OIL BLEND Mixing and use: The base for the CITRIFILL is Old Wood House Oil Blend (HOB).

The HOB is made is made by mixing the oil (may be one part or multi-part depending on specification) with the Citrus Solvent component at a base level of two ounces to one gallon. This can be increased to as much as 5:1 Oil/Citrus.

For filling, the dry wood dust powder and or collected sanding fines from actual sanding operations are mixed with the Oil and then thinned and catalyzed by the Citrus Solvent.

The amount of Citrus to use will vary on the use and application. In order to get a fully catalyzed cork like reaction in CITRIFILL FILLER, within one week it is recommended that a mixture of at least 5:1 be used. More will cause a quicker reaction and may be necessary to properly thin the mixture for use.

Blend the oil/citrus into your sanding fines thoroughly.

The paste should be oily as appropriate for filling and/or oiling. As the paste is used, some remainder will accumulate across the surface of your floor. If the floor was clean as it should be, you can return this dried out mixture to your pail and add more oil mix.

It should be oily but not oozing. It will ooze as your press it into the cracks and if it gets too dry re-mix or add new blend. You want enough oil present to fill the dry filled (see installation instructions) material underneath the filler you are applying.



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Never make more filler than you plan to use within a half a day as it will rapidly set-up in the pail making it unusable for most filling.

MSDS AND PRODUCT SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL:

MSDS sheets are available online from the manufacturer for both products (MSDS.com). Look under Linseed Oil, Boiled and under d-Limonene. Additionally information may be found at Startex.com for both products.

Always wear personal protection equipment and prepare and use the products as recommended. The oil is quite benign but the Citrus solvent may burn eyes readily and after extended exposure may cause skin difficulties. See MSDS safety literature. The Citrus is not considered toxic

FIRE PRECAUTIONS: DANGER! DANGER!

ANY AND ALL RAGS, TOWELS, TISSUES, PAPERS ETC., WHICH HAVE COME INTO ANY CONTACT WITH ANY OIL MIXTURE MUST BE CONSIDERED EXTREME FIRE HAZARDS AND DISPOSED OF APPROPRIATELY.

GUARANTEE: All our wood is carefully selected, sawn, dried, machined and processed (some seconds and lower grades as well as discounted product excepted) and all orders are filled with adequate wood to complete the order as stated and paid for. Orders should be carefully inspected upon receipt for quantity, quality, damage, defect, suitability, dryness and all other normal considerations. **Any claim for damage must be made with the freight company on site at point of delivery.** Orders should not be received or installed during inclement or rainy weather. Amounts should be verified upon receipt, as Old Wood LLC is not responsible for subsequent shortages, which are often due to wood 'walking off the job' and are wholly beyond our control. We carefully tally each order and keep documentation to this effect to avoid this type of problem. We work with and sell wood and it is subject to the full range of character and traits of the material and we are in no wise responsible for it's behavior as such. If you are unhappy with any board for any reason return it freight pre-paid to Old Wood LLC, 425 Bibb Industrial Avenue, Las Vegas NM 87701 and we will replace it, no questions asked. For entire order returns restocking fees will apply as well as charges for damage, open bundles, re-drying in some cases as well as other charges applicable to the return. We strive to avoid these problems at all times. Every effort will be made to solve problems in advance and defective product should NEVER be installed. It is up to the installer and owner who are the final arbiters of a board's suitability for the job intended. We are not responsible for



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installation and removal costs or the cost of any discomfort, distress, accommodation, chemicals, stains etc. or other inconvenience or loss due to defect in our boards. Statements of agents of sale, freight, distribution, installation and finish are not binding upon Old Wood LLC or its heirs and assigns. No other warranty is expressed or implied here or in any other document in printed or electronic media. We are always available for consultation. Please, call if you have any questions. Avoid mistakes in advance by doing your homework. Remember this is wood, not injection molded plastic. No two boards are alike but therein lies the beauty of it.

This version was written for the convenience of:

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The installer will be the final warrantor and responsible party for all matters related to failure of glue bonds, inappropriate blocks and other defects not attributable to negligence or intentional lapses. No unusable block should be used. This will be defined during training sessions on site if possible and practical.