SHAW BAMBOO FLOORING

SOLID BAMBOO INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE READ AND REVIEW THE ENTIRE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE PROCEEDING WITH THE ACTUAL INSTALLATION

Bamboo flooring is a beautiful and unique product of nature, and also a useful and environmentally friendly product, that has been used for a large variety of needs. For example, new shoots are canned for food. Mature plants are cut and used for furniture production, plyBamboo, paneling, cabinets, countertop, scaffolding, and flooring to name just a few uses for this abundant and versatile plant. In flooring, bamboo is a denser product than Northern Red Oak, and 50% more stable than Northern Red Oak. Because of these facts, Bamboo flooring can be installed on a concrete slab below grade, where other domestic solid Bamboo flooring products cannot. Shaw Bamboo Floors are manufactured in accordance with accepted industry standards; which permit a defect tolerance not to exceed 5%. The defects may be of a manufacturing or natural type.

OWNER/INSTALLER RESPONSIBILITY

- The installer assumes all responsibility for final inspection of product quality. This inspection of all flooring should be **done** before installation. Carefully examine the flooring for color, finish and quality before installing it. Use reasonable selectivity and hold out or cut off pieces with glaring defects whatever the cause. If material is not acceptable, contact your Shaw Bamboo Flooring dealer immediately.
- Before beginning the installation of any Bamboo flooring product, the installer must determine that the environment of the job site and the condition and type of the sub floor involved is acceptable, insuring that it meets or exceeds all requirements which are stipulated in the Shaw Bamboo Flooring installation instructions which follow. Shaw Industries, Inc. declines any responsibility for job failure resulting from or associated with inappropriate or improperly prepared sub floors or job site environment deficiencies.
- The use of stain, filler, or putty stick for the correction of minor defects during installation should be accepted as normal procedure.
- When Shaw Bamboo Flooring is ordered, a 5 - 10% waste factor, depending on layout, must be added to the actual square footage amount needed. (Diagonal, herringboned, or bordered installations will require an even higher waste percentage .)

⚠ CAUTION: WOOD DUST

The International Agency for Research on Cancer has classified wood dust as a nasal carcinogen. The sawing, sanding, and / or machining of wood products can produce wood dust that can cause respiratory, eye, and skin irritations.

Wood machining power tools should be equipped with a dust collector to reduce airborne wood dust. Wear an appropriate NIOSH designated dust mask to reduce exposure to airborne wood dust. Avoid contact with eyes and skin by using proper safety glasses and protective clothing. In case of irritation, flush eyes or skin with water for at least 15 minutes. In cases of severe irritation; seek immediate medical attention. *For further technical or installation questions or to request a Product Specification Data Sheet* contact the manufacturer. 1-800-441-7429

Attention California Installers & Consumers

WARNING

Installation of this product and any wood product may create wood dust, which is known to the State of California to cause cancer.

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JOB SITE INSPECTION & ACCLIMATION

In new construction, Shaw Bamboo Flooring should be one of the last items installed. All work involving water or moisture (plumbing, acoustical ceilings, dry wall taping, etc.) should be completed prior to Bamboo flooring being installed. Heating and air systems should be fully operating maintaining a consistent room temperature at 60 – 75 degrees F. Flooring should not be delivered until the building has been closed in and cement work, plastering, painting and other materials are completely dry. Concrete and plaster should be cured and at least 60 to 90 days old. Check basements and under floor crawl space, to be sure that they are dry and well ventilated to avoid damage caused by moisture. Bare ground in crawl space areas, should be covered with black, 6-8 mil polyethylene plastic sheeting.

- Flooring should be at the climate controlled job site at least 48 to 72 hours prior to installation. **Do not open the cartons until you are ready to install.**
- Do not store directly upon on grade concrete or next to outside walls. Cartons should be placed in the dry installation area. Stack the carton's flat in stacks 3 or 4 high, away from heat vents, out of direct sun light, as close to the center of the structure as possible.
- The installation site should have consistent room temperature of 60° - 75° F and a constant relative humidity level of 35 - 55 % for a minimum of 5 days prior to the Bamboo delivery, and during the acclimation, installation, and curing periods required for any Shaw Bamboo Flooring product. Solid Bamboo requires a 48 to 72 hour minimum acclimation period at the job site, prior to installation.
- When installing Shaw Bamboo over wood based sub floors, there should be no more than a 4% difference in moisture content between the sub flooring and the Bamboo flooring to be installed. A "pin-type" moisture meter should be used to check both sub floor and Bamboo flooring.

IMPORTANT:

• 5/8" Solid Bamboo Flooring is approved for all grade levels of installation.
• **DO NOT** install Bamboo Flooring over radiant heat systems.

Nail Down Installation:

REQUIRED TOOLS AND ACCESSORIES

* Flooring Nailer/Stapler
* Door jamb saw / manual or power * Circular Saw / Jig saw
* 15 lb. Asphalt Saturated Felt Paper * Broom / shop vacuum
* Safety Equipment (Goggles & NIOSH approved dust mask) * Utility Knife
* Compressor * Tape Measure
* Miter or Table Saw * Pry Bar
* Chalk Line and Chalk * Hammer
* Nail Punch / wood chisels

APPROVED FASTENERS FOR 5/8″ SOLID BAMBOO INSTALLATION

Stanley-Bostich MIIIFN Fastener part # FLN-150 11/2" Length
Stanley-Bostich MIIIFS Fastener part # BCS-1512 11/2" Length
Porta-Nailer 401 (old model) Shoe part 42619 42623 (2") 42646
Porta-Nailer 501 (old model) 42623 (2") 42646

Power Nailer 50P 18 Gauge 03-1500180500 (1 1/2")
Approved Fasteners 1 1/2" 1 3/4" 2"

Primatech P240(new model) Trak-Edge Adapter Plate A-004 C-042 C-052 C-012
Primatech H330 Multi Hit Trak-Edge Adapter Plate A- 004 C-042 C-052 C-012

Stanley-Bostich MIIIFN Fastener part # FLN-200 2" Length
Stanley-Bostich MIIIFS Fastener part # BCS-1516 2" Length
Porta-Nailer 402 (new model) Shoe part 40248 42623 (2") 42646
Porta-Nailer 404 (new model) 42623 (2") 42646

Power Nailer 50M 18 Gauge 03-1500180500 (1 1/2")
Primatech P210(discontinued) Trak-Edge Adapter Plate A-004 C-042 C-052 C-012
Primatech H300 Single Hit Trak-Edge Adapter Plate A-004 C-042 C-052 C-012

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Note: Use only a flooring nailer that engages the top profile over the tongue at the appropriate angel. Make sure that the flooring nailer is flat against the board to prevent top edge damage. Plate in contact with floor must be smooth and free from nicks or scratches.

Important: Set air compressor to 70 - 80 PSI (or follow manufacturer's suggested PSI setting). Adjust the air pressure to insure proper setting of nails or staples. If tongue damage occurs, lower the air pressure slightly. Minor cracking of the tongue area is acceptable if it does not affect the holding power of the staple.

Important: If you need to remove a side nailed staple, do not pull straight up from the tongue. This will damage the surface of the board. Instead, pull out the nail or staple from the tongue at the front of the board with all pressure from the hammer head directed into the sub floor.

Wood Sub floor Requirements for Nail-down Solid Bamboo

NOTE: As flooring manufacturers and wholesalers, we are unable to specifically evaluate each engineered subflooring system. Spacing and span lengths, as well as their engineering methods, are the responsibility of the builder, engineer, architect or consumer, who are better able to evaluate their expected results, based on site-related conditions and performance requirements. The general information provided below describes common, non-engineered joists and subfloor decking systems. Engineered subflooring systems may allow for wider spacing of engineered beam support systems; and alternative subfloor decking materials, while also providing equal performance characteristics to the systems discussed below.

Test wood sub floors and wood flooring for moisture content using a pin-type moisture meter. Take readings of the subfloor – minimum of 20 readings per 1000 sq. ft. and average the results. In most regions, a "dry" subfloor that is ready to work on has a moisture content of 12% or less. Tthere should be no more than a 4% difference between the flooring and subfloor. Failure to test for proper moisture content of the wood flooring and subfloor can result in cupping and/or other problems related to or associated with moisture and are not covered under the manufacturer's warranty.

- The sub floor must be structurally sound, clean, and free of any loose debris, as well as any paints, oils, or other contaminants.
- The levelness tolerance of 1/8" in 6' must be maintained throughout the installation area. Level any raised sub floor seam edges by rough sanding. Low spots may be leveled by filling with a suitable Portland-cement based sub floor-leveling compound, strictly following the manufacturers' instructions.
- Nail or screw any loose sub floor areas that squeak. Any water-damaged, or deteriorating sub flooring, joists or underlayment, must be removed and replaced.
- All sub floors must be capable of sustaining the expected loads in the installation area without deflection or movement.

Subfloor panels should conform to U.S. Voluntary Product Standard PS1-95, Construction and Industrial Plywood and/or US Voluntary PS 2-04 and/or Canadian performance standard CAN/CSA 0325.0-92 Construction Sheathing. Other CSA standards also apply.

Acceptable Panel Subfloors: Truss/joist spacing will determine the minimum acceptable thickness of the panel subflooring.

- On truss/joist spacing of 16" o/c or less the industry standard for single panel subflooring is nominal 5/8" 19/32", 15.1 mm) CD Exposure 1 subfloor panels, 4x8 sheets.
- On truss/joist spacing of more than 16", up to 19.2" (488mm) o/c, the standard is nominal ¾" (23/32", 18.3 mm) T&G CD Exposure 1 Plywood subfloor panels, (Exposure 1) or nominal ¾" 23/32", (18.3mm) OSB Exposure 1 subfloor panels, 4'x8' sheets, glued and mechanically fastened.
- Truss/joist systems spaced over more than 19.2" (488mm) o/c up to a maximum of 24" (610mm) require nominal 7/8" T&G CD Exposure 1 Plywood subfloor panels, (Exposure 1), or nominal 1" OSB Exposure 1 subfloor panels, 4'x8' sheets glued and mechanically fastened – or two layers of subflooring or brace between the truss/joist in accordance with the truss/joist manufacturer's recommendations and with local building codes. Some truss/joist systems cannot be cross-braced and still maintain stability.

Do not install over nailed floors that exceed 3-1/4" in width. Wide width floors must be overlaid with plywood.

When installing over existing wood based floors parallel with the flooring, install an additional 1/4" layer of plywood to stabilize the flooring, or install the new Bamboo floor perpendicularly.

Do not install over particleboard, pressed wood or fiberboard.

Do not install over existing glue-down wood floors.

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Remember: Moisture tests should be completed before and after the Bamboo has been acclimated, to insure that the job site conditions meet requirements.

Wood Substrates: Test the moisture of the wood substrate using a calibrated moisture meter approved for testing wood moisture content according to the meter manufacturers guidelines. The reading should not read more than a 4% difference from the moisture content of the Bamboo flooring products being installed.

Concrete Slab: All concrete sub floors must be tested for moisture emissions prior to installation of the Bamboo flooring. The moisture emissions of the fully cured concrete sub floor must not exceed 3 lbs. /1000 sq.ft./24 hr. emissions, measured using the Calcium Chloride Test method. When using an electronic moisture meter; readings higher than the maximum moisture level readings of 3.5% to 4%, indicate the need to further test using the Calcium Chloride test method, and any necessary corrective action for the concrete sub floor indicated by the test results, before the installation can proceed.

If you have determined that moisture is present, a Calcium Chloride and pH Alkalinity Test are mandatory, to accurately determine the amount of moisture content and the PH level in the concrete slab, so that appropriate corrective actions can be taken.

• Perform a Calcium Chloride test according to the manufacturer's instructions. The maximum acceptable reading is 3-lbs. /24 hours/1000 sq. ft for moisture emissions.

• If the test results exceed these numbers, the concrete slab should be sealed with an appropriate sealer to correct conditions to meet the flooring manufacturer recommendations.

PREPARATION

• Acclimate the Bamboo flooring for 48 to 72 hours prior to installation. Additional acclimation time may be required when extreme climate conditions are present, or sub floor / flooring moisture content conditions exceed the 4% differential required.
• Verify that the sub floor is level and structurally sound. Repair as needed.
• Undercut door case molding.
• Remove any existing wall base, shoe molding, quarter round or doorway thresholds.
• Cover the clean surface, wall to wall, with 15 lb. asphalt saturated felt paper, overlapping the edges by at least three inches.

Step 1: ESTABLISH A STARTING POINT

- Before beginning the actual installation, provide proper layout of flooring by distributing short and long lengths equally over the areas where the flooring is to be installed.

Remember: Flooring is to be installed at right angles to the floor joists and if possible, in the longest dimension of the room.

- Work out of several cartons at a time to insure proper color and shade mixture.
- Align the first row of planks to be sure you have a good straight line from one side of the room to the other. Snap a chalk line at the desired distance from the wall to help align the planks - (width of material + 5/8" for expansion). The end joints of plank or strip flooring should be staggered to achieve the best appearance in the finished floor. (Minimum 6")
  Important: Allow at least 5/8" (thickness of Bamboo), expansion space at all walls and vertical obstructions. Expansion space will be concealed by undercuts, or using baseboard and quarter round trim.

INSTALLING THE FLOOR:

Align the first piece on the chalk line. The groove side and end will be facing the starting wall. Pre drill holes and drive 7D or 8D finish nails or screw type flooring nails into the face of the board every 12" approximately 1/3" - 5/8" from the edge closest to the starting wall and within 2"- 3" from the ends and in the darker grain of the Bamboo.

- Edge nail the plank by driving the same type nails at a 50° angle through the tongue of the first piece, spacing the nails every 8" - 10" and within 2" - 3" from the ends. This process should be repeated for each piece in the entire first row. Upon completion of

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the first row, go back and sink the face nails with a nail punch. If it appears that the holes will not be covered by the wall base or quarter round trim, fill the holes with matching Bamboo filler, which blends with your pre-stained floor.
Note: Typically, the first few rows must be edge nailed by hand, rather than with a nailing machine due to the vertical wall obstruction. When clearance allows, use an approved nailing machine, which drives 2” fasteners with an appropriate mallet, used to simplify and speed up the nailing process.

- Install each succeeding row of planks by edge nailing the tongue side every 8” - 10” to within 2” - 3” from board ends. Be attentive to staggering the ends of the boards at least 6” in adjacent rows to avoid clustering end joints. It is best to build a rack 4-6 planks wide as you install Bamboo through the length of the room. Upon reaching the last row to be installed, the planks should be ripped to allow a 5/8” expansion space. The last rows must be fastened by nailing approximately 1/2” - 5/8” from the back edge of the board every 12”. The same process of counter sinking the face nails and applying color matched Bamboo filler, should be repeated (as above on starting wall).

Make sure when the installation is complete, that the expansion space is covered with the appropriate molding such as, base board and quarter-round.

FOR* ADHERED (GLUE-DOWN) *INSTALLATION YOU WILL NEED:

• Shaw Urethane Flooring Adhesive HS091 or equivalent
• Shaw Urethane Adhesive Remover
• **Trowel – 1/4”x1/4”x1/4” square notch (planks 5” or wider),3/16”x3/16”x3/16” square notch (planks less than 5” wide)**
• Clean Dry Towels

ADHERED (GLUE-DOWN) INSTALLATION METHOD

Step 1: GETTING STARTED

• Install the flooring parallel to the longest wall in the room. Measure out from the wall in two places allowing the proper expansion space. Mark and snap a chalk line across the two marks. Glue the first row and place spacers against the walls to secure the row in place. Continue installing the floor from left to right. Spread only enough glue to install what can be set within 30 minutes. Planks can be set directly into wet glue (wet set),as Urethane Adhesive does not require flash off. Work your way out of the room. After the install is completed, keep the floor free from foot traffic for a minimum of 8-12 hrs. to allow adhesive to properly set.

SPREADING THE URETHANE ADHESIVE:

• Always refer to the specific instructions on the Shaw Urethane adhesive label.
• When using Urethane Adhesive,use 1/4”x1/4”x1/4” square notched trowel,(yields 30 sq.ft. per gallon spread ratio).
• Over very level, flat sub-floors use 3/16”x3/16”x3/16”square notched trowel,(yields 40 sq.ft. per gallon spread ratio).
Note :For Bamboo planks less than 5” wide, use a 3/16”square notch trowel. For planks wider than 5”,use a 1/4” square notch trowel.
Only trowel enough adhesive to set 30-45 sq.ft. of Bamboo. The Bamboo can be “wet set” into the Urethane adhesive, which has a 45 minute open working time.

STARTING THE INSTALLATION:
• The flooring should be installed from several cartons at the same time to insure proper color, grain and shade mix..
• Proper expansion spacing is required on all installations.
• Working from the subfloor and not on the Bamboo from left to right, lay the next board and continue working towards the right until you need to cut a piece to complete the first row. Measure the size you need to complete the first row and cut to length. The balance of the piece you cut may possibly be used to start the next row, if the length is a minimum of 12”. Be attentive to staggering the ends of the boards correctly in adjacent rows to avoid clustering end joints. A tapping block/hammer, can be used to tap the boards until they are in proper position. Lock the row in place using spacers against the wall in the expansion space.
• To protect the face of the boards, always saw with the teeth cutting into the face of the board.

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For wood Subfloors: If you are working on a wood type subfloor, you may want to use small finishing nails to hold the first row in place. Fill nail holes with Bamboo filler designed to blend with your new floor.

INSTALLING THE BAMBOO:

• Complete the rest of the installation by spreading enough adhesive to install 45 sf. at a time. Continue to dry rack the Bamboo so that you maintain the correct end joint stagger, then continue setting the Bamboo into the adhesive.
• Make sure that there is 100% contact between the Bamboo and the adhesive.
• You should never use a weighted roller on an adhered bamboo floor.

INSTALLING THE LAST ROW:

• Most often the entire length of the last row will need to be cut so that it is narrow enough to fit the remaining space. When this occurs, follow this simple procedure:
Lay a row of boards, unglued, with the tongue toward the wall, directly on top of the last row installed.
Take a short piece of the Shaw Bamboo product that is being installed with the face down and the tongue side against the wall.
Draw a line with a pencil along the row moving down the wall. The resulting line gives the proper width for the last row which, when cut, can then be wedged into place using the pull bar.
• You will need to use the Pull Bar with care to make the last row fit tightly and allowing for proper expansion space. Leave spacers in the expansion space until the adhesive has cured, then remove.
• Keep the floor free from foot traffic, for 12-24 hrs., until adhesive has set securely.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Doorways: Attempting to continue installing rows through a doorway into another room can cause problems because the narrow opening is a very small base upon which to continue consistent even rows into the next room. **Use a master reference line placed through the adjoining rooms to insure plank alignment.**
Rooms may be divided at doorways by using a color matched T-molding.
Pipes, vents and other fixed objects: Each can be unique, but the general rule is to measure very carefully before you cut and remember to leave a 1/2” expansion gap between the object and the flooring. You will cover expansion gaps with molding, colored sealant, vent covers or pipe rings when the floor is complete.

MOLDINGS, TRIM & TRANSITION PIECES

Installation Tips:

- Moldings must be predrilled to avoid splitting whenever they are to be secured with nails or fasteners, unless a pneumatic trim nailer is used.
- The tool of choice for cutting Bamboo moldings is a 10” or 12” motorized miter saw with pre-set adjustments for the basic miter cuts at 22.5^{o}, 45°, and 90°. A carbide tipped blade makes the best cuts.
- When installing Wall Base molding, eliminate the need to putty as many holes on the molding by placing the bottom nail below the finished line of the Quarter Round.
- On Wall Base or Quarter Round moldings, never restrict the Bamboo floor’s natural contraction/expansion movement by driving the fasteners at a downward angle, through the expansion zones. Rather, attach the moldings to the wall or vertical surface.
- Always miter cuts rather than having butt cuts when splicing Bamboo moldings. Decide the direction of the miter by cutting the molding with the long point oriented in the same direction as your natural line of vision when you enter the room.

Wall Base - Borders the Bamboo floor at the base of the wall to give the room a finished look. This molding along with the Quarter Round conceals the required expansion space between the wall and the Bamboo flooring. It is also sometimes used under cabinets and toe kicks.
Quarter Round - This molding conceals the required expansion space between the Wall Base and the Bamboo flooring. It is also sometimes used under cabinets and toe kicks where a wall base won’t fit or at the base of the stairs to provide a subtle blend between the floor and the wall or vertical surface.

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Threshold – A molding typically used at exterior doorways as a transition between flooring and the doorway threshold. It is also used to transition a Bamboo floor to different floors to make them fit together perfectly, such as high pile carpeting or tile. Another typical use for a threshold is to conceal the expansion space between the flooring and a vertical surface such as fireplace hearths and sliding glass doors.

Installation: Lay the Threshold Molding in place to determine a proper fit. The Threshold Molding should overlap the flooring by 1/8" to 1/4" leaving the balance for expansion. Nail the molding to the sub floor behind the lip of the molding. Be sure when nailing, not to obstruct the floors expansion space.

T Molding - Used in doorways to join two Bamboo floors in adjoining rooms, or when making transitions, from a Bamboo floor to another floor that is approximately the same height such as ceramic tile, Bamboo or laminate floors.

Installation: A space of 1 1/4" between the two adjoining floors is necessary to properly install the T- molding. This is to allow for the expansion space. Measure, cut, and dry fit the T-molding in place to insure the proper fit. When using the T-molding between a ceramic tile floor and the Bamboo floor, apply 1/4" bead of clear silicone sealant to the top edge of the ceramic tile. When using between two Bamboo floors, seat the molding in place allowing for a minimum of a 1/4" overlap on the Bamboo flooring. Make sure to allow for the expansion space between the T-Molding and the tile or Bamboo. Fasten the T-mold by nailing to the sub floor through the center part of the molding.

Flush Reducer - Used to join Bamboo floors with floors in adjoining rooms that have floor coverings that are lower in height, such as vinyl, ceramic tile, or low pile carpeting.

Installation: To attached molding, pre-drill and nail in appropriate 6" to 8" intervals. Do not nail closer than 2"- 3" from the ends of either side.

Flush Stair Nose - Provides the proper transition for stair treads, which match the Bamboo flooring that has been installed. The Stair Nose also provides the proper transition from one floor level to the next, such as the step down into a sunken living room.

Installation: All Stair Nose moldings must be installed using construction grade adhesive as well as finish nails or screws. Set the nail or screw heads, then use color matched Bamboo filler to achieve a desirable finished look.

Floor Care and Maintenance

Remember, like any floor covering, our factory finished floors will show signs of wear over time, depending on the size and lifestyle of your family. By observing a few precautions and setting up a regular cleaning routine and maintenance program, you can expect years of beauty from your floor. The following are examples of the reasonable and necessary maintenance you are expected to perform. They are not intended to be an exclusive list.

1. Sweep or vacuum regularly since built-up grit can damage the surface of the wood. The vacuum head must be a brush or felt type. Be certain the wheels of the vacuum are clean and do not damage the finish. **Do not use a vacuum with a beater bar head**.
2. Remove spills promptly using a soft cloth and cleaning products recommended by the manufacturer.
3. **Never** wet-mop, damp-mop, or clean your floor with water or other products. This can severely damage the flooring and will void the warranties. Do not use hardwood floor cleaning machines or steam cleaners. See section on **Improper Maintenance**.
4. Use the manufacturer's recommended Hardwood floor cleaners with a clean terry cloth mop. Always sweep or vacuum the floors prior to using wood floor cleaners. **Do not** allow excess cleaner to remain on the floors surface as this may permanently damage the wood fiber.
5. **Important:** Do not use oil soaps, liquid or paste wax products or other household cleaners that contain citrus oils, lemon oil, tung oil, silicon, or ammonia since these warranties do not cover damage caused by non-recommended products. Use of these and other such products will harm the long-term performance of your floor and may also affect its recoat ability.
6. **Do not** use 2 in 1 cleaners with polish that may contain acrylics or urethane polish to restore gloss – the use of these products will void the finish warranty and may produce unsatisfactory results when not applied properly.
7. Keep pets' nails trimmed, and paws clean and free of dirt, gravel, grease, oil, and stains.
8. Place protective felt pads beneath furniture legs and feet to reduce scratches and dents. Replace pads as needed.
9. Use a dolly and protective sheets of plywood when moving heavy objects, furniture, or appliances.
10. Make certain furniture casters are clean and operate properly (a minimum 1" wide vinyl surface where it comes in contact with wood is recommended). Clean wheels periodically to remove dirt and debris.
11. Remove shoes with spiked or damaged heels before walking on floor.
12. Exposure to the sun and its UV rays accelerates the oxidation and aging of wood. This can cause the stain and/or wood to fade and/or to change color. We recommend that you rearrange rugs and furniture periodically so the floor ages evenly. These warranties do not cover damage from the sun and its UV rays.
13. Use area rugs in high traffic areas and pivot points (e.g., stair landings, room entries, etc.), especially if you have a large family or indoor pets.
14. Maintain the proper Relative Humidity in your home between 35% - 55%. The use of a humidifier during heating seasons may help reduce shrinkage of the wood due to low humidity.

For further information please contact the SHAW Information Center at 1-800-441-7429 for assistance.

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