

What you should know when buying Hardwood Floors?

Hardwood flooring is a kiln dried product that is manufactured at a 6-9% moisture content with a 5% allowance for pieces outside that range up to 12% moisture content. To maintain these moisture levels, do not truck or unload it in the rain, snow or other excessively humid condition. Cover it with tarpaulin or vinyl if the atmosphere is foggy or damp.

Check for the following conditions and, if they exist, correct them: Water or excessive moisture underneath or in the house. Insufficient ventilation under the house, wet sub-floors, inadequate moisture barriers.

- **CRAWL SPACE CONSTRUCTION** - A ground cover of 4-6 mil polyethylene is essential as a moisture barrier. Vents must be provided to supply adequate cross ventilation
-
- **CONCRETE SLAB CONSTRUCTION** - Proper on-grade construction requires both a vapor barrier between the gravel fill and the slab to prevent moisture entry through the slab, and a vapor barrier on top of the slab to prevent moisture from reaching the finished floor.
-
- **SUBFLOORS** - Preferred - 5/8" or thicker plywood or 3/4 " dressed square edge boards no wider than 6" laid on the diagonal with maximum joist spacing of 16" o. c. Minimum thickness 1/2" exterior sheathing grade plywood should be glued and properly nailed. **Non-venered products are not recommended.**
-
- **HANDLING & STORAGE** - Flooring should be stored in a dry, well ventilated warehouse. Recently manufactured flooring should be allowed to acclimate to the area.
-
- **BEFORE DELIVERY OF FLOORING** - The building must be closed-in with outside windows and doors in place and sheetrock installed. All concrete, masonry, and framing members, etc., should be thoroughly dry. Never pour concrete after flooring is delivered.
-
- **AFTER DELIVERY OF FLOORING,** - It should be broken up into small lots and stored in the room(s) where it will be installed. Allow four to five days for the flooring to become acclimated to that particular job site. Temperature and humidity should be maintained at or near occupancy levels.
- Compliments of [Eastern Wood Products](#)