

## Choosing a timber floor

---

While “**colour**” is the primary consideration that is addressed in selection of a Timber Specie, other factors are also important.

- Is this project “Commercial” or “Residential” ?
- Are you considering normal household “domestic” traffic or are you looking at 3,000 kg loads of bullion as in the Reserve Bank ?

Apart from “**colour**”, “hardness” or “density” of the specie you choose is also important when looking at impact resistance from stiletto heels etc., so when making your “selection”, seek professional advice as to the “hardness” of the species that you may be considering.

“Hardness” in wood is measured by **Janka Rating**. The “higher” the number, the “harder” or more resistant is the wood to indentation.

Should you have your heart set on the colour/ figure/ flare of the grain in any specie, it is always possible to **improve** the performance of the specie by choice of decorative finishes chosen and the number of coats applied.

With most finishes, a **minimum** of three (3) full **flood** coat applications of coating is “standard”. However, with certain timber species and included with ones choice of certain coatings, a 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> coat of finishing materials is recommended to **increase** the density of the timber and to greatly extend wear life.

Please discuss these issues with our consultants, to acquire information specific to your circumstances.

Be aware that there are many different manufacturers of floor coatings and not all coatings perform the same.

Our selection of coatings comes from our extensive assessment of in-service performance of the coating systems that we use. The coating systems that we use are very “**high solid**” coatings. This makes them much harder to apply to your floor than the “typical” water-based finishes that the average contractor wants to “push”.

As we have many clients that get better than 30 years out of the coatings that we apply, it pays to **remember**, that you are not walking on the “**wood**”, you are walking on the **coating system**.

Therefore, the performance of your coatings speaks “**loudly**” about the long term performance and overall longevity of your floors.

It is important to understand that all coats take “**time**” to cure. Therefore, when anyone tells you that they will apply all their coats in one (1) day, alarm bells should be ringing.

Contractors can save a lot of money by not having to return to your site an additional 1 or 2 times to cut-back and apply additional coats. **However**, unless all base coats are properly “cured” it is a waste of your time and your money, that additional coats are applied, as they will just not perform.

Knowledge is power !

***Please get to know the “facts” necessary to deliver “excellence” in your project !***