

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA

Amendment No. 1
to
AS 1860.2—2006
Particleboard flooring
Part 2: Installation

REVISED TEXT

The 2006 edition of AS 1860.2 is amended as follows; the amendments should be inserted in the appropriate places.

SUMMARY: This Amendment applies to Clauses 9.2, 10.2, and 10.4, and Appendix B.

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Clause 9.2

Delete Clause 9.2, and, and *replace* with the following:

9.2 Requirements for platform flooring**9.2.1 Support for panel edges**

Free edges of panels, which extend 60 mm or more beneath bottom wall plates that are generally at right angles to the joists, such as at external walls or at internal walls where there is a change in flooring material, do not require support by trimmers or solid blocking (see Figures 1 and 2).

9.2.2 Expansion joints

NOTE: The need for expansion joints in the panel layout should be considered. Guidelines for expansion joints are given in Paragraph B4.2, Appendix B.

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Clause 10.2

1 *Insert* new Note 1 as follows:

1 Construction grade adhesives suitable for particleboard flooring are those that do not set to a rigid mass but retain some flexibility when cured.

2 *Renumber* existing Notes 1 and 2 as Notes 2 and 3.

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Clause 10.4, Note

1 First line, after 'I-beam', *insert* 'and truss'.

2 Second line, *replace* 'I-beam' with 'The'.

Appendix B, Paragraph B4

Delete Paragraph B4, and *replace* with the following:

B4 INSTALLATION OF FLOORING PANELS

B4.1 General

The following recommendations are applicable to the installation of floor panels (see Clauses 8 and 9):

- (a) Edges of panels may be factory-sealed against water penetration. If panels are not factory-sealed and, where panels are cut to size on site, the edges should be sealed with the adhesive used to bond the panels to the joists. Adhesive sealing should only be applied as the panels are positioned.
- (b) End joints between panels should be staggered.
- (c) Nails should be skewed to improve holding power.
- (d) Nailing machines should be adjusted to prevent overdriving the nails. The fixer's body weight should be used to ensure that the underside of the panel is in firm contact with the joist before fastening the nail.

B4.2 Expansion joints

The following recommendations are applicable to the expansion joints of floor panels (see Clauses 9.2.2):

- (e) If particleboard flooring becomes wet during the weather exposure period it will expand. If flooring becomes saturated, the resulting expansion from a number of panels laid end to end may, in severe cases, interfere with brickwork, pull internal walls out of plumb and cause separation of roofing members. The need for expansion joints should be considered when specifying floor framing and planning floor panel layout. Factors to consider are as follows:
 - (i) *Longest clear run of flooring* Expansion under saturation conditions may be significant when four or more sheets are laid end to end.
 - (ii) *Panel orientation* When subjected to wetting, the expansion of flooring panels is greater in the long direction than in the cross direction. Total expansion will be less if the cross direction of flooring panels is aligned with the longer dimension of the house.
 - (iii) *Floor framing construction* The traditional floor framing system of bearers and joists provides greater restraint against panel movement than does a system of deep joists such as solid timber, I-beams or LVL beams.
 - (f) An expansion joint is a gap of 15 to 20 mm located above a double floor joist or a single wide joist (50 mm) to allow the specified edge spacing for fixing nails or screws. This gap may be located under an internal wall or covered with a plastic or metal moulding.
 - (g) If expansion joints are required, they should be spaced at 10 to 15 m intervals (i.e., every 3 to 4 sheets). Several small gaps are better than one or two large gaps.
 - (h) If expansion has occurred and caused any of the problems listed in Item (e) above, the floor should be allowed to dry out before attempting any remedial action.
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