



2021

The Finger Jointing Process

What is finger-jointing?

Also known as a comb-joint, finger-joints are made by cutting a set of complementary, interlocking profiles in two pieces of wood which are then glued together. Finger-jointing gets its name from the cross-section of the joint between the two boards which resembles the interlocking of two hands. The sides of each profile increase the surface area for glueing, resulting in a stronger bond. This process makes the boards stronger than a butt-joint.

Benefits

- Creates boards available for longer lengths
- Extra stability
- Boards can be made to your specific length for your project, minimizing waste and cost.
- Joints are made in boards between 500mm and 1000mm long meaning that there will be an average of only 3 or 4 joints per board.

Finger-jointing our ThermoWoods

Our thermally modified hardwood and softwood cladding can be produced as finger-jointed boards when long fixed lengths are required for a project.

This is created by mechanically bonding several shorter lengths together in a high-pressure heated press using an external moisture-resistant glue. This process is a very beneficial step forward in helping to improve both the performance and the environmental credentials of our Hardwood and Softwood species.

By utilizing shorter lengths of selected species, we can increase the yield and therefore the value of our valuable forest resources and reduce waste in our sawmills. This also allows us to keep the product cost at a competitive level and reduce lead times that customers may otherwise experience waiting on specific lengths of raw material to become available.

Since they can be finger-jointed, these boards are longer and less prone to distortion, providing consistent quality in comparison to standard boards. Eliminating minor defects that would otherwise be present in standard boards. After all, when a 3, 4, or 5 metre board is cut from the length of a tree, you are reliant on that tree not having unsightly knots or defects along its length which is a lot to ask from nature. If this occurs, then the defect is cut out and the board becomes two short pieces that can either be sold as shorts or they are finger-jointed.

This is all down to your personal preference and the look that you want to achieve.

It is important to bear in mind that subtle shade differences may initially be apparent, which can look very attractive. This look is much like popular shortboard laminated floors and kitchen worktops. However, since these boards will be placed externally, the UV sunlight will quickly correct these shade differences, if you leave the boards to weather naturally, thus becoming un-noticeable if that is your preferred style.