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V54 Black Butt



BARCOK HYBRID FLOORING

NEW GENERATION HYBRID FLOORING

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## Company History

Barock Group has invested over 20 million USD in building a modern state of the art SPC floor manufacturing plant in Zhejiang, China, which is equipped with 16 production lines, covering an area of 198,000sqm, with an annual output of 6 million sqm of SPC floor. The products are widely distributed across the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada and Australia, New Zealand and are well received by the customers.



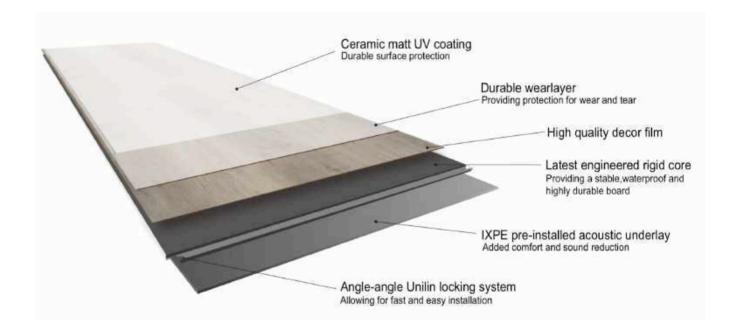




Barock has a unique processing in making the SPC product range. Whilst the normal SPC only consists of 3 layers, the Barock SPC floor is formed by a 5 - layered structure:

- 1. AC4 hard wearing layer on the surface to protect the floor from scratches and damages.
- 2. Decorative layer as a print that present natural wood grain for the look.
- 3. Stone plastic substrate layer, this is the core layer to provide stability and waterproof.
- 4. Floor balance layer, for the purpose of preventing floor deformation.
- 5. Cork or IXPE sound insulation layer, function as an insulation that prevents sound transportation.

The five-layered structure of Barock SPC floor is far more advanced compared to the standard three-layered structure products in the market. It featured with waterproof, sound insulation, anti-deformation and higher stability, making it suitable to be utilised for wider range of use.









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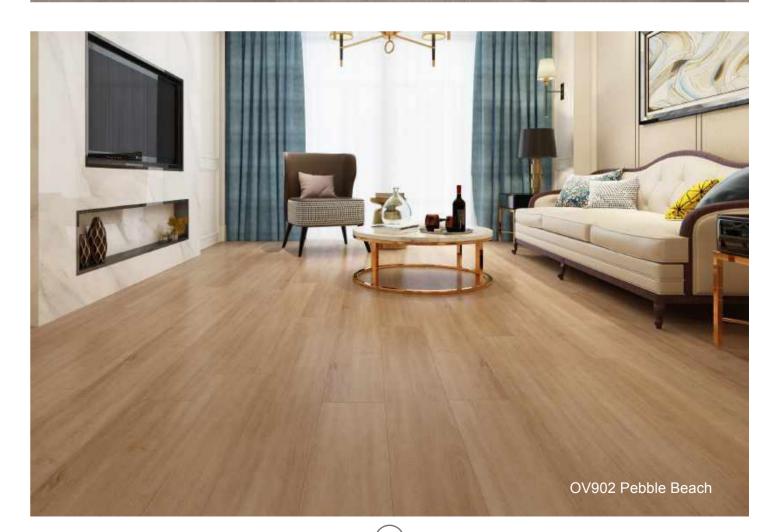












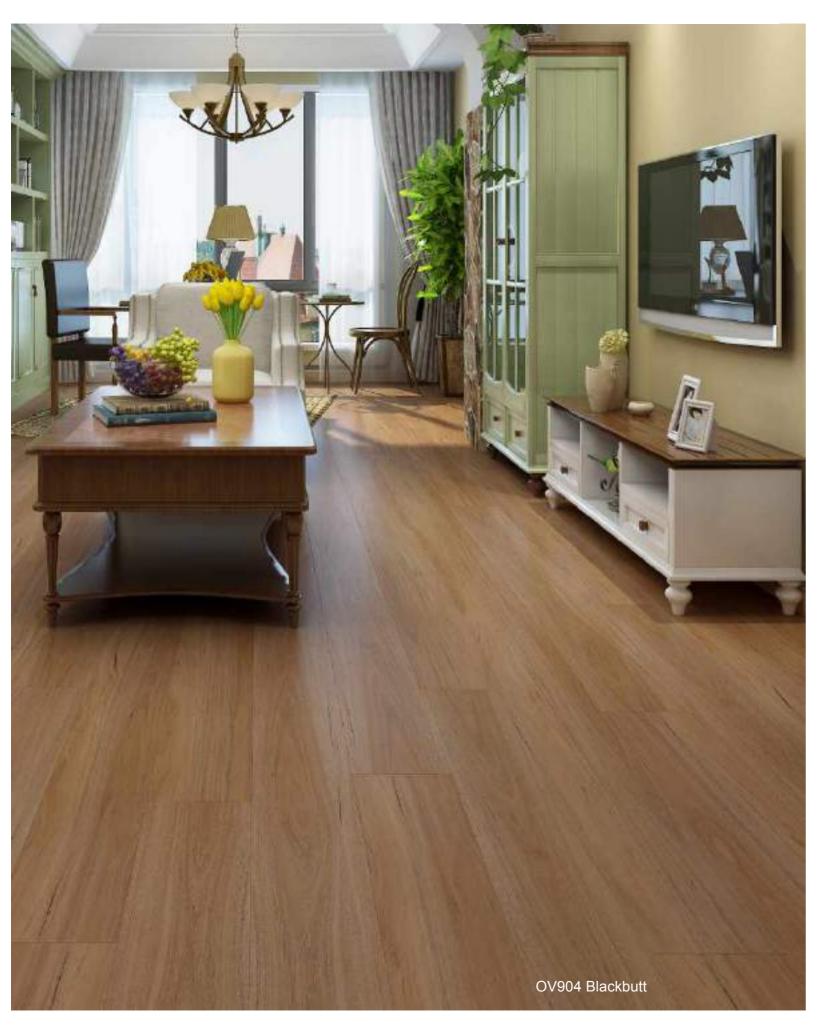
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## Hybrid floor base, why cork is better than rubber?

There are two main types of base for hybrid floor: one is foam material or rubber, also known as IXPE; the other one is cork. It is frequently asked by customers: Which one is better, IXPE or cork base?

If we compare the effect of the finished product, Hybrid floor with cork base achieves better result.

The benefits of using cork base are:

- 1. Expanding life span of the floor: The core of modern Hybrid floor is made of stone plastic composite, since stoneware is relatively brittle, the backing material built onto the base cannot be too squashy, or it will break the locking when bearded load. Cork will hold together and they are better than IPEX in this aspect.
- 2. Reducing the noise on the floor: IXPE is made of foam, this material is too sleek to glue down to the subfloor, and may result in squeaky sound when installed on uneven ground, whereas hybrid with cork base can be fixed to the ground using glue and minimize any noise.
- 3. More suitable for Unit & Apartment use: Most Unit & Apartment have specific acoustic requirements on underlay for its thickness. Hybrid with cork base generally settled down well with another layer of underlays, however, IXPE based Hybrid does not work to the same effect.



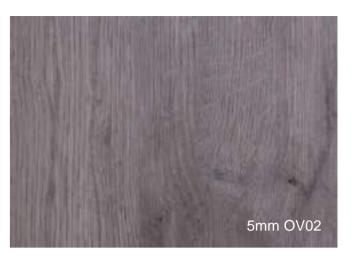


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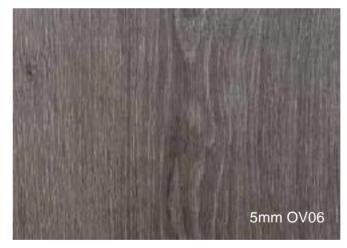






























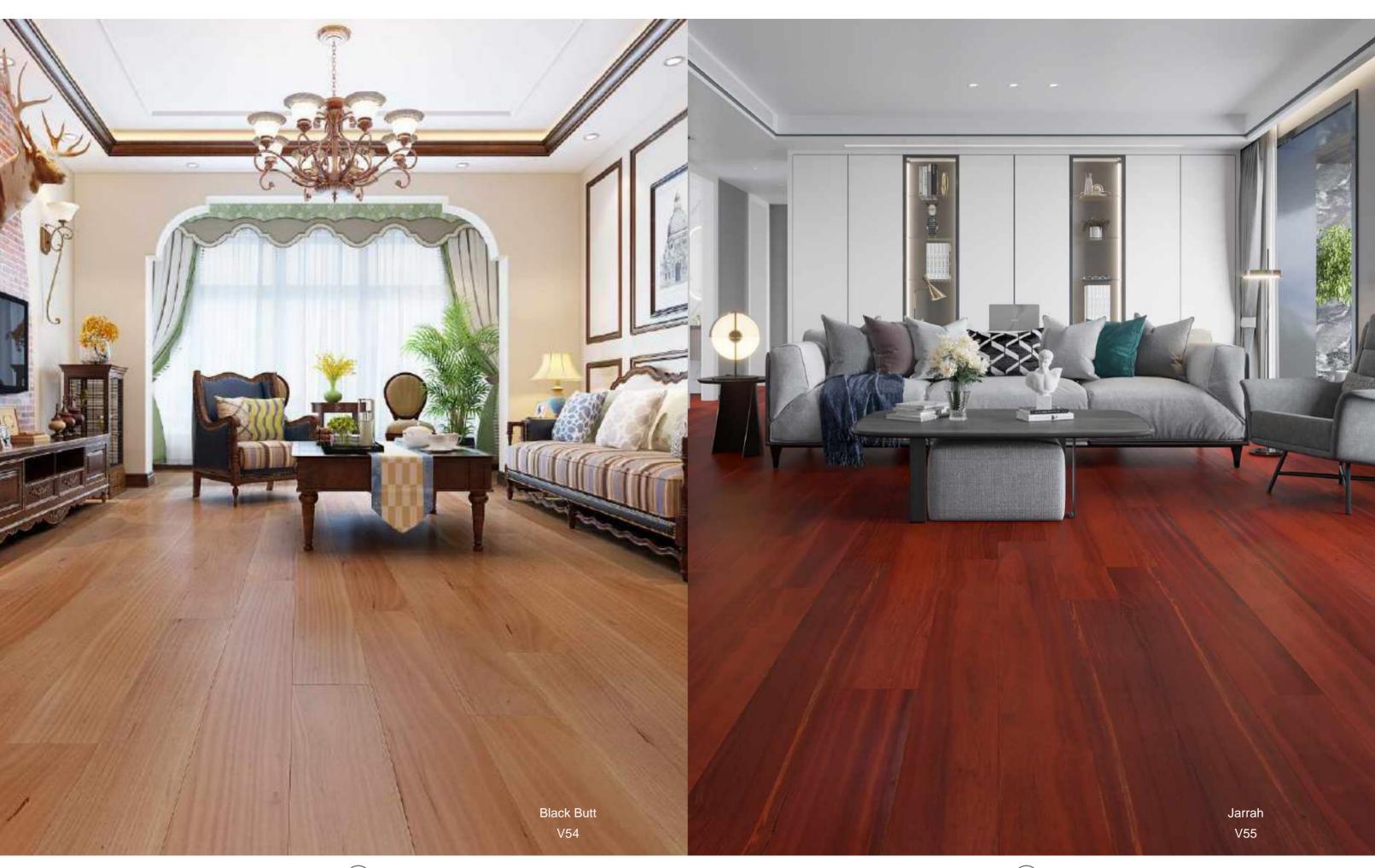




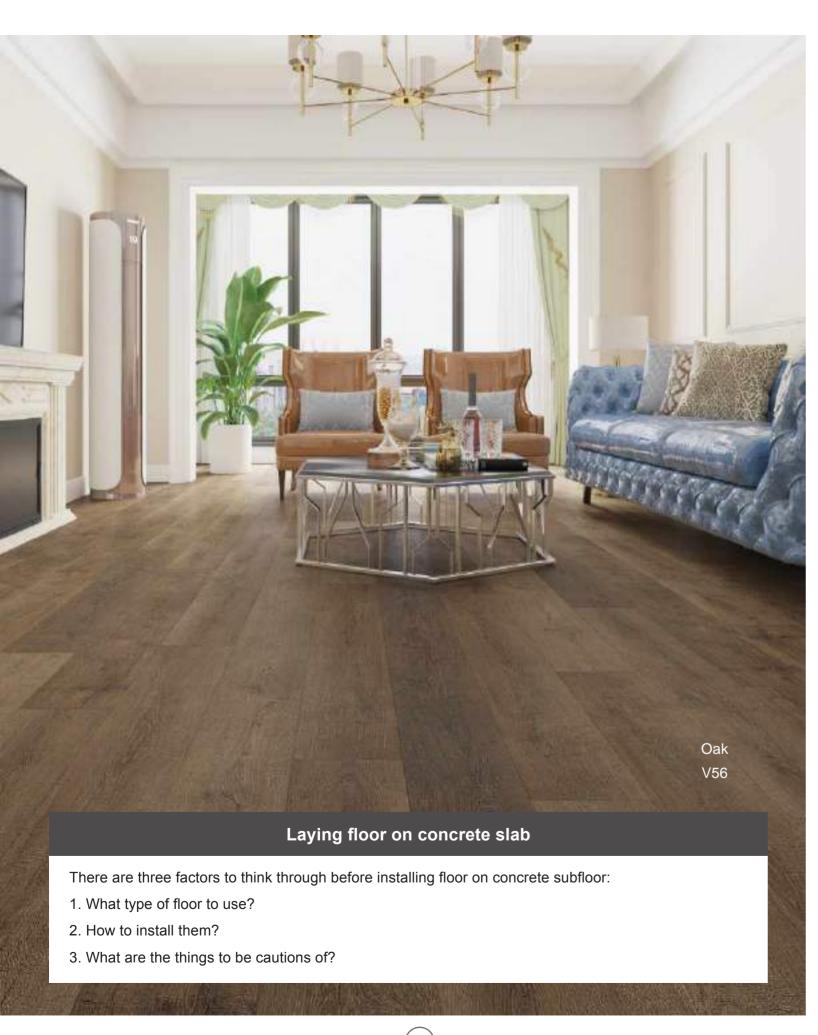


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Let us provide some context of a real-life case before we get to those points.

Mr. Yang has bought a dilapidated house in Ryde, who planned to have it knocked down then rebuild. It took him nearly two years to complete this project, as the whole application process was time and energy consuming. In his words: "I know that building a house can be tiresome, but I didn't expect that to be that tedious."

He was enjoying the peaceful and quiet life in the new dwelling, until the solid timber flooring on the ground floor began to swell; the crowing was so severe that it even jammed the doorway. Looking at the floor that used to be smooth but now rippling, Mr. Yang was extremely upset. He started to question the quality of the floors and made a complain to the flooring company.

I personally dealt with this case. The moisture meter for the first floor has a reading of 9, whilst that of the ground floor was 12, 13 and 15, a strong indication of water ingression. However, Mr. Yang affirmed that the whole family had been very cautious since they moved in, and it is impossible to expose the solid timber floor to water. Therefore, we have no choice but to lift the existing floor to investigate the cause.

As soon as the skirting is removed, we found clear watermarks on the wall, in addition to that, black stain imprinted on the back of the floorboard with mould smell, water stains were also found beneath the underlay. Given all that, it is obvious that the floor deformation was resultant from excessive humidity at ground level.

So, where did those moisture come from? After consulting with professional in that field, we have found some explanations.

It turned out that Mr. Yang did the landscaping after the interior decoration. The garden in the backyard was constructed two months after the floor was laid. The elevation is higher at the back and lower in the front at the premises, and the retaining wall is about 50cm above the indoor ground, so the rainwater trapped in there will flush down to the living area and build up the humidity undetected over the time, which leads to the swelling of the floor from surrounding moisture absorbed.

In that scenario, a ditch should have been dug to drain the rainwater in the lawn area, and the retailing wall need to be waterproofed to prevent water ingression. In absence of those measures, a tile would be a better fit compare to solid timber floor for the ground level.

On top of that, other potential causes of water ingress at ground level may also include:

- 1. Low lying indoor area where moisture rate will be higher, and it is highly likely prone to water ingress.
- 2. Rainwater pooled at the corner of wall during severe weather.
- 3. Floor installed onto concrete slab is not completed dry, which will cause accumulation of moisture over the long term.

In general, it requires the floor to be used on newly constructed concrete slab building with higher standard for waterproofing.

Back to the factors we need to consider as mentioned at the start, looking at current mainstream flooring product on the market, among solid timber, engineered timber, laminate floor and Hybrid floor, Hybrid floor is the only product that can be 100% waterproof, whilst all other floorings are just water resistant. Barock is currently offering three types of Hybrid flooring, classed by thickness of 5mm, 8mm and 8.5mm. 5mm thick is suitable for commercial places such as shops, hospitals, bars, etc, whilst 8mm thick is recommended for residential floors, especially on the ground cement floor which may exposed to moisture.

If you prefer visual effect with natural wood grain, V53 Spotted Gum, V54 Black Butt, V55 Jarrah, and V56 Oak will be your best options. The surfaces of these four floors are made of real wood veneer and each floorboard has its own unique texture.