

The Benefits of Bamboo Flooring

Bamboo is of course a type of grass rather than a type of wood. However, when prepared in a certain way it can be turned into a beautiful flooring surface that has much in common with the various hardwoods that are used for the same purpose. Below are some of the reasons that people are choosing bamboo over traditional hardwood flooring nowadays.

1. It's eco-friendly – because bamboo grows much faster than hardwood trees and it can be harvested without pulling it out by the roots, sustainable sources are easy to find. Bamboo can be ready to harvest in around 3-5 years, compared to 20 years or more for the hardwoods that are commonly used for flooring. By sourcing it from bamboo plantations that continue to produce healthy growth after each harvest, manufacturers can make sure that the flooring they sell is not having a negative impact on the environment. This is much harder to achieve with timber such as mahogany, oak, maple, birch and walnut.
2. It's easy to maintain – regular sweeping will normally be enough to keep your bamboo floors clear of dirt and debris. However, if you often have people tramping through your home with muddy boots or perhaps young children who spill sticky drinks on the floor with alarming regularity, giving it the once over with a damp mop every now and then might be necessary. There are also specially formulated bamboo cleaners on the market for particularly problematic areas.
3. It's hardwearing – despite the fact that it is made from what is essentially a type of grass, bamboo flooring can be just as durable as oak and other hardwoods when harvested and manufactured in accordance with best industry practices. Some types of bamboo flooring can actually be even more hardwearing than their hardwood counterparts. In common with hardwood surfaces, it can also be refinished when it eventually starts to show signs of wear and tear.
4. It's stylish and modern – when bamboo flooring first started to become widely available it was often carbonized to produce a darker tone, giving it a similar appearance to the type of hardwoods commonly used. However, many people are now discovering the beauty of naturally coloured bamboo floors and the wonderful contemporary feel that they lend to any room in which they are installed. As an added bonus, bamboo that does not go through the carbonization process is harder and therefore more durable.
5. It's relatively inexpensive – the cost of good quality bamboo is generally at the lower end of the hardwood flooring price range, making it an attractive option for homeowners who do not wish to spend an absolute fortune on replacing all the flooring in their property.

If you have been wondering whether to try bamboo in your home, you now have five good reasons that should ensure your decision is that much easier to make. Take a

look at samples and pictures of properties in which it has been installed to get a better idea of what it will look like in your home