

# BAUWERK

*Parkett*

Press release

## Playing with geometry

**Inspired by nature, Swiss architect and design firm atelier oï creates a new parquet collection for Bauwerk Parkett: Spinpark turns the floor into a unique work of art.**



The principle that makes the new Spinpark parquet by Bauwerk Parkett so special is a simple rotation, a 'spin': turning the grain of the wood 45° relative to the plank, Spinpark, developed by architect and design firm atelier oï, offers completely new possibilities for creating looks with a floor. The use of rotated top layer in parquet is a global innovation, and the Swiss manufacturer has invested years in developing and manufacturing the new collection. Spinpark will be available from January 2024, in three natural oak colour shades.

In developing this new authentic-wood floor product, Bauwerk Parkett collaborated with the renowned Swiss architect and design firm atelier oï. Founded in 1991 by Aurel Aebi, Armand Louis and Patrick Reymond, the studio strives to break down boundaries between different disciplines of design, such as architecture, product design and stage design. The creations of atelier oï tempt the viewer, exciting their emotions, memories, senses and conscious mind. The material often serves as the take-off point for the creative process, in terms of its composition and its interactions with other materials and its environment.

In developing the design for Spinpark, atelier oï had to work closely with the natural material of wood. "Wood is a natural and warm material that you can only understand

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once you touch it. Working with wood means being able to convert something that already had life in it and adding something extra," explained atelier oï's Armand Louis. In order to better understand the material, the atelier also looked at its origin: the composition of the trees, and the structure of the forest: "A forest is a place where you can lose yourself, and when you do, you discover not only something new, but also yourself. You don't necessarily look for straight lines, and you often find diagonals," added Patrick Reymond.

These observations led atelier oï to the idea of rotating the grain of the top layer 45° relative to the plank. This is a simple geometry trick in principle, but it creates a powerful effect: "With a new approach to working with wood grain, especially if it involves cutting it diagonally and not along the grain, which is often the case with parquet, you can achieve the popular chevron pattern, because the grain already goes diagonally through the planks," said Patrick Reymond, explaining the design principle for Spinpark.

"Interestingly, the pattern is very pronounced with its relatively tight geometry," he added. "With Spinpark, you can turn a floor into a natural work of art."

### **A parquet for new creative ideas**

As the top layers of traditional parquet planks are cut along the grain of the wood, Spinpark required the use of new and innovative technology. The top layer of this 2-layer parquet consists of multiple precisely matched slats whose grain is rotated 45° relative to the plank, with a classic spruce/fir sublayer. This novel cutting technique developed by Bauwerk Parkett's engineers produces a completely new look. Spinpark comes in left and right-hand orientation versions, and can be laid in parallel and herringbone patterns. This new product by Bauwerk Parkett enables a total of twelve different, creative laying patterns. One particular feature of it is that the elaborate chevron look can be achieved with a parallel pattern.

Spinpark is available in three natural colour shades: Oak, Oak Avorio and Oak Caramello, all with a natural-oiled surface and a lively grading. The dimensions of a Spinpark plank are 827x130x9.5 millimetres, and the oak top layer is 2.5 mm thick. Because it is produced without bevels, Spinpark creates a uniform look, subduing the outlines of individual planks.

### **Complex manufacture with Swiss precision**

The development of this 2-layer parquet took some time, and the Spinpark idea brought its challenges. "Spinpark is a design innovation as well as a technical innovation," said Angelica Wenger, Product Manager at Bauwerk Group with its headquarters in St Margrethen, Switzerland. "The 45°-angle 'spin' required highly complex manufacturing

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techniques that simply did not exist. We should also not forget that Bauwerk Parkett works with wood, which is a natural material, and is always unique. At the same time, we have to deliver an industrial product with consistently high quality." The rotated orientation of Spinpark's planks made it easier for some of the planks to warp, which was not acceptable. The optimum length-to-width ratio was determined as a way to counteract this, for example. The planks underwent repeated and thorough testing. Countless tests of Spinpark were performed in special climate-controlled rooms at different temperatures and humidity levels. "Spinpark meets all of the top-quality requirements set by Bauwerk Parkett, meaning that floor installers and interior designers can rely on our solutions," confirmed Wenger.

"A real collaboration took place here: the designer looks at nature with his designer eyes, and then Bauwerk Parkett puts everything together," concluded Aurel Aebi, co-founder of atelier oï, describing the partnership. "With Spinpark, the vision, passion, and innovative forces of atelier oï and Bauwerk Parkett came together in a process of co-creation with nature."

Spinpark is manufactured at the St Margrethen facility in Switzerland, and like every solution by Bauwerk Parkett, is 100% healthy-living. The natural-oiled authentic-wood parquet has, for example, successfully passed tests by eco-INSTITUT and Sentinel Haus Institut. Spinpark has also been awarded the ecobau and the French VOC labels.

### **Three questions for atelier oï about the development of Spinpark**

- **What makes working with wood, a natural material, special?**

Wood is a living material that develops its vigour, its distinctive lines and colours over time. Working with it always brings us much joy. Just touching it makes it possible for us to grasp its essence: its body, warmth and durability. To bring out its rich context and its history. It is our goal to tell the fascinating story of this unique material through our design.

- **What excited you about developing a design for a floor?**

Our interdisciplinary approach requires us to look at the space as our primary focus. According to this point of view, the floor functions as the stage for our daily lives, as the foundation for the space. It not only works as a backdrop for our existence, but also accommodates the countless three-dimensional elements that accompany it. With its diverse colour palette and fine patterns, parquet forms a natural frame that enriches its environment. Its unmistakable pattern turns the floor into an active participant in the space, as the interplay of texture, light and colour gives it a palpable presence.

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- **What was your cooperation with Bauwerk Parkett like?**

The chance to work on an extensive project with Bauwerk Parkett made it possible to profoundly research the materials, especially the wood. Our intense communication with Bauwerk's experts proved to be an enriching and valuable exchange of knowledge. Both the designers and wood engineers benefitted from this interdisciplinary approach to our work from the different points of view. Put together, our own design perspective and their profound understanding of the wood made it possible for us to reinvent typologies and to develop innovative patterns. Throughout our collaboration with this client, Bauwerk Parkett's team became a very valuable partner.

### **atelier oï**

The name of the Swiss architect and designer firm comes from the word 'troïka', or 'set of three', as a reference to its three founders. Over 30 years since the firm's creation, its mission is the same: transdisciplinary philosophy and work with materials. Atelier oï has been able to demonstrate this approach throughout countless projects, with its partners including Louis Vuitton, Foscariini and Nespresso.

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1 Swiss parquet manufacturer Bauwerk Parkett developed the new Spinpark 2-layer parquet together with the architect and design firm atelier oī. Image: Bauwerk Parkett

2 Spinpark turns any floor into a unique work of art, as shown with a classic herringbone pattern in this example. Image: Bauwerk Parkett

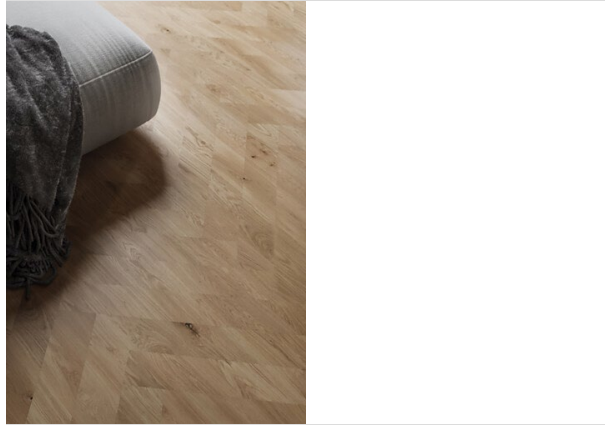
3 Spinpark's top layer made of high-quality oak wood is turned 45° relative to the plank. Image: Bauwerk Parkett

4 Spinpark can be laid in parallel and herringbone patterns. This new product by Bauwerk Parkett enables a total of twelve different, creative laying patterns. Image: Bauwerk Parkett

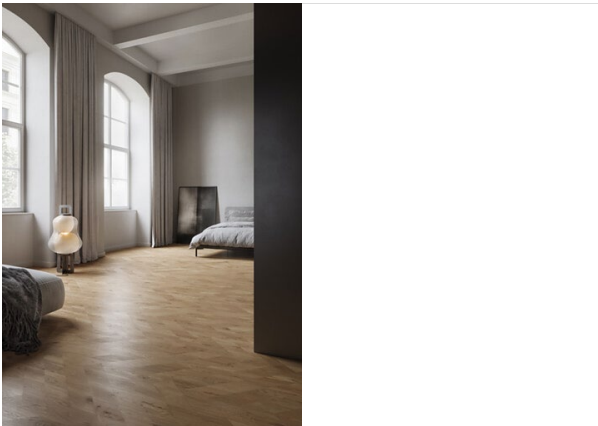
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**5** Spinpark is available in three natural colour shades: Oak, Oak Avorio and Oak Caramello, all with a natural-oiled surface and a lively grading. The image shows Spinpark in Oak Caramello. Bauwerk Parkett introduced this colour in early summer 2023, and it brings much warmth and elegance at the same time. Image: Bauwerk Parkett

**6** With Spinpark, a chevron look with a shipdeck or parallel pattern can be created: no herringbone necessary. Image: Bauwerk Parkett

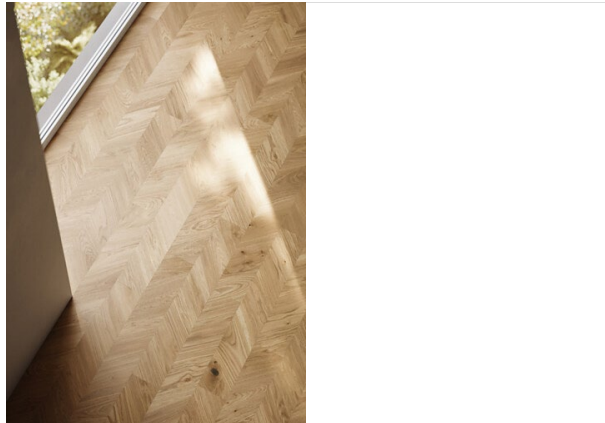
**7** Because it is produced without bevels, Spinpark creates a uniform look, subduing the outlines of individual planks. Image: Bauwerk Parkett

**8** The refined patterns made possible by Spinpark create interesting lighting effects. Image: Bauwerk Parkett

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**9** Spinpark was developed by Bauwerk Parkett in conjunction with the Swiss architect and design firm atelier oï, which was founded by Patrick Reymond, Armand Louis and Aurel Aebi (left to right in the picture) in 1991. Image: Bauwerk Parkett

**10** "With a new approach to working with wood grain, especially if it involves cutting it diagonally and not along the grain, which is often the case with parquet, you can achieve the popular chevron pattern, because the grain already goes diagonally through the planks," said Patrick Reymond from atelier oï, explaining the design principle for Spinpark. Image: Bauwerk Parkett

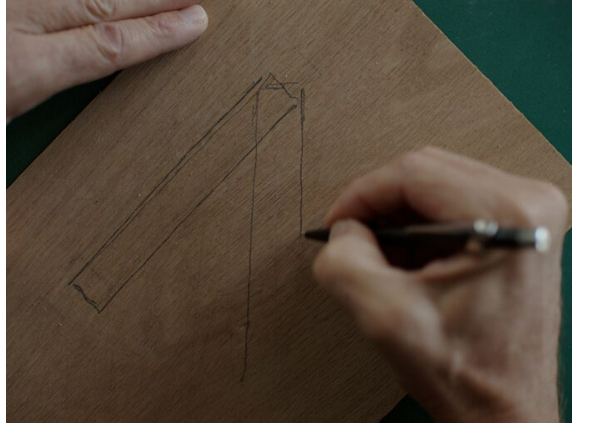
**11** "Interestingly, the pattern is very pronounced with its relatively tight geometry," highlighted atelier oï's Patrick Reymond. "With Spinpark, you can turn a floor into a natural work of art." Image: Bauwerk Parkett

**12** The three founders of atelier oï on the balcony of Moitel, the design studio's head office on the idyllic bank of Lake Biel in La Neuveville, which is surrounded by nature: a perfect source of inspiration for projects like Spinpark. Image: Bauwerk Parkett

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## **Bauwerk Parkett — Built for a lifetime**

What began in 1935 with the invention of solid parquet by Swiss pioneer Ernst Göhner sets new standards for ambitious design and healthy living today. Just like every tree and every piece of wood, each of our responsibly manufactured planks is sustainable and unique. A fusion of Swiss engineering and authentic nature results in extraordinary living experiences: today, and for future generations.

[bauwerk-parkett.com](https://bauwerk-parkett.com)

## **Press release QR code**

