

## Floor Care Guide

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For newly finished wood floors, use them with care for the first week after final application of finish. Generally, you can walk on the floor and put back furniture the next day, but we recommend that furniture not be put back into the room for 1 or 2 days. Carefully lift furniture and place down carefully when moving to a new location rather than dragging across the floor, as this can leave gouges in the floor finish. We recommend using peel and stick felt spots on all furniture that comes in contact with a hardwood floor.

Caring for your floor is easy. By following our instructions, your wood floors will stay beautiful longer.

Things you **should** do:

- ◆ If you use a cleaning service make sure they are using the specific cleaning methods that we recommend.
- ◆ **Vacuum or dust mop your floor regularly:** The secret to a long lasting floor is keeping them clean!
- ◆ **Occasional cleaning:** Spills and tracked-in dirt may require more than just dust mopping. We highly recommend using the Bona Wood Flooring Cleaning Kit. This kit contains a non-toxic cleaning solution, dust mop with a micro fiber and dusting heads both of which are machine washable. It can easily be found at most hardware stores, Bed Bath and Beyond, or amazon.com. An alternative would be to use a soft cloth, sponge mop, or paper towel, use a cleaning solution of 1/2 cup of white vinegar or 1/2 cup standard Windex glass cleaner to a 1/2 gallon of warm water.
- ◆ **Spot Cleaning:** Spray standard Windex on a spot or spill residue and wipe clean with a soft cloth or paper towel.
- ◆ **Protect your investment:** By using throw rugs in front of your kitchen sink and any door leading outside where heavy traffic occurs.
- ◆ **Frequently moved furniture:** Dining room / kitchen chairs, tables, etc. should have peel and stick felt pads attached to the base of each leg to help prevent scratching and wear. Replace pads when worn. Do not wax the base of chair legs.
- ◆ **Periodic recoating:** Following a regular maintenance program will help preserve the life of your hardwood floor for years. However, no floor finish will last forever. Eventually your floor will need to be recoated. When the original finish is starting to dull and showing signs of wear in heavy traffic areas it's time to recoat. Not doing so will result in ground in dirt and grime embedded into the wood requiring a full sanding.

What to **Avoid**:

- ◆ **Do not let sand or grit build up.** The secret to a long lasting floor is keeping them clean!
- ◆ **NO WAXING OR FLOOR RESTORERS:** Polyurethane finish requires very little maintenance. Wax, polish and floor restorers will actually make the floor harder to clean! It will also prevent the possibility of recoating. Floor restorers will wear off quickly, usually in weeks.
- ◆ **Do not use Murphy's oil soap or any other oil soap:** Also do not use paste wax, liquid wax, or other wax/silicone-based polish, any solvent-based cleaners, or pine-based cleaners. These products all leave a residue that will prevent recoating.
- ◆ **Avoid walking in high-heeled shoes.** They can severely damage the surface of any hardwood floor. Heels that have lost their protective cap can cause indentations in any floor surface.

Peel and stick felt spots can be purchased at: Home Depot, Lowe's, hardware stores.

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