



Hardwood Floor Care & Maintenance Guide

Congratulations on your new hardwood floor! With the proper care and maintenance, you can keep your hardwood floors looking great for years to come.

- Dirt and grit can act like sandpaper to the finish on your hardwood floors. To minimize these particles from damaging your finish, sweep or vacuum regularly (Do not use the Beater Bar on your vacuum as it can damage the finish)
- Wipe up spills promptly with a dry cloth or paper towel. Use a cloth slightly moistened with water to wipe up sticky spills, then towel dry.
- Place felt pads on the bottoms of furniture legs to help them glide without damage to the finish. They should be cleaned and inspected periodically to remove grit and check for wear.
- Use a rug pad with any rug placed on your wood floor (*Kitchen mats are the exception to this rule*). Choose a rug pad that is a 100% non-solvent based waffle type rubber, or an untreated natural fiber such as wool or jute, or ¼" chopped urethane. Do not use sticky or tacky backers, as they can attack and discolor the finish.
- Do not use wax or oil base cleaners as they can damage the finish and will make re-finishing your floors in the future more difficult.
- Generally, you should only damp mop your floor once every 4-6 weeks, or as necessary. A solution of 1 gallon warm water with a small amount of white vinegar (typically a ¼ cup) should be used to damp mop your floor. Use a terry towel or a terry mop **lightly** moistened with the above solution to wipe the floor. You should then towel dry the surface to remove any excess moisture.
- An approved hardwood floor cleaner (approved by NOFMA, or the finish manufacturer) can also be used to spot clean spills. These are available at most grocery or home improvement stores.
- In addition, you should have the finish 'Screened & Coated' every couple of years or as the finish begins to show signs of significant wear. This process involves 'scratching' the surface with a special buffing pad and applying a coat of finish, and is significantly cheaper and less intrusive than having the floor re-sanded. This also helps to prolong the life of the floor as most can only be fully re-sanded 3-4 times.

Feel free to contact us with any additional questions regarding the care of your new floors.

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