

WOOD INSPIRATION LTD

Maintenance

Whatever finish you choose on our flooring,

PLEASE REMEMBER:

Dirt and Grit: Act like sandpaper to destroy the protective surface of a wood floor.

Keep it Clean: Vacuum, Sweep and dry mop regularly.

Apply Floor Protector Pads: All moveable pieces of furniture need, soft clean pads on the bottom of the legs or supports.

Use Door Mats: Keep dirt outside by using door mats placed at all exterior doors

No High Heels: High heels concentrate a person's weight onto a small point (estimated 125lb person equals approximately 2000lb per inch when taking a normal step). This kind of force can dent and pit wood floors, fracture ceramic tile and perforate vinyl. While high heels in good repair may not damage a wood floor, we recommend a no high heel policy. Or use high heel covers indoors. These are easily found online for different styles of heels.

Pets Are Ok: Dog and cat toenails can scratch a wood floor. It is good idea to trim them regularly and try to contain vigorous play to carpeted areas. Some finishes like urethanes and Swedish-type finishes are essentially waterproof. These are great finishes for pet households because pet urine will not hurt these floors if cleaned up immediately. Spills from the food/water bowl are usually no problem if wiped up straight away.

Use Area Rugs: Some areas of the house experience more wear than others. Kitchens (especially in front of the sink) always have a lot of traffic. Rugs can be used to protect high traffic areas. Make sure they are kept dry and clean. Shake them out and vacuum frequently.

Be Careful When Moving Heavy Furniture or Appliances: Remember to pick up heavy furniture & do not slide it across the floor. It is a good idea to rent an "airsled" or furniture dolly with soft rubber wheels. Floor guards enable you to move appliances for servicing without damaging your floor.

Cracks In the Floor: Wood floors are very sensitive to their surrounding climate. Seasonal cracking is a common occurrence. They expand in humid conditions (generally summer months) and contract when the air becomes dry (generally winter months when heating dries the environment). Using a Humidifier or Dehumidifier in conjunction with a heater/cooling system is recommended to keep a constant average of 50% humidity level. This will minimize shrinkage and cracking.

Indoor Potted Plants: Never place plants directly on a wood floor even if they are in a water proof saucer. Always use trivets or short stands under the pot and saucer so that air can circulate underneath. This will prevent condensation on the saucer from damaging the wood floor. It will also be easier to see if the plant is over watered or if water has spilled onto the floor.

Rug Marks: Many people are shocked when an area rug is moved and there is an outline of the rug on the floor. Luckily there is no need to panic. If you remove the rug completely, the colour will blend eventually but it will take a while, so be patient. This happens because the sunlight causes the floor to discolour but as it does not reach the floor under the rug, this remains unaffected. This discolouration can be avoided by moving the rugs often or using a finish with a UV block in it.

Scratches: The most important thing to do about scratches is to find out what caused them. Find the cause and remedy the problem to prevent further scratches appearing. Scuffing of high traffic areas mean gritty shoes or dirty floors. A rug may be needed in these areas. Lightly scratched areas that have not worn through to the raw wood can be lightly buffed. This will shine the area and match the sheen of the rest of the floor, making the scratches less obvious. Several manufacturers offer their floor finish in an aerosol can. This can be used if the finish is wearing thin. Read instructions thoroughly. A deep scratch or gouge often cannot be repaired easily. Usually the only solution is to fill the scratch and wait to fix when other work is done on the floor. Newly repaired wood often shows more because it does not match the colour of the existing older floor colour. Consult a professional when the damage exposes bare wood.

MAINTAINING AN OILED FLOOR

Please follow the Woca oil, cleaning and maintaining instructions. To apply the maintaining product according to the instructions:

<https://woca.info/woodcare/floor/cleaning-and-maintaining.php>

- **Never wax a urethane floor.** A majority of floors installed today have urethane finishes.
- **Never use sheet vinyl or tile floor care products on wood floors.** Self-polishing acrylic waxes cause wood to become slippery and appear dull quickly. The only remedy in this situation is to sand and refinish the floor.
- **Consult with an installer, the finisher or the manufacturer if there is any doubt of the kind of floor finish.**
- **Place mats and throw rugs at doorways,** exteriors and interiors to help prevent the tracking of grit, dirt and sand.
- **Sweep or vacuum wood floors regularly.**
- **Never wet-mop a wood floor.** Standing water can dull the finish, damage the wood and leave a discoloring residue.
- **Wipe up food and other spills immediately** with a dry or slightly dampened towel (wipe dry).
- **For a wax floor, buff to restore shine.** You may want to invest in a buffer.
- **Do not over-wax a wax floor.** If the floor dulls, try buffing instead. Avoid wax buildup under furniture and other light traffic areas by applying wax in these spots every other waxing session.
- **Put plastic or fabric-faced glides under the legs of furniture** to prevent scuffing and scratching.