

# Wood Floor Care

## DOs AND DON'Ts



We know your hardwood floors are an investment. Our commitment to making your hardwood floors last doesn't stop when our work is finished. By following these simple suggestions, you can enjoy the beauty and warmth of your wood flooring for years to come.

### What to Do:

**CLEAN** - regularly vacuum, sweep, or dust to maintain the floor finish. General cleaning once a week is recommended to maintain your floor's luster and shine. Only use cleaners specifically made for urethane treated floors - SVB recommends Bona hardwood floor cleaning products.

**REMOVE** all messes or spills promptly with a soft damp cloth.

**RUGS AND MATS** extend the life of your new wood floor. Use at entryways, the end of steps, bathroom exits or other high traffic or moisture areas. All rugs should allow the floor to breathe. Avoid rubber-backed or non-ventilated rugs. Shake out, wash, or vacuum mats and area rugs frequently. Wait 2-3 weeks after the floor has been finished before using area rugs or mats. This will allow the floor to get the proper air to cure. Airflow helps the curing process.

**FURNITURE** should not be put back in place until 36-48 hours after the floor is finished. Attach felt pad floor protectors to the bottom of furniture. Floor protectors must be kept clean of grit, and periodically replaced to avoid dirt buildup. Carry furniture to its place and lightly set down. Do not slide or scoot furniture across the flooring.

**MAINTAIN** the relative humidity of your home between 35% and 55% by using a humidifier during the winter months. Excessive swings in humidity levels will cause wood floors to swell, shrink, cup, crack and show excessive expansion cracks between boards. Since the wood is susceptible to the humidity in the air, natural wood fibers will pull in moisture, causing the wood to expand in the spring and summer months. During the winter months, when the house is dry, there will be a shrinking effect in the width of the boards. A humidifier will help stabilize this condition. Wood floors need to be able to expand and contract with temperature and humidity. Expansion cracks from summer to winter are a natural trait of wood floors.

## What Not to Do:

**LET DIRT** or sand build up on your floor. They can act like sandpaper, abrading and dulling your floor's finish.

**WALK** on wood floors with high heels. They can severely damage your finish.

**IGNORE YOUR PETS' CLAWS.** Proper claw trimming helps avoid scratches and gouges.

**USE WAX,** oil soap, or other harsh household cleaners on finished wood floors. They can dull the floor finish and make refinishing difficult.

**MOP** floors. Too much water can cause the floor to swell or warp.



## How To Clean Common Household Accidents

**GREASE SPOTS:** To remove grease, tar, or oil, wipe with a cloth dampened with the appropriate floor cleaner, followed by buffing with a clean, dry cloth.

**FOOD, WATER, PET SPOTS:** Remove with a damp cloth, followed by buffing with a clean cloth.

**WAX OR CHEWING GUM:** Apply crushed ice contained in a plastic bag, until the material is brittle enough to crumble off the floor surface. Remove any remaining material using a cloth dampened with a mild cleaning solution, then buff with a clean, dry cloth.

**STUBBORN STAINS, SPILLS:** Wipe with a clean cloth dampened with the appropriate floor cleaner.

### *Follow these 3 easy steps when cleaning your floors:*

1. Vacuum or sweep the floor to remove any loose dirt or sand
2. Lightly mist a 4' x 6' area of your floor using your Bona spray bottle
3. Using a slightly dampened, well wrung-out Bona Micro Plus cleaning pad, thoroughly clean the floor in a back-and-forth motion using your Bona Micro Plus mop. Finish one area completely before moving on to the next.

For wax and tung oil and any other finishes not mentioned, please call our office for further information. To purchase any cleaning supplies, please call our office and we will provide you with the necessary products and information to maintain your hardwood floors. Our office number is (816) 965-8655.

