

Wood Floor Maintenance

You will find a few easy maintenance tips below that will help you appreciate the beauty of your floor longer.

Sweep or vacuum regularly so abrasive dirt won't scratch the finish.

Wipe up any spilled liquid quickly from your floor.

Watch out for high heels and some kinds of sports footwear, particularly if they are worn or damaged.

Note: Only water and sand are worse enemies of hardwood floors than high heel shoes. In fact, high heels can damage any floor covering-even cement.

Put mats outside and inside entrances. This will prevent the build-up of sand and dirt on the floor.

Put mats in front of the kitchen sink, the dishwasher, and all kitchen work stations to protect your floor from kitchen mishaps like dropped utensils and spills of water, detergent, and food.

Avoid mats with rubber or other dense backing that prevent airflow and trap abrasive dirt and moisture.

Attach felt pads to the feet of all furniture to make it easier to move and prevent scratched. Keep pads clean and replace if damaged.

Replace plastic casters with wide rubber or soft polyurethane casters.

Protect the floor when moving furniture. Use a mat turned upside down with a slightly smaller piece of plywood on top of it. Place furniture on top and slide it.

Maintain humidity levels between 35 and 50%, for your own health as well as for the protection of your floor and wooden furniture.

Avoid exposing your floor to sunlight and intense artificial light, which can cause wood to change color. This is a completely normal and natural phenomenon. The lighter the wood, the more pronounced the change will be.

Move your carpets and furniture occasionally and use a minimum number of light sources to keep color change uniform.

Note: Color change is not always caused by the yellowing of the finish; it is a natural change of the wood's color.

THINGS TO AVOID

Do not pour cleaner onto the floor.

Do not use a wet mop that can leave excess water behind.

Never use any products containing wax, acrylic coatings, oil-based detergent, or any other household cleaners on your floor. These products can damage the finish and leave a greasy film that makes your floor slippery, difficult to maintain, and impossible to refinish without deep sanding and complete refinishing.

For hardwood floors laid over a subfloor with a radiant heating system, **do not raise or lower the temperature by more than 5°F per day** when turning the system on or off.