



*More Than a Floor . . .*

*For the best enjoyment and longest-life of your hardwood floor, please observe the following:*

**DO**

- Use rugs in front of sinks and at all entries and exits.
- Clean rugs every week to avoid drop-through spills to floor beneath.
- Set furniture in place (never drag, push or pull across floor).
- Vacuum, or dust-mop, floor at least once very week. Use 1/8 cup vinegar to 1 gallon of water to wash floor (also use this mixture when cleaning spills in kitchen and bath).
- Use felt furniture protectors on all tables, chairs, ottomans and other heavy furniture (available at home improvement stores).
- Have your floors recoated every 3 to 5 years, depending on use.
- Make sure shoe heels are in good repair, especially high heels.
- Always use plastic planter liners and cork water discs for indoor plants.
- Keep dogs' nails trimmed.
- Continually operate a programmable humidifier.
- Humidity Must be Maintained between 40%-55% to avoid issues

**DON'T**

- Wash floor for the 1<sup>st</sup> week after finishing.
- Place area rugs on floor until at least one week after finishing.
- Use wax or Murphy's Oil Soap on floor.
- Move refrigerator without 1/8" x 6" x 48" plastic or melamine sleds placed underneath (or damage *will* occur).
- Allow liquids, including water or animal waste, to stand on floor for any length of time (including drainage from household plants). Wipe up spills with paper towel or soft cloth as soon as possible.
- Allow dogs on the floor for the first week after finishing.
- Use ammonia or other harsh cleansers to clean your floor.
- Walk on floor wearing cleats or spikes.
- Drag rugs, boxes, or other heavy or scratchy items across floor.
- Use rotating bristle-brush vacuums.
- Allow rollerblading or roller skating on floor.

Do plan on regular maintenance for your hardwood floor as part of your overall home maintenance schedule. Maintenance includes routine "buffing" or screening of your floor, cleaning and re-application of your selected finish products, as well as resolving small problems before they become big ones (repairs, etc.). We recommend maintenance every 3 years, but you should wait no more than five years, depending on use and wear and tear.

*Hardwood floors will often gap (shrink) slightly during the colder, dryer winter months and expand (swell) slightly during the warmer, wetter summer months. Since hardwood floors are a natural, not man-made product, this is a normal and expected process. Occurrences of gaps, as well as other issues, can be mitigated with the regular use of a programmable humidifier during winter months (confirm levels with a quality indoor hygrometer).*

Hardwood floors are easy to care for and very clean (they can't trap particles). With just a little care and maintenance they will add to the beauty and value of your home and last a lifetime.