

FLOOR CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Caring for Your Floors

Your new wood floor is an important investment and must be properly cared for and maintained for you to enjoy its full life and beauty. The following care and maintenance tips should be followed to obtain the **full benefit** of your wood floor and to ensure that our warranty will continue to apply.

1. Clean your wood floor with a vacuum, duster or broom at least weekly. Don't use a vacuum that has beaters or hard attachment tips. Remember that grit will greatly increase wear and can damage your wood floor.



Don't use a wet mop to clean your floor. Moisture from wet mopping will damage your wood floor. Wipe up spills immediately. Never allow water or cleaners to pool or sit on top or soak into your wood floor. Moisture can damage the floor, and some cleaners are too harsh to use on the floor.

Don't use ammonia-based cleaners, oil-based soaps, bleaches, detergents, abrasive soaps or cleaners, waxes, acidic cleaners, or acrylic products on your wood floor; avoid using solutions that must be combined with water. Use only hardwood floor cleaning solutions from reputable manufacturers such as Bona Kemi, Basic Coatings, Minwax or equivalent manufacturers to clean your wood floor.



2. Use an area rug in front of your sink and other appliances, and on high-traffic areas. Don't use a mat with a solid backing that will trap moisture between the mat and your floor.

Don't wear hard-soled or high-heel shoes on your wood floor. Hard soles and pointed heels can damage the floor. For the same reason, keep your pets' nails trimmed to avoid scratch marks.

3. To avoid damage to your wood floor, keep the relative humidity in your home between 35% and 55% to reduce the risk of excessive expansion or contraction. Use pads on the ends of furniture legs to avoid denting or scratching your wood floor.

Use curtains, blinds or shades to protect your wood floor from direct sunlight.



4. If you have to move heavy objects, such as furniture or appliances, over your wood floor, use a hard barrier, such as a board, on the floor and move the item across the barrier instead of sliding it directly on the floor.

Don't slide the barrier as you move the item. If you have furniture or appliances on casters, replace small or hard casters with casters made of wide, soft rubber.
