

Care and Maintenance of Oiled Wooden Floors

AFTER FINAL OIL IT IS RECOMMENDED TO,

- Remain off the floor for 24 hours (at least).
- Avoid water totally for the first 4-6 weeks (the longer the better). Only use dry methods of cleaning, ensuring the vacuum cleaner has good bristles. If spillages occur, dry immediately, do not wash floor in the early stages. This is necessary to allow the oil to harden and cure. It may sometimes require many weeks before full strength is achieved.
- Wear soft shoes for the next 3-4 days, sweaty feet/socks may leave marks when floor is fresh.
- Place felt protectors under furniture contact points, (obtainable at Kmart, department or hardware stores).
- To avoid scratches or dents, always lift heavy furniture into place. Do not drag.
- Wait for 4-6 weeks before placing mats or rugs down.
- If oil "sweats" between boards, remove gently with a paper towel.



Cotton mops



vacuum with good bristles

CARING FOR YOUR FLOOR

A little sensible care will keep your timber floor a pleasure. Prevent problems before they occur. The amount of care needed will depend on the area treated, your location, and life style.

- Do not wash the floor in the early stages.
- Immediately remove any liquid spills.
- Protect your floor against abrasive dust or grit by placing a quality doormat at the entrance of your home. This helps remove extra dirt from shoes, helping to prevent surface scratching.
- After the initial curing time, and for regular cleaning, floors may be wiped over with a slightly damp (not wet) mop.
- 5 ml (1 tsp) of Livos TRENA PH Neutral Cleaner #556 (Concentrate) to 5 Lt of water is strongly recommended. Avoid higher concentrations. This is a mild and effective cleaner, leaving the oil layer untouched.
- One may use the GLANOS Liquid Wax Cleaner #559 (Concentrate) mixed with water every 4th wash to aid in obtaining a sheen to the floor. 1 tsp in 5 Lt of water. (This should be alternated with the TRENA)
- Do not use excessive water. Use a damp not wet mop.
- Avoid abrasive chemical products or harsh micro-fibre cloths as these will damage the new oil-resin-wood layer.

RENOVATIONS

(if required after floor has been completed)

It is highly recommended to sand and oil the floors after painting and all trades have finished. If unavoidable, place cotton sheets or carton (not plastic drop sheets) on freshly oiled floor for protection. When this protection is removed vacuum floor with an attachment that has soft bristles and move along the grain of the timber. If this does not remove fine plaster dust, then a final buff with a white pad (non abrasive) may be necessary. Do not wash the floor in the early stages.



STAINS AND MARKS

Slight ink and water stains can be removed with the concentrated Trena Neutral Cleaner or the Latis Intensive Cleaner #551. Place one or two drops of the cleaner on the stain and rub over the mark with a clean cloth. Wipe over. Leave to dry.

REPAIRS

Deep penetrating stains (caused by chemicals or animal urine) or scratches may require sanding with fine sand paper, wetted with a few drops of the oil used. Alternatively, lightly sand the damaged area and reapply some of the original oil used. Wipe off excess.

LONG TERM MAINTENANCE

Do not drag furniture or heavy objects.
 Do not use detergent on the floor.
 Do not pour water directly on the floor.
 Do not use baking soda, ammonia or abrasive cleaners.
 Please be aware that some Micro fibre cloths are extremely harsh and may strip the nutrients/oil from the flooring. Cotton mops or cloths that may be removed and washed are ideal. The floor may appear dull after washing however this will disappear in 1-2 days.

FREQUENTLY WET AREAS

On frequently sprinkled areas (walls, floor, benches etc.), remove water droplets, otherwise hard to remove traces of calcium and other minerals dissolved in the water, can build up grey and white veils on the timber surfaces after many years of usage.

For rejuvenation applications and hints please see REJUVENATION OF TIMBER FLOORS doc.

"Our information is given in good faith and is based on results obtained from experience and tests. However, as the workmanship is beyond our control, all recommendations and suggestions are made without guarantee."

Quality natural paints, oils and varnishes
 Healthy cleaning and household
 Luxury organic bed linen
 Gentle baby care
 Biodegradable bags and tableware

Really green gardening
 Biodegradable disposable nappies
 Water and energy saving
 Select books, stationery and gifts
 Natural personal care