Recommendations For Maintenance

No special supplies or equipment are necessary for the proper maintenance of pre-finished hardwood flooring. Daily maintenance such as sweeping or vacuuming with the soft brush attachment is sufficient. For more thorough cleaning, simply mist the floors with a spritz bottle and wipe dry using readily available cleaning products. Basic Coatings has a product called “Squeaky”, and Swiffer Hardwood cleaning products work well also.

Do not use cleaners such as Mr. Clean or Murphy’s Oil Soap. Never use water to clean wood floors. The use of automatic scrubbers, buffers with abrasive pads, or string mops would be considered improper or abrasive maintenance, and these items should never be used on Hardwood floors.

Preventative Tips & Information

1. Keep the relative humidity in the space at 45%-55%.
2. Water and wood are enemies. For everyday maintenance, we recommend using Basic Coating’s “Squeaky” or a similar product from a flooring retailer. Do not use cleaners such as Mr. Clean or Murphy’s Oil Soap. If dulling in the finish occurs in high traffic areas, use Basic Coatings Refresher or a similar product from a flooring retailer. No waxes or polishes should be applied to the floor.
3. Routinely vacuum the floor with one of the soft attachments for the vacuum cleaner. This will keep dust and dirt from building up and scratching the finish.
4. High heels can and will damage the surface of your floor.
5. Dogs’ claws and dirt or sand on the bottom of shoes damages hardwood floors more than any other situation.
6. All wood oxidizes over time. This will change the color or patina of the floor and eventually give it the natural or aged look that most people favor. Almost all of this oxidation is caused by ultraviolet rays from the sun; therefore direct sunlight onto the floor surface will greatly accelerate this process.
7. Felt pads must be used under all chair legs and other furniture to prevent scratching the floor’s finish.
8. Have wipe off mats or rugs positioned in areas where outdoor traffic will be entering the hardwood floor area. However, since many area rugs and mats are abrasive underneath, a carpet pad should be used under the wipe-off mat or rug.

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info@pioneermillworks.com  |  pioneermillworks.com  |  t 585.924.9970  |  f 585.924.9962