

HARDWOOD FLOOR CARE & MAINTENANCE

Cleaning

- As with any wood floor, follow a program of cleaning, sweeping and vacuuming to eliminate as much dirt and grit as possible, and remember that moisture should not come in contact with the floor. If it does, it should be wiped up immediately.
- Use dirt trapping mats at all exterior doors to keep dirt, sand, and grit outside. Use rugs at high traffic stations to reduce wear.
- Always use manufacturers' recommended cleaning products, which won't leave a contaminating residue on the floor. If the manufacturer is not known, use a generic hardwood floor cleaner available at local retail wood flooring stores. Do not use oils, soaps, or wax products to clean your floor.
- Most warranties from finish manufacturers and factory-finished wood flooring manufacturers are voided by use of oil soap cleaners.
- Wipe up spills immediately with a lightly dampened cloth, then follow up with a recommended cleaning product.
- For stubborn stains, lightly dampen a soft cloth with a manufacturer's recommended cleaner or a generic hardwood floor cleaner. Apply directly to the stain and repeat as necessary. Never mop your floor with water.

Maintenance

- Never use a wax finish on top of a surface finish. Use a cleaner specifically designed for use on polyurethane finished floor.
- Keep your pet's nails clipped to reduce scratching of the floor. Use protective pads underneath all furniture legs that come in contact with the hardwood floor. Remove shoes with spikes or damaged heels before walking on the floor.
- If using area rugs in the house, make sure to move them periodically, to ensure the UV rays don't unevenly fade or change the color of the wood and/or stain.

Learn More

- Looking for more information about caring for your hardwood flooring?
[BuildDirect Blog - How to Clean, Finish and Protect Hardwood Flooring](#)