

Care & Maintenance

With today's advances in wood flooring stains and finishes, cleaning bamboo floors has never been easier. There are other steps you can take to minimize maintenance and maintain the beauty of your wood floors. Regular maintenance requires little more than sweeping with a soft bristle broom if your wood floor includes a beveled edge that could collect debris.

- Clean your floors periodically with a professional wood floor cleanser. Selkirk recommends pre-finished hardwood flooring cleaners such as Woodwise®, Glitsa® or Bona®.
- For moderately soiled areas, use a mild solution of isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol and distilled water. Dilute the mixture by mixing one part alcohol and 2 parts distilled water. For tougher spots, use a higher concentration of isopropyl alcohol and distilled water
- Avoid using any cleaning agents containing wax, oil or polish. Left over residue will form a dull film.
- Always spot test in an inconspicuous area.
- Do not use sheet vinyl or tile floor care products on bamboo floors. Self-polishing acrylic waxes can cause the surface to become slippery and appear dull quickly.
- Do not use vinegar as a cleaning solution, its acidic properties will harm the finish.
- Use throw rugs both inside and outside doorways to help prevent grit, dirt and other debris from being tracked onto your wood floors. This will help prevent scratching
- Do not wet-mop a wood floor. Standing water can dull the finish, damage the floor and leave a discoloring residue.
- Wipe up spills immediately.
- Do not wax your floor unless it was originally wax finished
- Protect your floor with floor protectors that are at least 1" in diameter made of non-staining felt, such as Safeglid® from Glitsa® under the legs of furniture to help prevent scuffing and scratching; Larger pads may be required on bigger objects.
- Avoid walking on your wood floors with cleats, sports shoes and high heels.
- A 125-pound woman walking in high heels has an impact of 2,000 pounds per square inch. An exposed heel nail can exert up to 8,000 pounds per square inch. This kind of impact can dent any floor surface.
- When moving heavy furniture, do not slide it on wood flooring. It is best to pick up the furniture completely to protect the wood flooring.
- For bamboo flooring in the kitchen, place an area rug in front of the kitchen sink.
- Use a humidifier throughout the winter months (or dehumidifier in the summer months) to keep bamboo movement and shrinkage to a minimum

Floor Repairs

- Very light and small surface scratches can be repaired with a staining "touch up" pen of the appropriate color.
- Slightly deeper scratches can be repaired by means of colored putty and or stains. Fill the scratches with the putty, level with putty knife and use terry cloth towel to wipe off excess.
- Very deep scratches may require the replacement of planks.

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