



CARE & MAINTENANCE for Big Ass Wood Floors

Hardwood floors are a beautiful feature of any home, whether paired with rugs or left to shine on their own. The trick, of course, is keeping that shine going through dust, footprints, spills and all of the other wear and tear that floors normally go through. But we know how much you love your floors. We love them too, and that's why we've got a whole list of simple "how-tos" about caring for hardwood floors with good basic information for every homeowner.

Difficulty: Easy

Time Required: Varies

Here's How:

1. **Sweep** wood floors often with a soft, fine bristle broom.
2. **Vacuum** once or twice a week to remove dirt and sand. Use a soft brush attachment to minimize scratching.
3. Since water is one of wood floors worst enemies, **get rid of water** right away! Remove wet spills ASAP with soft towels or a wet/dry vacuum, and then dry thoroughly.
1. Use a very **dry damp mop** when mopping polyurethaned wood floors, since excess water can seep into seams and ruin a wood floor.
2. Consider using **carpet runners** (with non-skid pads) over wood floors in high traffic areas.
3. **Vacuum area rugs and runners** often so dirt doesn't filter down through the weave and scratch the wood underneath.
4. If possible, **do not wear heavy shoes or high heels** on hardwood floors, as some heels can cause dents.
5. **Never drag furniture** or other objects across a wood floor. Instead, clean the floor thoroughly to remove dust and grit, and then use "gliding" furniture pads underneath the piece to aid sliding it across the floor.
6. Install **floor mats** at each entrance so you don't track in dirt from the bottoms of shoes.
7. Be sure to **follow manufacturer recommendations** to treat flooring scratches and dents. If an area of the finish is damaged by water, it may be difficult to fix it.
8. **Use furniture pads** to place under table and chair legs and on the feet of dressers and armoires. They can be purchased at a local hardware store or home center.
9. Some floors may require periodic **waxing and buffing**. Get recommendations from the manufacturer for the specific procedures for your floor.

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Tips:

1. Use area rugs in high traffic areas.
2. Always remove spills promptly. While small drops of water may not harm the floor, be sure not to let excess amounts of water sit on the floor.
3. Find out cleaning and care requirements for your specific floor from the manufacturer

