



## Care and Maintenance Instructions

You have purchased a prefinished floor that has several coats of UV finish factory applied. The key to maintaining your floor's natural beauty is through preventative and regular maintenance. To assist you, we offer the following guidelines and recommendations:

### Cleaning:

- Vacuuming the floor frequently with a soft bristle brush to remove debris is preferred. Do not use the beater bar brush. Sweeping or use of a similar tool, with a light touch is also acceptable, taking care to avoid pushing sharp debris across the floor, which can cause scratches.
- Use a non-wax hardwood flooring cleaner which is misted onto the floor and then wiped away with a clean, soft, terrycloth head. Some choices include:
  - Poly-Care - [www.absolutecoatings.com/PolyCare.php](http://www.absolutecoatings.com/PolyCare.php)
  - Bona Products - <http://store.mybonahome.com/HardwoodFloorCleaners.aspx>
- Even the best designed products, if used too often, can build up over time. If you experience build up, try alternating the use of cleaners with a light mist of water. Use the same mist and wipe cleaning method with a terry cloth head.
- Shoe or scuff marks can be removed using recommended products from either Absolute Coatings, or Bona.
- Please keep in mind that wood floors should NEVER be wet mopped, or cleaned using a machine that introduces moisture (i.e. steam or a cleaning agent) in between the planks of the flooring.
- Use of conventional cleaners, furniture polishes and soap products is not recommended.

### Preventative Measures:

- Always protect your floors when heavy traffic is expected or other trades will be working and moving about.
- Avoid large amounts of water, if a spill should occur, remove it quickly with a dry absorbent cloth and/or wet vacuum. Make use of rugs in front of sinks and other areas that may experience frequent splashes. Standing water or saturated rugs left unattended can damage your floor.
- Make use of doormats at entrances to prevent dust and sand from entering. Clean these doormats regularly. Avoid the use of rubber backed mats or non-ventilated rugs on top of flooring; this can trap moisture under them causing damage.

- Move furniture and rugs periodically to ensure that UV rays don't unevenly fade or change the color of your flooring.
- Avoid long periods of direct sunlight to your floors by drawing shades or curtains over doors and windows when available.
- Place felt protectors on the feet of all furniture, and clean these regularly. Do not walk on the floor with stiletto heeled shoes, cleats, or sports shoes. These put excessive amounts of pressure in small areas and will cause denting.
- Keep your pet's nails trimmed to reduce scratching on your floor. Place rugs in the areas where your pet tends to get excited to protect your floor.
- Never place potted plants directly on flooring, even if they are placed in saucers. Condensation can develop under these saucers and cause damage. Make use of plant stands and trivets which allow air to circulate under the saucer.
- Keep your indoor environment reasonably consistent, with a temperature between 65 and 75 degrees and humidity between 40%-60%. You may notice some seasonal expansion and gapping; this is a normal occurrence.
- When moving heavy furniture or appliances, place a thick rug underneath before moving. When possible, lift objects off the floor rather than pushing them.
- Use commercial floor mats underneath office desk chairs that have wheels, and avoid having other wheeled items, such as children's toys, come into direct contact with the floor, as debris can become trapped under the wheels and cause scratches.
- A top coat sealer can be applied, and is recommended for areas with higher traffic volumes. Please consult with a certified floor finishing professional.

#### Damage:

- Scratches are considered a natural occurrence which happen over time and give your wood floors character. Use of a stain touch up pen, available at local stores, may diminish the appearance.
- Dents and gouges can occur by accident. Please consult a qualified flooring professional to determine the best course of action.
- Fading, color variation, and color changes are a normal occurrence over time and are not considered a defect.
- Moisture related damage should be evaluated by a qualified wood flooring professional to determine the best course of action.
- Floors can be refinished or refreshed depending on the amount and depth of scratches or damaged areas. Please consult with a certified wood flooring refinisher to obtain more information.
- Prolonged, rapid, or drastic changes in high or low relative air humidity can cause your floor to develop a cupped appearance. Care should be taken to avoid this, as it can cause permanent damage. Please consult with a certified wood flooring company to determine the best course of action.

Please contact us with questions at: 866-915-1120 or email: [sales@greenchoiceflooring.com](mailto:sales@greenchoiceflooring.com)