

How To **LOOK AFTER** YOUR HARDWOOD FLOORS

We hope you are enjoying your brand new, fully restored hardwood floors! We have prepared a list of suggestions to help you care for your floor. Please read and follow these guidelines to ensure that your floors will continue to look great for years to come.

Things to Do:

- At all entryways and high traffic areas (hallways, dining rooms etc.) use mats, runners or area rugs to keep dirt off your floor. Remember, dust and grit will scratch and wear the finish.
- Sweep or vacuum regularly to remove any loose dirt or grit before it can scratch your floor. Vacuum with soft bristle brushes.
- Use felt floor protectors under all chairs and furniture. Clean and replace them periodically.
- Wipe up food or other spills immediately with a damp (not soaking wet) cloth or paper towel. Spills, especially liquid, left unattended will damage your floor.
- Keep your pet's nails trimmed.

Things to Not Do:

- Don't wear high heels or dirty shoes inside. Consider a shoe free home as this will greatly prolong the life of your floor.
- Don't drag furniture or appliances across your floor.
- Do not use ammonia, pine soap, oil soap, chlorine, bleach or any abrasive cleaner that might scratch or react with the finish.
- Do not over water plants. Avoid porous pots and saucers that leak and seep water on your floors. These will leave stains and water damage. Use waterproof plastic saucers under all pots instead.
- Do not wax your floors!

Cleaning Instructions on Back...

How To **CORRECTLY CLEAN** YOUR HARDWOOD FLOORS

- Your hardwood floors will need vacuuming or sweeping regularly, preferably daily, to remove dust and grit that finds its way in to your home. Walking on dusty, dirty floors is the fastest way to damage your finish.
- Don't use vacuums with rotating power heads as they will damage your floor. Instead, vacuum with a soft bristle brush attachment or sweep with a soft nylon bristle broom.
- Shake out all of your mats and area rugs regularly and check the felt pads under your furniture to ensure no grit is lodged there.
- Occasionally, you will need to clean your floors a little more aggressively than just vacuuming or sweeping. When you need to clean the floor of spills or grime, use the hardwood cleaning solution that we have provided.

Spot Cleaning:

Lightly spray the area with the hardwood cleaning solution we have supplied you (diluted according to instructions on bottle) and wipe up with a clean cloth.

General Cleaning:

- Spray a section of the floor with the hardwood cleaning solution and wipe with a new, clean cloth. Repeat this in sections over the entire floor. You may want to use a terry-cloth mop head to speed up the process. In this case you can spray the solution directly onto the mop head. Buff the floor dry immediately after cleaning with a clean dry cloth to get the best results.
- *Make sure not to over wet the floor.* A good indication of how wet the cloth should be is to have it as damp as you would wipe your kitchen countertop with. Never pour the cleaning solution directly onto your floor. Standing liquids will dull the finish, damage the wood and leave a discoloring residue.
- **Your newly finished floors should never be waxed!** Do not use oil soaps, waxes or any abrasive cleaners on your floors. These not only damage hardwood floors but they also make recoating your floors impossible in the future.

We hope you enjoy your hardwood floors for years to come!