



## FLOOR CARE AND PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE



With today's finishes, maintenance of your wood floor could not be easier. Normal maintenance consists of regular sweeping or vacuuming to collect dirt and grit that can dull your finish, along with periodic use of an approved no-wax hardwood floor cleaner. For Handscraped/Distressed floors, the uneven surface may trap dirt and dust so we recommend vacuuming more often. Always vacuum thoroughly prior to the use of approved floor cleaner. Be certain the wheels of the vacuum are clean and do not damage the finish. Scrubbing machinery, power scrubbers and steam cleaners are not recommended to clean the floor.

### **PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE**

Aside from those mentioned above, other steps can also be taken to minimize wear and tear and keep your floor looking new for years to come.

- DO NOT USE liquid or paste wax, oil soaps, or any other cleaners that contain silicon, lemon oil, tung oil, acrylics or ammonia. Furthermore, avoid 'home recipes' found on the internet or other sources. These products and techniques can cause your floors to become slippery, or cloud and dull the finish. Use of these and similar products can harm the performance of your floor and may also affect its re-coat ability.
- DO NOT USE A VACUUM WITH A BEATER BAR HEAD
- Use throw rugs inside and outside of entryways to prevent dirt and grit from being tracked in and scratching your finish. Rugs, mats or backings should not be abrasive to prevent scratching to the wood floor. Material should be breathable to avoid trapping moisture underneath.
- Wood and water don't mix! Never damp mop your floor. Clean up spills promptly with a soft cloth and recommended cleaning products.
- Place felt-type protectors on the bottom of all furniture and fixture legs to assist in preventing denting and scratching.
- High heels and sports cleats will likely dent, gouge or scratch hardwood floors, which is not covered by our warranty.
- Keep pet's nails trimmed and clean of dirt and debris.
- Avoid sliding or rolling heavy furniture or appliances across the floor. Whenever possible, lift the item to be moved. If it must be rolled, protect the floor with plywood or other hard sheeting to prevent dents.
- Use a humidifier/dehumidifier to maintain a consistent year round climate, keeping wood shrinkage and movement to a minimum.
- The exposure of sun, UV rays and artificial lighting accelerate the oxidation and aging of wood. This can cause the wood and/or stain to change color and/or fade over time. If possible, we recommend that you rearrange fixtures, rugs and furniture periodically to ensure the flooring ages evenly. Our warranties do not cover damage from the sun, UV rays or artificial light. Note: American Cherry and Walnut species are especially susceptible to the effect of light and may darken or lighten due to UV or artificial light exposure. These species change color more rapidly than other Domestic Species.
- Furniture casters should have wheels constructed with soft, non-marring/marking material such as soft rubber, or covered with felt. Hard wheeled casters such as plastic, vinyl or hard rubber can mark or dent hardwood floors. Caster wheel width and diameter should comply with load guidelines.