

How to keep your floor scratch free.

Timber Floors will scratch inevitable no matter what coating you choose. Luckily our Hardwax Oils are replenish-able with a simple maintenance coat and spot repairable, no need to re-sand your whole floor to repair or replenish.

This is a huge benefit in comparison to most coatings as there is no aggressive sanding and nontoxic, no need to move out of your home to recoat. A proper maintenance program will reduce general wear on a floor and prolong the durability of the coating.

Regularly lift off all dirt with a broom or vacuum cleaner. A vacuum cleaner is the easiest and most efficient way of increasing the longevity of a floor finish, as it lifts the abrasive particles of sand that grind away at the surface.

N.B Your Hardwax finish will take about 10 days to reach its maximum strength, both physically and in its moisture repellent properties. Please refrain from mopping the floor for a week or so and take care to soak up anything spilt on the floor.

Slip Stick

Felt pads are available on our online shop, we highly recommend putting them on all pieces of furniture before moving them on your newly coated floor.

Regular washing

Whittle Waxes Floor Care Concentrate, Natural treatment for internal wood surfaces.

Mopping additive designed to both clean and maintain floors finished with Hardwax Oils, without making the surface slippery. This will add an extra layer of protective wax with each application.

Maintenance

Wax Polish, Easy to apply refresher coat for surfaces finished with Hardwax Oil.

Marks, fine scratches or more persistent stains can be removed with Wax Polish. This should be applied thinly to a dry clean floor and then lightly polished. Polish by hand on a small area or a floor polisher on a larger one. Occasionally freshen up the entire floor surface or hard worn areas. Initially cleaning with Whittle Waxes Floor Care. Allow it to dry thoroughly, and apply Wax Polish to the area. Choose Matte Wax Polish to maintain a Matte Hardwax Oiled floor.

Heavy Soiling

Preparation Cleaner For heavy soiling, aggressively removes grease, oil, and wax before refurbishing and thereby removes old gloss and polymer layers, waxes, oil films and other impurities. A fresh coat of Wax Polish or Hardwax Oil is needed after each cleaning with Preparation Cleaner. We recommend this for professional use, especially in high traffic commercial areas.

For your convenience, we have conveniently designed kits to conserve, clean and refresh timber surfaces finished with Hardwax Oil.

To Repair:

A good regular maintenance program will reduce general wear on a floor, however, very deep scratches or gouges will need professional attention.

Protect the floors, we recommend:

- o Doormats at all exterior doors, to trap dirt and grit from outdoors, before it gets to the floor.
- o Encourage of checking the soles of your shoes for gravel and grit caught in the treads.
- o All 'moveable' pieces of furniture need soft clean pads on the bottom of legs or supports.
- o Rubber feet on items such as dining room chairs.
- o Apply floor protector pads to heavy items of furniture.
- o Always remember to pick up furniture rather than slide it across the floor.
- o Floor guards enable you to move your appliances forward for servicing without gouging your floor.
- o Some areas always experience more wear than others (example: under the office chairs) Use thin non slip protective mats in these areas.
- o High heels concentrate a person's weight on a small point (60kg person = approx 150kg per sq. cm when taking a normal step). This kind of force can damage many types of flooring, fracturing ceramic tiles and perforating vinyl, as well as denting wood floors. While high heels in good repair may not damage wood floors, discourage high heels where practical.
- o Spills from the food and liquids are usually no problem if wiped up in good time.
- o Rugs can be used to minimize damage in high traffic areas.
- o Make sure any rugs are kept clean and dry. Have them shaken out and vacuumed regularly.

Other tips:

- o Depending on the type of use the floor is getting will depend on the maintenance regime, obviously the kitchen will require more regular maintenance than the bedroom. Heavy soiling can be cleaned as described above, or careful use of a Steam Mop will lift grime without saturating the floor. Use of Floor Care is often enough to keep the floors looking great.
- o Work surfaces, tables and Bench tops should be cleaned in the same fashion, using the Floor care as the cleaner, spray the area to be cleaned and wipe dry. The application of Object oil will maintain the Waxes properties and maintain the look and feel of the surface. Treatex exhibits 99.9% antibacterial properties, negating the need to use aggressive detergents.
- o Wood floors are very sensitive to their surrounding climate. Seasonal cracking is a common occurrence. They expand in humid conditions and contract when the air becomes dry, usually due to heating. Using a humidifier or dehumidifier in conjunction with heating/cooling system is recommended, to maintain a constant 30-50% humidity level. This will minimise shrinkage and cracking.
- o Never place plants directly on a wood floor even if they are in a waterproof saucer. If there is no alternative always use trivets or short stands under the pot and saucer so that air can circulate underneath. This will prevent condensation on the saucer from damaging a wood

floor. It will also be easier to see if the plant is over watered or if water has spilled onto the floor.

o Many people are shocked when a rug is moved and there is an outline of the rug on the floor. Luckily there is no need to panic. If you remove the rug completely, the colour will blend eventually but it will take a while. So be patient! This is called oxidation and happens because UV light hits one part of the uncovered floor and does not reach the area of floor underneath the rug.

o A deep scratch or gouge is not always easy to repair. We recommend consulting a professional when the damage exposes the bare wood.