

## Care & Maintenance

With today's advances in flooring stains and finishes, cleaning wood has never been easier. There are other steps you can take to minimize maintenance and maintain the beauty of your WSPC floors. Regular maintenance requires little more than sweeping with a soft bristle broom if your floor includes a beveled edge that could collect debris.

- Clean your floors periodically with a professional wood floor cleanser, recommended is a prefinished hardwood cleaner, such as Bona®.
  - For moderately soiled areas, use a mild solution of isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol and distilled water. Dilute the mixture by mixing one-part alcohol and 2 parts distilled water. For tougher spots, use a higher concentration of isopropyl alcohol and distilled water.
- Avoid using any cleaning agents containing wax, oil or polish. Left over residue will form a dull film.
- Always spot test in an inconspicuous area.
- Do not use any vinyl care floor cleaning products on wood floors.
- Do not use vinegar as a cleaning solution; its acidic properties will harm the finish.
- Use throw rugs both inside and outside doorways to help prevent grit, dirt and other debris from being tracked onto your floor. For wood flooring in the kitchen, place an area rug in front of the kitchen sink.
- Do not wet-mop the floor. Standing water can dull the finish, damage the floor and leave a discoloring residue. Robot mops are not recommended.
- Do not use a steam mop of any kind. Damages associated with steam mop use will void warranty coverage.
- Wipe up spills immediately.
  - WSPC is formatted to withstand topical spills for up to 72 hours without harm. Be sure to regularly maintain your floor for optimum appearance.
  - Caustic or abrasive products may cause harm to the finish and are will not be covered under the products warranty coverage.
- Do not wax your floor unless it was originally wax finished
- Protect your floor with floor protectors that are at least 1" in diameter made of non-staining felt, such as Safeglide® from Glitsa® under the legs of furniture to help prevent scuffing and scratching; Larger pads may be required on bigger objects.
- Avoid walking on your wood floors with cleats, sports shoes and high heels.
  - A 125-pound woman walking in high heels has an impact of 2,000 pounds per square inch. An exposed heel nail can exert up to 8,000 pounds per square inch. This kind of impact can dent any floor surface.
- When moving heavy furniture, do not slide it on the flooring. It is best to pick up the furniture completely to protect the floor from damage.
- Use a humidifier throughout the winter months (or dehumidifier in the summer months) to keep the floor's movement and shrinkage to a minimum.

### Floor Repairs

- Very light and small surface scratches can be repaired with a staining "touch up" pen of the appropriate color.
- Slightly deeper scratches can be repaired by means of colored putty, and/or stains. Fill the scratches with the putty, level with putty knife and use terry cloth towel to wipe off excess.
- Very deep scratches may require the replacement of planks.

## **PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE:**

- Protect your floor when using a dolly for moving furniture or appliances. Protective sheets and/or plywood may be needed. Never slide or roll heavy furniture or appliances across the floor.
- Place protective pads beneath furniture legs and other heavy objects.
- Do not use rubber backed rugs. Any rug would require the use of a rug gripper or rug pad underneath.
- Minimize abrasive material and dirt by placing mats on both sides of exterior doors and by using area rugs in high-traffic areas.
- Rearrange furniture and rugs periodically to avoid uneven color and shade changes from light exposure.
- Avoid exposure to extreme sunlight. Close curtain or blinds during such times.
- Use protective mats beneath rolling chairs.
- Keep furniture casters clean.
- Use soft non-rubber wheels for office chairs.
- Keep pets' nails trimmed.
- Remove shoes with cleats, spikes or exceptionally pointy heels before walking on the floor.