

#### **DAILY MAINTENANCE:**

1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum your floor regularly to remove any particles that could cause abrasion or scratch your floor. CAUTION: Vacuums with a beater bar or power rotary brush head can damage a floor and should never be used.
2. Use a damp mop to remove spots and soil. Apply appropriate cleaning solution to the cleaning cloth / mop. Do NOT apply directly to the floor. Robot mops are not recommended.
3. For lightly soiled area, clean with distilled water.
4. For moderately soiled areas, use a mild solution of isopropyl 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. Rinse thoroughly and soak up residual water completely. CAUTION: Floor will be slippery when wet.

*HINT: For best results, clean the floor in the same direction of the planks. When the cleaning cloth/mop becomes soiled, rinse or replace it with a clean one. Following up with a clean, dry cloth will remove residual streak marks and spots.*

5. Avoid using any cleaning agents containing wax, oil or polish. Left over residue will form a dull film.
6. Do not use any wood care floor cleaning products on vinyl floors. Self-polishing acrylic waxes can cause the surface to become slippery and appear dull quickly.
7. Do not use vinegar as a cleaning solution, its acidic properties will harm the finish.
8. Use throw rugs both inside and outside doorways to help prevent grit, dirt and other debris from being tracked onto your floor. This will help prevent scratching
9. Do not wet-mop the floor. Standing water can dull the finish, damage the floor and leave a discoloring residue.
10. Do not use a steam mop of any kind. Damages associated with steam mop use will void warranty coverage.
11. Wipe up spills immediately.
12. Do not wax your floor.
13. 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.
14. Avoid walking on your vinyl 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.*

15. 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.
16. For vinyl flooring in the kitchen, place an area rug in front of the kitchen sink.
17. Use a humidifier throughout the winter months (or dehumidifier in the summer months) to keep the floors movement and shrinkage to a minimum

#### **BRANDED OFF-THE-SHELF FLOOR CARE PRODUCT:**

- Clean your floors periodically with a professional P/H Neutral vinyl floor cleanser, such as Bona®.
  - If you choose to use a store-bought product, test the product in a non-conspicuous area (i.e., closet, corner, or scrap pieces) for potential adverse side effects. Always read the instructions ensuring it is formulated for vinyl covering that you purchased.

#### **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.

### **CLIMATE MAINTENANCE:**

- Care should be taken to control temperature. Extreme temperature changes may result in unacceptable thermal expansion or contraction. Temperature range is 60°F-80°F and relative humidity (RH) of 35%-55%.
- Avoid direct exposure to sunlight. It will cause the floor to expand and resulting in irreversible edge peaking.
- Exposure to cold air can cause it to contract resulting in gaps between the planks.
- Use shades or blinds to reduce heat due to sunlight. Deflect hot air from heat register or fire place.
- Do not expose to the core to alkaline or basic or alkaline liquids, like caustic solution. It will affect the rigid core.

### **FLOOR REPAIR:**

- 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. Wipe off excess putty.
- Very deep scratches may require the replacement of the planks.