

# TIMELESS WOOD FLOORS

## **HARDWOOD FLOOR MAINTENANCE**

Your engineered hardwood floor is very easily maintained. Use a quality wood floor cleaner such as Bona and a specialty cloth flooring mop available from flooring retailers.

**NOTE:** If your floor has an oil finish, check with your dealer or installer for appropriate maintenance products and procedures.

**STEP ONE:** Vacuum or sweep your floor to remove any particles that could scratch your floor.

**Warning:** Vacuums with a beater bar or power rotary brush head can damage a wood floor and never should be used.

Failure to vacuum or sweep your floor before using the dampened cloth to clean can result in “creating mud” on your floor which then can get trapped in the texture of your floor.

**STEP TWO:** Apply the cleaner directly to the cloth flooring mop. Do not spray the cleaner

directly on the floor to avoid the wood absorbing the moisture.

Spraying cleaner directly on the floor can also result in the cleaner drying on the floor and leaving a “milky haze” due to dried cleaner solids on top of the finish. If a haze appears on your floor after a while due to dried solids on the finish, you should clean your floor with reverse-osmosis or distilled water instead of a wood floor cleaner for your regular cleaning until the haze is gone.

Reverse osmosis and distilled water have no dissolved solids (like calcium) that tap water can contain. These types of water should re-dissolve the solids dried on the floor, so the cloth can pick them up.

**STEP THREE:** Use a back and forth motion with the mop. When the cloth cover becomes soiled, simply replace it with a clean one. Cleaning the floor with a soiled cover could cause streaking. The covers are re-usable so simply throw the cover in the wash and dry it as you would any

towel. Avoid using fabric softener as the absorbency will be reduced.

**STEAM MOP WARNING:** Although promoted by Steam Mop manufacturers as being safe for use on wood floors this is NOT THE CASE.

Use of a steam mop can introduce excess moisture and heat into your wood floor. This can cause permanent damage. **USE OF A STEAM MOP WILL VOID YOUR WARRANTY.**

### **PROTECTION**

Water, dust, sand and salt are the worst enemies of wood. The combined effect of water and sand, salt or dust is devastating to flooring, so, it is important to place floor mats at entrances.

Install felt pads to the legs of furniture and chairs to avoid scratching flooring when objects are moved.

If using mats on your wood floor do not use rubber-backed mats as it will trap moisture and damage your floor. Use a breathable mat and honeycomb type of non-slip mat underneath so air can circulate through the mat to the floor.

### **LIQUIDS AND SPILLS**

Never use a damp mop or wet cloth to clean your hardwood floors. Water can seriously damage any kind of wood. All liquids and spills should be wiped off as soon as possible to prevent any possible damage.

### **SUNLIGHT**

Normal exposure to sunlight will cause colour changes in any hardwood floor. Area rugs, which block out light, should therefore be shifted regularly. The use of window coverings to shade the floor will minimize changes due to sunlight.

### **CARE PRODUCTS**

For best results, we recommend the use of specially formulated wood flooring cleaners and maintenance products such as Bona products.

Note: Never use wax or household detergents on any engineered hardwood floor.

Do not use oil-based soap on a urethane finished floors.

These products may damage the finish and/or may leave a greasy film making the floor slippery and difficult to maintain afterwards.