



Keep your hardwood floor looking like new
HARDWOOD CARE GUIDE

Use our tips to keep your floors looking good for decades to come.

Hardwood flooring never goes out of style. Your hardwood floor is an investment that will increase in value and last for decades - if taken care of properly. Knowing how to handle everyday cleaning and how to care for spills or scratches will help make sure your hardwood floor looks just as beautiful 50 years from now as it does today.



Never wet-mop a wood floor.

If there's one rule when it comes to caring for your hardwood floor it is: **keep water off the floor**. Avoid using mops or cloths that leave excessive water on the floor. Never let a spill of water dry on the floor. Never pour water directly onto the floor. Never use vinyl or tile cleaning products on wood floors.



Sweep or dust mop daily.

A quick swipe with a broom or dust mop removes dirt and debris that can scratch your floor. Kermans offers microfiber dusting mops for this purpose.



Do NOT use cleaning products (*Murphy's Oil Soap, Old English, wax, conditioner, etc.*)

When you clean your floor, use water and cleaning products sparingly to increase the longevity and sheen of your final finish coat.



Place floor mats or area rugs at each entryway.

Small rugs help collect dirt and grit that might be tracked in. These tiny particles act like sandpaper and will scratch your floor. Be sure to avoid using rubber-backed or non-ventilated mats or rugs as they can damage your floor. Instead use mats or rugs made especially for hardwood floors and remember to shake them out regularly.



Use a humidifier.

Hardwood will expand or contract with changes in humidity. Especially during the winter months, a humidifier can keep wood movement and shrinkage to a minimum. Solid hardwood flooring is not recommended for use in basements, bathrooms or other high humidity areas.

Commonly asked questions about hardwood flooring

Will my hardwood floor yellow or change color over time?

It's natural for hardwood flooring to yellow, darken or lighten over time, depending on the wood species, finish and sunlight exposure.

How should I handle spills on my hardwood flooring?

When it comes to a spill on any floor, the most important thing to do is act quickly. You don't want a spill to soak into the wood because then it can cause a stain that you cannot remove without serious repair work. Keep clean towels easily accessible in rooms with a hardwood floor so you can soak up a spill quickly and easily.

How can I prevent and/or repair scratches and scuffs?

Hardwood floors are susceptible to scratches and scuffs. Here are a few tips for taking care of these small problems before they become big issues:

- ✓ A hardwood floor cleaner is useful in removing occasional scuffs or heel marks. Spray some cleaner on a cloth and lightly rub the stained area.
- ✓ Sticky spots can be cleaned with a damp towel or sponge.
- ✓ If you have pets, keep their nails trimmed, they can and will scratch a wood floor.
- ✓ Ask people to remove their shoes at the door to eliminate the scuffs, scratches and dents from hard heels and dirt or debris.

