



CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

Cleaning

- The best method for cleaning your From The Forest hardwood floor is with a damp mop and water as the cleaning agent. It is important to make certain the moisture content is limited to an amount that will evaporate almost immediately. Standing water and hardwood floors don't mix!
- Floor steamers should not be used. Never wet mop hardwood flooring, as excessive water can seep between the planks and damage the floor. It is important to clean up standing water as soon as possible. Do not allow soiled mats or rugs to stay on the floor as they can trap moisture on the surface.
- See your flooring retailer for advice on wood floor cleaners. Never use oil soaps, liquid or paste wax, or other cleaners that contain ammonia and/or other harsh detergents. Avoid the use of steel wool on stubborn stains and grime. Steel wool damages the surface of the wood.

NOTICE: Do not use 2-in-1 clean/shine restoration products that contain acrylic or urethane polish. Buildup of these products will make the finish cloudy. If you have used improper cleaning products and there is now a cloudy build up on the finish, it is recommended to use full strength acetone. Apply acetone using rubber gloves and a lint-free cloth to remove the build up. When removing the build up, make sure you are in a well ventilated room.

Maintenance

- Sweep, vacuum, or dry mop the floor often. Shake out the broom or dry mop before and after cleaning to remove debris that is embedded in the bristles/loops. Make sure the beater bar is turned off on the vacuum, and the height is set to the lowest setting. Accumulation of dirt, sand, and grit on the surface of your floor act like sandpaper and abrade the finish. The cleaner the floor stays, the less abrasions to the floor. Walk off mats should be placed inside and out at all exterior exits, and the floor should be swept or vacuumed frequently.
- All mats or rugs should be cleaned and/or replaced on a regular basis. They should also be moved occasionally to allow natural color changes caused by light to occur evenly in all areas. Never use latex or rubber backed mats or rugs; they will permanently stain the floor.
- Wipe up spills promptly, and make sure the floor is dry when finished. As mentioned previously, standing liquids and hardwood floors don't mix!
- There is no such thing as a "scratch proof" hardwood floor, but following these basic procedures will reduce the likelihood and frequency of scratches:
 - Do not drag or roll furniture or other heavy objects across the floor. Rollers from refrigerators, TVs, stereos, etc. will dent the floor. To prevent the denting first lay ½" plywood on the floor and roll the appliance or heavy furniture on the plywood.
 - Place protective mats under chairs with wheels.
 - Felt padding should be permanently affixed to the legs of all furniture before it is moved into the space.
 - Do not allow people to wear spiked heels or athletic cleats on the floor, which will damage even the hardest wood floors and finishes.
 - Pet claws should be properly trimmed at all times.
 - Work boots and shoes that may have pebbles lodged in the soles should be removed prior to entering.