

## Maintenance of Hardwood Floors

It is important for the customer to know that their hardwood floors are not fully resistant to a number of different factors including; spills, dirt, water, and pet problems. Preventative as well as routine maintenance is necessary. Throw rugs, floor protectors, and the right floor cleaner are key components to the proper care of your hardwood flooring.

### **Preventative Maintenance:**

√ Floor protector pads should be used on the bottom of all furniture legs, such as chairs, tables and couches.

√ Throw rugs should be placed at all entries to the room. This helps to catch dirt and outdoor moisture that can damage the finish of your hardwood floor. (Be careful of using non-slip pads under rugs. They have the possibility of leaving imprints of their pattern in the finish and sometimes the wood itself.) Rugs should not go down on the floor anywhere for 1 week after the finishing process is complete. This is to make sure that the finish has had sufficient time to cure. They should also be shaken out and cleaned when necessary.

### **Routine Maintenance:**

√ Sweeping, vacuuming, and dust mopping are some of the basic ways to routinely clean you hardwood floor. The best results are achieved when a cleaning schedule is developed and remains consistent. When dirt and grit is allowed to accumulate, it ends up getting tracked around the room leaving scratches in the finish.

√ Spills and pet accidents should be wiped up immediately and then cleaned with the recommended cleaning product.

√ **DO NOT USE** wet mops ammonia, wax finish or household dust cleaners (such as Pledge, etc.) on you hardwood floors. Wet mops involve too much moisture, which in turn has the possibility of being absorbed by the wood itself therefore creating expansion problems in the floor. The chemicals in these other cleaners can either degredate the finish of you r floor or create a contaminating residue that is hard to remove.

√ **DO USE** Manufacturer recommended products. The product that we recommend is a BonaKemi product. Bona® Swedish Formula® Hardwood Floor Cleaner can be purchased through our store in single bottles or cleaning kits. This cleaner is formulated to be used on polyurethane-finished floors (clear un-waxed finished), oil-based or water-based poly. Using a non-recommended product to clean you floors can destroy the luster of you finish and create the problems listed above.

√ After time, a floor may loose it lustrous appearance. When this happens, depending upon the severity, your floor may need a new topcoat or may possibly have to be screened and re-finished.

The above information has been obtained through experience and through use of National Wood Flooring Association (NWFA) technical publications. If any problems occur with you hardwood floors, such as cupping, crowning, etc., it is best to contact your flooring installer. If you have any questions that cannot be answered by this person, please contact us. We will be happy to help you in any way we can!

Thank you! Tallon Lumber, Inc.