

Floor Care and Maintenance Guide for Oil Finished Floors

The following recommendations are for oil finished floors. Oiled floors are meant to be periodically re-coated, and if properly maintained will last forever. Oiled floors never have to be sanded, and are very resistant to liquid spills.

PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

Sand and dirt can be abrasive to wood floors; one should place protective mats by doorways to keep dirt and moisture from being tracked across your floor. Area rugs are recommended in front of sinks in kitchens. The rugs should be slip-resistant with a nonabrasive and non-discoloring backer. Install floor protectors ([felt pads](#)) under all furniture and chair legs in order to ease their movements and to prevent scratches. Clean up spills as soon as possible, before they get sticky or dry.

Maintain proper humidity conditions (35 – 70%) in your home throughout the year. This may require the use of a humidifier or dehumidifier; depending on conditions. Avoid extreme changes in humidity from season to season. Hardwood is a living material that reacts to changes of relative humidity. In summer, when humidity is at its highest, it is absorbed by the wood, which then expands. In winter, on the other hand, when relative humidity level in the house is much lower, the wood releases its humidity and contracts or shrinks.

Protect the floor against direct sunlight or any intense source of artificial lightings. Over time, intense light will discolor exposed surfaces. This phenomenon with wood surfaces is normal and natural. The lighter the color of the natural wood, the more apparent this phenomenon will be.

Cleaning your Oil finished floor does not have to be a mystery. Avoid solvents, and anything that will “dry out” the wood. Like Windex, or cleaners for urethane finished floors. These often contain solvents that allow for the cleaner to evaporate quickly after application. Avoid these on your Oil finished floor.

RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS

We recommend Woca and Bona brand cleaners and maintenance products. Rubio Monocoat makes safe and effective products as well. When using any of these products to maintain your floor, [Read the instructions on the bottle](#), and test in an inconspicuous area to make sure it provides the results you're looking for.

For everyday cleaning: [Bona Natural Oil Floor Cleaner Kit](#)

Refills: [3 PACK Bona® Professional Series Natural Oil Floor Cleaner - 32oz Spray Bottle](#)

For Spot/Stain removal. Fats and other heavy oils can stain your floor to remove stains use: [Woca Spot Remover](#)

For more in depth cleaning (monthly or quarterly): [Woca Natural Soap 1 Liter \(Natural\)](#)

For Annual or Bi-annual Refreshing (frequency will depend on traffic):

- [Woca Wood Cleaner 1 Liter](#), (this is a pre-oil cleaner to be used prior to refresher oil)
- [Woca Oil Refresher 1 Ltr \(Natural\)](#), For Barley, Natural R&Q or Vintage
- [Woca Oil Refresher 1 Liter \(White\)](#) For Frost

SPOT REPAIR OR TOUCHUP

One of the great features of oil finished flooring is its ability to be spot repaired. Should the floor be scratched deeply the area can be spot sanded and re-oiled to match. Blending in to the rest of the floor. This is generally not possible on a urethane finished floor.

Matching touch-up Oil for Root: [Rubio Monocoat Silver Grey tinted oil](#)

For Straw and Natural R&Q use: [Rubio Monocoat Pure tinted oil](#)

For Ginger use: [Rubio Monocoat Super White tinted oil](#)

These are only for small spot repairs, Not for refinishing, or large areas. If you have an area larger than a tea cup saucer to touch-up, contact a professional with experience with oil finish flooring.

We hope you enjoy your Oiled Domestic floor for many years to come.