

## Floor Care

Plantation Hardwood Floors® authentic hardwood floors benefit from periodic maintenance to maintain beauty and functionality. The following guidelines pertain to polyurethane, oil, and conversion varnish finished floors.

**DO** maintain humidity control. Wood floors expand and contract with changes in relative humidity, potentially creating minor gaps between boards in low humidity, or movement in high humidity. This effect is minimized with humidity control. Wood floors perform best when relative humidity remains in a "human comfort zone" of 35%-65% relative humidity. Failure to maintain this humidity range can void the Plantation warranty.

**DO** consider placing natural fiber mats at entry points to help trap excess grit and absorb excess moisture that may affect the finish. Avoid mats with rubber bottoms that may leave marks on the floor.

**DO** sweep and vacuum frequently to reduce abrasive dirt and dust. Vacuuming should be performed with a "hard surface" setting to prevent potential finish scratching.

**DO NOT** flood with water. Flooding can introduce excess moisture on and beneath the floors, inducing adverse wood movement. Flooding voids the Plantation warranty.

**DO** wipe liquid spills promptly, especially near sinks, dishwashers, stove tops, and dining areas.

**DO** use cleaning products designed specifically for hardwood floors. Do not use household cleaners and polishes designed for other functions, such as polishing furniture. These other products may damage the Plantation finish, or make the floor more difficult to clean. For best cleaning results:

- on Plantation polyurethane finishes, use "Bona Hardwood Floor Cleaner". Follow label directions.
- on Plantation oil finishes, use "Monocoat Natural Soap" or "WOCA Soap." Follow label directions.
- on the Plantation <u>CV</u> finishes, use a <u>slightly</u> damp mop. For stains and grime, use mild dish detergent diluted in water.

**DO** establish a "refreshing" maintenance program at recommended intervals for Plantation oil finishes. "Monocoat Universal Maintenance Oil" or "WOCA Maintenance Oil or Paste" is recommended. Follow label directions.

**DO** add felt pads to furniture and chair legs to prevent scratching of the floor finish. For extremely heavy objects, use wide, non-staining rubber cups. For moving furniture and fixtures, use sliding mats to prevent damage.

**DO** recognize that high heeled shoes contain a metal nail, which when exposed may cause scratching damage to any flooring.

**DO** keep pet nails trimmed to limit potential scratching damage.

**DO** protect your floor against prolonged direct sunlight or any intense source of artificial lighting. Over time, intense natural and artificial light will naturally darken or lighten the color of hardwood floors. Adjust window coverings to block periods of extreme and intense daylight.