

# ENGINEERED WOOD, VINYL, AND XDF (MINERAL FIBER BOARD)

# **CARE AND MAINTENANCE**

#### **Care And Maintenace**

Keep in mind, like any floor covering, hardwood floors, vinyl floors, and XDF floors will show signs of wear over time. By observing a few precautions and setting up a regular cleaning routine/maintenance program, you can expect years of beauty from your floor. The following are examples of the simple and necessary maintenance you should perform to help keep your floors looking great.

- Dirt, grit and sand act like sandpaper to scratch, dent and dull your floors. You should place floor mats at exterior entrances to trap dirt.
  - Avoid walking on floor as much as possible with high heels or spiked shoes.
- Sweep, vacuum and/or dust mop on a weekly or biweekly basis since built-up grit can damage the surface of the floor. The vacuum head should be a soft brush or felt type to avoid scratching. Be certain the wheels of the vacuum are clean and that they roll softly so that they do not damage the surface of the floor. Do not use a vacuum with a beater bar head.
- Use area rugs in high traffic areas and pivot points (e.g., stair landings, room entries, near kitchen sinks and stoves, etc.), especially if you have a large family and/or indoor pets.
- Rubber backed rugs are not recommended as discoloration may occur due to plastics migrating out of some rug backings. Instead, rubber liners/pads that are made especially for rugs overhardwood floors are recommended. These liners also have holes in them for the wood to breatheand can be found at your local home improvement and select flooring stores.
- Remove all spills promptly using a soft cloth and recommended cleaning products. Any spills with acidic properties like pet urine, soda, etc. should especially be cleaned as soon as possible. Long periods of time uncleaned will likely damage your floor.
- NEVER drench-mop, wet-mop, or flood your floor with water or other products (vinyl and XDF are exempted). This can severely damage harwdood flooring and will void the warranties. The use of a
- Swiffer® or other similar product that is lightly damped is highly recommended. Do not use floor cleaning machines. Be sure to use a cleaning solution specific to your flooring finish e.g. laquer, oil, etc. For vinyl or XDF, use the same cleaning methods, tools, and cleaning solutions as lacquer finished hardwood.
- Use approved maintenance and floor-care products from companies such as, but not limited to,
- Woca and Bona for your oil or lacquer finished floors (contact your local retailer or ADM Flooring® at (888) 729-6781 / info@ADMFlooring.com to discuss which product best suits your needs).
  - Keep pets' nails trimmed, and paws clean and free of dirt, gravel, grease, oil, and stains, etc.
  - Place protective pads beneath furniture legs and feet to reduce scratches and dents.
- Use a dolly and protective sheets of plywood on top of a felt pad when moving heavy objects furniture or appliances.
- • Make sure certain furniture casters are clean and operate properly (a minimum 1" width is recommended for heavy objects).
- Exposure to the sun and its UV rays accelerates the oxidation (for hardwood) and aging of floors. This causes the surface to fade and change color. We recommend closing curtains and blinds or adding sheer drapes to protect the floor from intense and direct sunlight. Rearrange rugs and furniture periodically so that the floor ages evenly. THE WARRANTY DOES NOT COVER DAMAGE FROM THE SUN AND ITS UV RAYS.

### Don'ts

- Use oil based soaps on lacquered finished floors, vinyl, or XDF.
- Drag sharp wooden legs or metal furniture legs as it can scratch/dent floors.

- Expose to direct sunlight for extended period of time as it may dry/fade the flooring.
- Use steam cleaners. They are not recommended for use on natural wood flooring (vinyl and XDF are exempt).
- Place porous flower pots or vases on the floor.
- Use steel wool or scourers.
- Move heavy furniture without protecting the flooring by slipping a piece of cloth or pile under the legs or bottom of items.
- Ever wet-mop a wood floor. Standing water can dull a finish, damage the integrity of the wood and leave a discoloring residue.

#### **Important**

- Do NOT wash or scrub the flooring for at least 5 days after the installation. This will allow the planks to become "seated" in the adhesive (if glued down) and prevent excess moisture and cleaning agents from interfering with the adhesive bond.
- Do not use oil soaps, liquid or paste wax products or other household cleaners that contain lemon oil, tung oil, silicon or ammonia since the warranty will not cover damage caused by nonrecommended products. Use of these and other such products will harm the long-term performance of your floor and may also affect its recoat ability (for hardwood).
- For Oiled Floors: Clean directly after installation using woca natural soap or relative product. Allow a 24-hour drying period. Refresh your oil finish using woca's oil refreshing soap or maintenance oil directly after installation and every 3 months.
- For Lacquered Floors, Vinyl, or XDF: Clean directly after installation using woca vinyl and lacquer soap or relative product. Allow a 1-2 hour drying period.

#### **Seasonal Gaps:**

• Seasonal gapping can be expected, especially on wider planks. This is normal and not a defect. Throughout its life, flooring will naturally expand and contract in response to the wet & dry seasons and also from the environmental conditions in the home. To keep these dimensional changes to a minimum, maintain the home temperature at 60° to 80° F & relative humidity within the range of 30%-50%.

## **Surface Checks (for hardwood)**

During the winter months of low humidity, minor surface cracks (checks) may appear in wood flooring, then often close up again in the summer months when the humidity is higher. This is a normal characteristic of natural wood and not a basis of a complaint against ADM Flooring®, especially if there is no structural failure.

By following these simple guidelines, you can enjoy your new ADM Flooring® for years to come and minimize the need for repair and refinishing.