

PENTARCH FORESTRY



TIMBER FLOORING

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

APRIL 2022

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A hardwood timber floor represents a long-term investment and with regular cleaning and maintenance, a timber floor can look beautiful for a lifetime. Timber floors are easy to clean and maintain by following a few easy guidelines.

GENERAL PRECAUTIONS AND MAINTENANCE TIPS

- Dirt and grit can lead to excess wear and scratching of a hardwood timber floor. Use dirt trapping mats at all exterior doors to minimise dirt, sand and grit that might be brought inside. Small rugs and hall runners are also helpful for collecting dirt that can scratch a hardwood timber floor. Regularly sweep high traffic areas with a soft bristle broom or electrostatic mop.
- Fit protective pads to furniture legs to reduce risk of scuffing the floor when moved. To protect the floor surface use protective mats for furniture with castors. Barrel castors are less likely to damage a floor than ball castors.
- In areas where extreme temperature changes or moisture variation are common, gaps or cupping may appear in the floor. Maintain an ambient temperature to avoid dryness that may cause gaps, or moisture increases that may cause cupping.
- All hardwood timber floors will fade, darken or change shade over time. Exposure to sunlight will increase this process. Rotate rugs periodically and protect the floor from direct sunlight with curtains or blinds.
- High heel shoes can dent a hard floor surface. Remove shoes that have exposed heels with sharp points to avoid potential damage to a hardwood timber floor.
- Pets with long nails or claws can scratch and dull the floor finish, make sure pets nails or claws are trimmed regularly and kept blunt.
- One of the benefits of a hardwood timber floor is that it can be refinished if it becomes excessively scratched or dented. Pentarch Forestry recommends the use of a qualified flooring professional proficient in sanding and finishing to complete this work.

CLEANING TIPS

- A hardwood timber floor will look better for longer if it is kept as clean as possible. To remove surface dirt and grit, regularly vacuum, with a soft bristle head or an electrostatic attachment, or sweep with an electrostatic mop. Keep door mats clean.
- For stubborn dirt, damp-mop the floor using a well rung mop. The use of a pH neutral floor cleaner can help remove stubborn dirt (use as per manufacturer's instructions).
- Never clean a floor with common household detergents, polishes, steel wool pads, wax or similar products. These products can be too abrasive and scratch the surface, or may make a floor dangerously slippery. Some products may leave a film of silicon or wax on the timber which may hamper recoating of your floor in the future. Never use Methylated Spirits or Kerosene, as any type of petroleum distillate will degrade the coating and irreversibly dull the floor. Only use a pH neutral floor cleaner as per manufacturer's instructions.
- Use only quality lint free floor mops and thoroughly wash new mops to remove any lint.
- Wipe up spills and leaks promptly with a dry cloth or dry paper towel. For sticky substances, moisten the cloth slightly.
- Pentarch Forestry uses sophisticated processing technology for all kiln dried timber and rigorous floor placement procedures to control the moisture content. Over wetting a floor when mopping or cleaning can change the moisture balance and cause a floor to expand, with some resulting in cupping. For this reason, it is important to ensure that mops and cloths are well wrung so that as little water solution as possible wets the floor.
- Steam mops are not recommended for cleaning timber floors. Steam (moisture) is forced into the joints of the timber and any small, breaks or cracks on the timber floor surface which could result in unusual reactions in the timber such as cupping. The heat from the steam mop could also cause damage to the coating on the floor.



Promoting sustainable forest management



For full installation, care and maintenance or warranty information, please contact Pentarch Forestry on 1800 818 317 or visit www.pentarch.com.au/timberproducts.html

Note: Variations within a timber species are normal, therefore photographs, samples and displays can only be indicative of colour and should not be used for final selection. It is normal for natural timber products to react to changes in atmospheric and environmental conditions such as humidity and temperature.

www.pentarch.com.au/timberproducts.html

National free call 1800 818 317

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