

# Antique WOOD PRODUCTS

of Lafayette, LLC

- If you use furniture with casters (i.e., dining chairs, etc.) be certain that the casters are clean and operate properly. Use casters that are a minimum 1" in width.
- Remove shoes with spiked (stiletto) or damaged heels before walking on floor. A spiked heel less than ½" x ½" can exert as much as 2,000 lbs. of pressure (enough to crack concrete) and can scratch or otherwise damage the flooring and finish.
- Beware of the exposure to the sun and its UV rays. The sun and its UV rays can accelerate the oxidation and aging of wood as well as fabrics. This causes the stain and/or wood to fade and/or to change color over time. We recommend that you rearrange rugs and furniture periodically so the floor ages evenly. If you do not rearrange rugs and furniture periodically, you may notice a dramatic color variation when they are removed. This is NOT a defect. **NOTE:** The warranties do not cover damage or color change caused by the sun and its UV rays.
- Maintain proper and consistent humidity conditions in your home throughout the year (Ideal conditions range from 40% to 60% humidity.) This may require the use of a humidifier in dry or arid climates or a dehumidifier in high humidity regions. Especially, avoid extreme humidity changes from season to season.

**NOTE:** Failure to fully follow the pre-installation, installation and post-installation procedures found in the Antique Wood Products installation instructions can void your warranties and also lead to damage, poor performance and a reduced life span of your wood flooring.

## *Floor Care and Maintenance Guide*

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## **CARE AND MAINTENANCE of YOUR FINE WOOD FLOOR**

### **Take Care to Protect Your Floor From Improper Installation, Neglect or Abuse That Can Damage Your Floor and Invalidate Your Warranty**

Your new **Antique Wood Products** wood floor is manufactured for maximum durability and easy maintenance. It is finished with a high quality UV-cured oil finish that protects the wood and helps keep the flooring looking beautiful. While highly durable, this finish is NOT indestructible. However, by observing a few precautions and setting up a regular cleaning routine and simple maintenance program to protect the finish, you can expect years of performance and beauty from your wood floor.

Like any floor covering, our real wood floors can show signs of wear over time. There are many factors that can affect the amount of wear that will occur. These include the size and lifestyle of your family and product location. The following are examples of the reasonable and necessary maintenance you are expected to perform. Be aware that this is not intended to be an all inclusive list.

- Immediately after installation, be certain that the flooring is completely cleaned as described below. If you must protect the flooring from traffic use only a brown "kraft" type paper that will allow the flooring to "breathe" and tape it to the baseboards. **NEVER** lay plastic of any kind or any other non-porous material over the flooring as this can trap moisture and damage the flooring and finish.
- Sweep or vacuum regularly, since built-up dirt, grit and sand can damage the surface of the wood. If using a vacuum, the head **MUST** be a brush or felt type. **DO NOT USE A VACUUM WITH A BEATER BAR HEAD.** Be certain the wheels of the vacuum are clean and do not damage the finish. If using a broom be certain that bristles are soft rather than stiff. You can also use a mop with a dusting head as long as it is clean and dry (when dirty, replace the duct cover). Rolling hand sweepers with stiff bristle rollers are NOT recommended.
- Use of a Swiffer™ by Procter & Gamble, or other similar product, to wipe up small spills and clean the floor is also highly recommended.
- The use of approved maintenance and floor-care products, including but not limited to BonaX Swedish Formula Hardwood Flooring Cleaner and Basic Coating Squeaky Hardwood Floor cleaner, is highly recommended.
- **IMPORTANT: NEVER** use: oil soaps, liquid, or paste wax products or other household cleaners that contain lemon oil, tung oil, silicone, or ammonia. Use of these and other such products will harm the long-term performance and appearance of your floor and may also affect its recoatability (Any damage caused by the use of these non-recommended products is not covered by the warranties). **NOTE:** This also includes the use of vinegar and water solutions. Vinegar is an acidic element that can have an oxidizing effect of the finish and water can damage wood.
- Remove all spills promptly using a soft, slightly damp cloth and recommended cleaning products. If a spill dries on the surface of the flooring use a recommended cleaning product with a soft clean towel to remove it.
- **NEVER, NEVER** wet-mop, damp-mop, swab or flood your floor with water or any other product. This can severely damage the flooring and will void the warranties.
- Place protective mats at entry doors to keep dirt, grit, sand and moisture from being track in from the outside.
- Use area rugs in heavily traveled areas and pivot points (e.g., stair landings, room entries, etc.), especially if you have a large family or indoor pets.
- When using area rugs, use a rug or rug pad with a PVC based backing. **DO NOT** use area rugs with a petroleum based rubber backing (typically black) as this can cause permanent staining of the finish and flooring.
- Keep pet's nails trimmed, and paws clean and free of dirt, gravel, grease, oil, and stains.
- Place protective pads beneath furniture legs and feet to reduce scratches and dents. Check and replace wore pads regularly.
- Use a dolly and protective sheets of plywood when moving heavy objects such as furniture and appliances over the floor.