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CARE & MAINTENANCE

POLISHED TIMBER FLOOR GUIDE

Understanding how to care for your timber floors will keep them looking beautiful for years.

We have just completed a sand and polish of your floors, while the coating applied is very durable, the finish is subject to wear. With a little sensible care and maintenance, your floor will look beautiful for years.

Use of Floor after Coating

- Light foot traffic may be possible after 24 hours drying conditions of 25°C and 50% relative humidity.
- Wait 48 hours from application of the last coat before placing furniture.
- Fit protective pads to furniture legs to reduce risk of marking the floor.
- It is advised that no shoes are worn on the timber floor for the first 72 hours after drying.
- Initially (particularly if walking on the floor with bare feet) you may notice footprints, often attributed to "bloom" from oily timbers. After a few weeks and a number of washes this will gradually stop.

Rugs/ Mats

- Do not place rugs/mats on the floor for at least 2 weeks after the final coat is applied to ensure the finish is completely cured.
- Lay rugs/mats over the clean floor so dirt is not trapped underneath.
- Place rugs/mats at entrances and where possible place a mat on the inside as well as outside.
- Use rugs in high traffic areas.
- Please note that over time the colour of the uncovered section will become slightly darker than the covered section.
- If possible every few months, move the rug or mat a short distance (50 to 150mm) to "blur" the contrast between the lighter and darker sections of the floor.

General Tips

- To avoid fading and discoloring of your timber floor, filter direct light with curtains and blinds.
- Maintain an ambient temperature to avoid dryness that may cause gaps, and moisture increases that may cause cupping.
- High heel shoes can dent a hard floor surface. Special care should be taken to remove shoes that have exposed heels with sharp points to avoid potential damage.

- Pets with long nails or claws can scratch and dull the floor finish, ensure pets nails or claws are trimmed regularly and kept blunt.

General Cleaning

- Dirt and grit can lead to excess wear and scratching of a hardwood timber floor.
- Clean the floor at least once a week to prevent buildup of grit and dirt on the surface.
- Regularly sweep high traffic areas with a soft bristle broom or electrostatic dust mop.
- It is advised not to use vacuum cleaners because often the brushes on the vacuum head wear thin and the metal scratches the floor.

Deep Cleaning

- When dirt and grime buildup, and can't be completely removed by regular dusting or dry-mopping, your floors will need a deeper cleaning.
- Timber floors should be cleaned with as little water as possible.
- Don't use a wet mop or any household floor cleaners, as these can affect the moisture content of the timber and may damage the wood or finish.
- Use a slightly damp mop with a wood cleaning product specifically for floors.
- Follow the instructions on the product label. Damp-mop the floor, but don't let water pool or sit on the floor. Rinse mop dampened in clean water, but only if the cleaning product requires it.
- Steam mops are not recommended for timber floors, as they can force moisture into the joints of the timber.
- Any liquid spills should be wiped up immediately with a soft cloth.