

Installation Recommendations and Warranty

We encourage you to thoroughly review this guide and strictly adhere to the installation instructions provided on our official website, www.cashmerewoods.com. It is of utmost importance to fully understand that the strict compliance with the recommended care and maintenance procedures is critical for upholding the validity of your warranty.

Care and Cleaning:

Your pre-finished Cashmere Woods Ltd. Hardwood Floor has been meticulously designed to facilitate easy cleaning and maintenance. We recommend a routine that includes regular sweeping, dry-mopping, and vacuuming using a soft brush attachment. This practice helps prevent the accumulation of grit and dust on the surface.

Humidity:

Given that wood is a natural fiber, fluctuations in room humidity where your hardwood floor is installed can result in expansion or contraction. It is crucial to maintain humidity within the prescribed range of 35% to 55%. Achieving this balance can be accomplished through the use of appropriate ventilation and humidification systems, and, in certain cases, dehumidification systems. In regions such as Canada, the use of a humidifier is often necessary during the winter months.

Sunlight:

Over time, exposure to sunlight will naturally cause the color of your hardwood floor to mature and evolve, which may alter its appearance. To maintain color uniformity, we recommend periodically repositioning any area rugs that block out light.

Liquids and Spills:

Prompt attention to liquid spills is essential to prevent potential damage. After cleaning, it is important to use a dry paper towel or terrycloth to thoroughly remove any residual liquid. Placing area rugs in vulnerable areas, such as near the kitchen sink or exterior entrances, is advisable. In the event of a spill, be sure to check beneath the mat to ensure that no water is trapped, as moisture contact with the floor should be avoided. Wet mopping is discouraged, as standing water can potentially harm or distort the surface.

Protection:

To ensure the longevity and immaculate condition of your hardwood floor, consider the following protective measures:

1. **Sweeping and Vacuuming:** Regularly sweep and vacuum your hardwood floor with a soft brush attachment, avoiding vacuum cleaners equipped with a beater bar often found in upright models, as they can cause damage.
2. **Entrance Mats and Area Rugs:** Place entrance mats and area rugs in high-traffic areas, especially entrances and doorways. Periodically lift and clean under the edges of rugs to prevent debris accumulation. Regularly shake mats to ensure no debris remains trapped.
3. **Selecting Rug Pads:** When using rug pads, opt for those made of 100% non-solvent based rubber, untreated natural fibers like wool or jute, or 1/4" chopped urethane. Avoid rug pads with sticky or tacky backings, as the plasticizers they contain can harm the finish. Be cautious, as these plasticizers may also be present in certain rug backings. In kitchen areas, use cotton area rugs in spill-prone locations and near workstations. Avoid using rug backers in kitchens.
4. **Furniture Care:** Inspect items in contact with the floor. Place felt pads under furniture legs to protect the floor, cleaning and checking them for wear every six months to minimize the risk of damage. Avoid wearing high heels on the floor to prevent dents and scratches. When moving furniture, refrain from sliding it directly on the floor; use a piece of carpet face down between the furniture legs and the floor while pulling the furniture to avoid damage. For chairs with rollers, install wide rollers and use protective pads large enough to cover the area of use. Regularly clean the area covered by the pad. Examine children's toys, as they may cause dents and scratches, and keep pets' nails trimmed to prevent scratches and water spots.
5. **Choice of Cleaners and Applicators:** Many hardwood flooring cleaners may claim to be suitable for prefinished flooring but can lead to damage or leave a hazy residue on the finish. Test a cleaner on a mirror or glass surface to check for any residual effects.

Issues with Some Cleaners:

- **Ammonia:** Ammonia is too harsh and can cause wood discoloration.
- **Vinegar:** It's acidic and can etch the finish, resulting in a dull appearance.
- **Liquid Polishes:** These products contain a wax-like material that may create shine but leave a contaminating film on the floor's surface.
- **Household Dust Treatments:** Such treatments can leave a slick and waxy residue.

- **Household Cleaners:** The Cleaners with strong detergents may potentially harm the finish and leave a residue or contaminating film on the floor.
- **Steam Cleaners:** Steam cleaners are currently considered one of the most damaging products for cleaning your hardwood flooring. The introduction of heat and steam can lead to floor cracking, and the addition of water can severely harm the finish.
- **Products with Combination Reservoir Spray and Mop:** These products introduce liquid directly to the flooring and may remain in the micro bevel, potentially causing damage if the spray is not finely controlled.

Recommended Cleaning Method:

The most effective and recommended method for cleaning your hardwood floor is a combination of sweeping and vacuuming. This approach helps maintain the floor's pristine condition while preventing the accumulation of dirt and debris.

Microfiber Pad Maintenance:

If you use a microfiber pad for cleaning, rest assured that it is machine washable. However, it's advisable to avoid using bleach, fabric softener, and dryer sheets when washing, as these substances can potentially leave a residue or cause damage to your flooring. The microfiber pad can be washed up to 300 times, ensuring its long-term utility.

For additional questions or guidance regarding the use of specific cleaning products or general care and maintenance procedures for your hardwood floors, do not hesitate to reach out to your local Authorized Cashmere Woods Dealer or visit our official website at www.cashmerewoods.com. We are here to provide the support and information you need to keep your hardwood floor in exceptional condition.