



**HARDWOOD FLOORING**

## **Hardwood Floor Care and Maintenance Guidelines**

# *///Lifestyle*

**Hardwood Collection**

# **ELITE**

**Hardwood Collection**



[ Between us, ideas become reality.™ ]

# Floor Care and Maintenance Guides for Armstrong Hardwood Flooring

## PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE

### Installer Responsibility

**It is only natural that hardwood floors will show signs of wear over time. You can expect years of beauty from your floor by observing a few precautions and maintaining regular cleaning and maintenance routines.**

- Keep dirt, sand, grit and water off the floor by placing outside mats in front of all entrances to your home.
- **Sweep or vacuum regularly to rid the floor of dust and grit that can scratch the finish.**
- Remove shoes with spiked or damaged heels before walking on the floor to prevent scratches and dents.
- **Keep pets' claws trimmed, paws clean and free of dirt or soil.**
- Always apply felt pads under any furniture or chair legs to prevent scratches and to ease movement. Keep pads clean at all times and regularly check and replace as necessary.
- **Protect the floor when moving heavy furniture or large appliances. Place on mat or piece of plywood and slide smoothly over floor.**
- Use non-slip rugs in high wear areas, i.e. in heavily travelled spots and pivot points such as room entries and stair landings.
- **Never flood or wet mop the floor with water or any other liquid products. Severe damage may occur that voids the warranty.**
- Wipe up spills immediately with damp cloth.
- **Exposure to sunlight with its UV rays accelerates oxidation and aging of materials. This may change the colour of the floor. Periodically rearrange the furniture to allow the floor to age evenly.**

## INITIAL CARE

Following installation, clean with Armstrong Hardwood & Laminate Spray Cleaner. If the floor was glued down, remove any residual adhesive with the appropriate adhesive remover.

## ONGOING ROUTINE CARE AND MAINTENANCE

1. Vacuum, sweep or dust mop your floor once a week, or more if needed. The vacuum head must be brush or felt, and a wand attachment is preferable. Do not use vacuums with beater bars or hard heads. An Armstrong hardwood floor swivel-head mop with terry cloth cover is also highly recommended to eliminate finer particles of grit and dirt that can act like sandpaper on hardwood floors.
2. Spills and tracked-in dirt should be wiped up immediately. For spot cleaning, apply Hardwood Spray Cleaner onto a clean cloth and rub into the spot. Never apply wax treatments to your urethane-coated floor.
3. Periodically, as necessary, thoroughly clean the floor with Hardwood Spray Cleaner using an Armstrong hardwood floor swivel-head mop with terry cloth cover. Spray the floor cleaner directly onto the floor or dampen the swivel-head mop and apply. DO NOT allow excess Hardwood Spray Cleaner to remain on the floor's surface. Excess liquid may damage the fibre of the wood.
4. Use interior and exterior doormats at all entrances to collect dirt and moisture and prevent it from being tracked onto the floor.
5. Area rugs are recommended in front of kitchen sinks, at all pivot points and within high traffic areas. Do not use rugs with solid rubber or vinyl backings. The rugs must be made of a breathable material to prevent moisture entrapment.
6. Never clean or wet mop with water, it may permanently damage the floor.
7. Never use any of the following products (or products similar in nature) on your floor: ammonia-based cleaners, acrylic finishes, wax-based products, bleach, polishes, oil soap, abrasive cleaning soaps, or acidic materials such as vinegar. Many of these products pit or etch the finish of your flooring or prevent the proper use of recommended maintenance materials.
8. Keep animal nails trimmed to minimise finish scratches
9. Do not damage your floor with shoes having heel taps or sharp objects protruding from the sole such as rocks, exposed nails and gravel.

10. Avoid walking on wood floors with spike or stiletto heeled shoes. Spike or stiletto high heels must be properly maintained to prevent damage from the steel heel support.
11. Do not roll or slide heavy objects directly upon the floor. When moving appliances or heavy furniture, consider laying a solid protective covering on your floor and gently "walk" the item across it. Carpet or cardboard is not adequate to prevent surface compression scratches.
12. Use furniture leg protector pads under all furniture and make certain to keep them clean and well maintained.
13. Replace hard, narrow furniture rollers with wide rubber rollers.
14. Keep the relative humidity in your home between 35% & 55%.
15. Protect your floor from direct sunlight. Use curtains and UV resistant film on large glass doors and windows. Colour shade variation can occur if the floor is exposed to direct sunlight.

## QUICK FIX TIPS

Spots caused by food, water or animals

- Apply Hardwood Spray Cleaner to a clean soft cloth.
- Rub the area to remove the stain or spot.
- More stubborn spots may require additional cleaning.

Grease/Lipstick/Crayon/Ink Spots/Rubber Heel Marks

- Apply Hardwood Spray Cleaner to a clean soft cloth.
- Rub the area to remove the stain or spot.

Chewing Gum, Candle Wax

- Apply a sealed plastic bag filled with ice on the deposit.
- Wait until deposit becomes brittle enough to crumble off.
- After deposit has been removed, clean entire area with Hardwood Spray Cleaner.

Minor Abrasions/Scratches

- Use Armstrong Touch-Up Kit to make minor repairs.

Chips, broken edges and gaps

- Blend area with appropriate Armstrong touch-up pen or fill stick from Armstrong Touch-Up Kit or the appropriate Armstrong Filler.

Deep Scratches/Gouges

- Individual planks, strips or parquets that are heavily gouged or damaged can be replaced.

## ARMSTRONG FLOOR CARE PRODUCTS

### ARMSTRONG HARDWOOD AND LAMINATE SPRAY CLEANER

A unique cleaner that lifts soil from the surface of the urethane finish without leaving a film. Just apply the cleaner onto a clean cloth for cleaning small areas or spray directly onto the floor and use an Armstrong hardwood floor swivel-head mop with micro-fibre cover for cleaning the entire area.

### ARMSTRONG HARDWOOD AND LAMINATE FLOOR CARE KIT

A quick, easy to use cleaning kit for all urethane finished hardwood floors. Kit includes one bottle of Hardwood Spray Cleaner and one Armstrong hardwood floor swivel-head mop with terry cloth cover, a mega-size mop with swivel handle that makes cleaning quick and easy, even under furniture.

### ARMSTRONG HARDWOOD FLOOR RESTORE FINISH

Is applied on areas of heavy traffic to rejuvenate the floor. The Armstrong restorer can easily be applied for added protection and sheen.

### TOUCH-UP KIT

Used for blending scratches and nicks on urethane finished floors. The kit contains touch-up markers and filler sticks that blend with the factory-finished stains plus complete instructions and materials to easily repair many problems.

### WOOD FILLER

Designed to conveniently fill gaps, small openings and broken edges. Simply apply the material on the area to be repaired and wipe away excess with a damp towel.

### REPLACEMENT MOP COVERS

Micro-fibre covers, elastic fitted for quick and easy replacement on the Armstrong hardwood floor swivel-head mop.