



# Flooring



## FLOORING TIPS AND SUGGESTIONS

CARPET		RESILIENT		HARDWOOD		CERAMIC	
DON'T	REASON	DON'T	REASON	DON'T	REASON	DON'T	REASON
Don't use vinyl or plastic runners with anchor cleats, or carpet scraps without the proper backing, i.e. cloth.	Can cause permanent damage to yarns.	Don't use rubber or latex backed mats.	The wrong backing on a mat or area rug can discolor vinyl flooring.	Don't use wax, polish, oils, or acidic based cleaners if your flooring has a Polyurethane finish.	Using the wrong product or improper use of a recommended product can permanently damage the finish of the flooring, voiding the warranty.	Don't combine ammonia and household bleaches.	May distort grout color, cause yellowing, and cause grout breakdown.
Don't use cleaning solutions not recommended by the manufacturer.	Can "set" stains and/or void the warranty.	Don't roll or slide appliances.	Can create permanent dents, elongated impressions, or tears in the vinyl.	Do not wet mop or use excessive moisture to clean the floor.	Excessive moisture can cause flooring over time to swell or become discolored.	Don't use harsh cleaning agents (such as steel wool) to clean your tile.	Can scratch or permanently damage the surface of your tile.
		Don't wear high heels on vinyl floors.	Can leave permanent impressions.				
Don't remove or adjust the carpet installation in your home.	Can void the installation warranty.	Don't use wax or "non-wax" product such as "future" on no wax floors.	Causes buildup of product that will eventually discolor the flooring.	Do not drag or slide furniture across the floor.	Can create permanent dents, elongated impressions, or tears in the hardwood surface.	Don't use a cleaning agent that contains color on an unglazed tile.	The tile has a porous body and may absorb the color of the cleaner.





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DO	REASON	DO	REASON	DO	REASON	DO	REASON
Vacuum frequently, at least once a week on all areas.	Removes damaging dirt and dust that can create "matting".	Sweep or dust mop your Resilient flooring every day.	Removes dust, dirt, and other debris that can scratch the surface.	Vacuum or dust mop 1-2 times per week.	Removes dust and dirt that can scratch the surface.	Test scouring powders in a small area before using on tile.	May scratch the surface and dull tiles finish.
Remove any spills promptly according to manufacturer recommendations.	Improper use of cleaning product or procedure can permanently "set" a stain and/or cause yarn disfiguration.	Wash and rinse weekly using cleaning products safe for Resilient flooring.	This will promote and enhance the beauty of the floor.	<b>Know your floor!</b> Is it a "Wax" finish or "Polyurethane" finish?	Using the wrong product or improper use of a recommended product can permanently damage the finish of your floor, thus voiding the warranty.	Use a water based grout sealer on grout joints if continuous staining is a problem.	Eliminates ability of stains to penetrate deep into the grout, making it easier to wipe off potential stains.
		Install proper floor protectors on chair, table, and other furniture leg bottoms.	Weight of object is concentrated on a small area, possibly creating a permanent impression.				
Have carpet professionally cleaned. Refer to your manufacturer's warranty.	Enhances beauty and promotes longevity of carpeting.	Use Walk-off mats at all entrances to the home. (Use braided, rag, or cloth).	Removes dirt and grime from shoes, reducing the chance of foreign objects transferring to floor.	Use Walk-Off Mats at all entrances to the home. Be sure mats used on Hardwood floors are not Rubber or Latex backed.	Wrong backing on a mat or area rug can discolor your wood finish.	Read and follow label directions for all "neutral" cleaners.	Will not discolor grout. Neutral cleaners will not affect the cement properties of grout.



## What to Expect from your Solid Oak Floor

The solid oak hardwood flooring about to be installed in your home is 100% natural. It is not fabricated; no artificial ingredients are added to it.

What this mean to you is that the oak flooring is subject to all the variations present in nature consistent with the “grade” of flooring you have selected.

### **What Can You Expect?**

1. Expert installations and finishing.
2. A product that is milled within the specifications and standards generally accepted by the industry as to:
  - a. Size
  - b. Grade
  - c. Special
  - d. Moisture Content
3. A product that will give you a lifetime of beauty and function if maintained properly with regard to the type of top finish applied.
4. Color and pattern capability limited only by your imagination and budget.

### **What Can't You Expect?**

1. A tabletop finish. Each piece of oak flooring sands differently depending on its grain type (plain or quartered) making it virtually impossible for a completely flat surface.
2. A monotone floor. Wood, as a natural product, varies from piece to piece. Remember it is not fabricated; it is milled from a tree and will have grain and color variance consistent with the grade and species of flooring selected.
3. A floor that will not indent. In spite of the term “hardwood”, oak flooring will indent under high heel traffic (especially heels in disrepair).
4. A floor without cracks between the boards. Although your new floor will start tight together, as a natural product, it will continue to absorb and expel moisture. This natural process will cause the flooring to expand and contract from season to season; resulting in cracks between some of the boards in your floor. Some stain colors, such as natural, will show this process more than others. Your flooring contractor will minimize this movement by adhering to the National Oak Flooring Manufacturers Association (NOFMA) installation guidelines.

Additional information about these NOFMA guidelines, as well as recommended maintenance procedures, can be obtained from your local hardwood-flooring distributor.

## Care For Your Solid Oak Floor

- Grit and dirt are commonly the cause of finish deterioration and scratching; therefore, it is highly recommended to place area rugs or mats in high traffic areas and exits. These will help clean the soles of shoes before the grit has a chance to damage the finish.
- Floors should be dust-mopped or vacuumed daily. If spills or stains remain, refer to the manufacturer for recommended cleaning products. Do not wet mop the floors.
- If floors should tend to become dull, use an industrial floor buffer with a soft polishing brush attachment and buff the clean floor until original luster is regained.
- Use only a manufacturer recommended hardwood cleaning solution when cleaning.
- **DO NOT** use abrasive cleaners, steel wool, or scouring powder as they can scratch floors.
- **DO NOT** use soap-based detergents or “mop and shine” products. These may leave a dull film on your floor.
- If floor shows excessive wear, floors may be screened and recoated if they have not been waxed.

# Did you know?



- Did you know that a 200-pound man wearing men's dress shoes with a regular heel will exert less than 50 pounds of pressure per square inch?
- However, a 110-pound woman wearing stiletto heels, can exert in excess of 1,000 pounds of pressure per square inch!
- These shoes can damage all types of floor coverings. They can dent hardwood floors, chip ceramic tile, puncture carpet & pad, and dent vinyl floors. It is not considered to be a manufacturer defect of floor covering materials used by any of the manufacturers.

# ***WARNING!***

Failure to protect your  
floors during move-in  
may result in  
unwarrantable damage.  
This includes all floors,  
but especially hardwood.

# WARNING!

Rubber backed throw rugs  
WILL cause any and all  
vinyl to yellow.

Please be aware that this  
is *NOT* covered by any  
manufacturer's warranty.