

O & M INFORMATION ref: DC015

WOCA NATURAL OILED WOOD FLOORS

Instructions valid whether or not the floor is prepared with a lye product.

INTRODUCTION

1. After oiling floors allow 12 hours between the final coat of oil and **any contact** with the floor. If you re-protect the floor i.e. for furniture moving, then use clean dust sheets under hardboard. NEVER use plastic sheeting.
2. Do not damp clean the floor for the first **7 days, dry clean only**. During this period furniture should be carefully lifted into position never dragged or pushed. **Furniture rests** should be placed beneath castors and **felt pads** attached to the bottom of furniture legs. Minimise the possibility of food and drink spillages or dirt from coming onto the floor during the first few days. If your schedule has forced final oiling before the completion of other building and snagging work then expect your builder's dust and traffic to matten the finish and reduce its appearance. Whilst dust can be quickly removed by damp cleaning, the only way to truly restore the floor finish is by re-oiling. This is best done later when the builders are gone and furniture is in position.
3. Wood floors will always be damaged by sharp objects, impacts, chemicals or pigmented liquids such as radiator water that is allowed to dry in. Damage can be repaired and blended into the floor when it is re-oiled.

REGULAR CLEANING

1. Ideal for everyday cleaning is the **Dane Care Premium Breakframe (40cm) Cleaning Kit**, it can be used to dry or damp clean the floor. If you vacuum ensure that the head brushes are engaged to avoid unnecessary scratches. Spillages, dirt and food should be wiped away as soon as possible with a damp cloth.
2. To damp clean the floor with **Woca Natural Soap (natural version)**, dilute 1 capful of soap per **2 litres** of warm water. Soak the Mop head in the soap solution, wring it out, re-attach it then mop the floor. When the **mop head becomes dirty** rinse away the worst of the dirt, re-soak then carry on. Very dirty mop heads can be washed in a washing machine on a 90 C programme. Do not pour water onto any wood floor, especially near electrical sockets. This process is simplified by using the **Dane Care Premium Breakframe Bucket and Wringer**.

TOUGH DIRT, SCUFFS, SCRATCHES AND STAINS

1. **Tough dirt** should be removed by wet cleaning using a stronger solution of **Natural Soap (natural version)**. Dilute 5 capfuls per **litre** of warm water. Apply liberally to the dirty area then evenly buff by hand using an absorbent cloth. If there is dried-in paint or

grime then remove carefully using the blade of a Stanley knife. Never overly scour a particular spot as this will leave a mark. Wipe excess soap solution off the floor.

2. Black scuffs normally come from heavy workboots and are usually seen only after inconsiderate work by builders or removal men. Everyday footwear rarely causes scuffs. Prevention is the best cure. Treat as per Tough Dirt.

3. Scratches should have Maintenance Paste (natural version) applied with your fingertip and then manually rubbed into them with a 100% lint free cotton rag. Remove all excess. Wipe over the area with a 1:40 solution of soap or simply clean the whole floor as normal. The scratched wood will be protected and lost in the pattern of the floor.

b! If someone has acted of their own accord and sanded out a stain then apply Maintenance Paste (natural) to the floor. The oil will absorb into the wood and reprotect it. However, the area is likely to be lighter and perhaps a sanding shadow will remain. Repeat the process on consecutive days to build up protection and use a blue, medium Patina disk to smooth the grain.

MAINTENANCE OILING

1. A most important decision when maintaining an oiled wood floor is how frequently to re-oil the whole floor. The frequency is dictated by amount and type of foot-fall, which causes the accumulation of scratches and grime. On average a domestic floor needs re-oiling once every 2 to 3 years and a commercial floor every 12 to 18 months.

2. It is recommended that re-oiling is carried out by a professional contractor. Re-oiling is preceded by wet cleaning. The floor can also be retreated with Lye at this stage. At this time any repaired damage (see instructions above) will be spotted and re-treated using specialist products. Re-oiling removes the majority of grime from the wood surface. The floor can be used again after a couple of hours.

3. Dane Care contractors are specialised in this type of work and equipped to move large pieces of furniture so a complete re-oil is achieved.

NB!

1. Further advise is available from Dane Care on 01952 727899

2. If you have a white floor then be sure to specify the white versions of Maintenance Paste and Natural Soap when you re-order.

3. Felt pads are widely available under the Felt Gard brand.