

## *DC031 Architect Specification*

*Apply WoCa Wood Lye to a wood floor then oil it mechanically.*

**Novices: Please check our website for the most up to date instructions then test the process to understand the results before proceeding to larger areas.**

These instructions are most likely to be used for hardwood or for finishing Douglas Fir. Most softwoods are prepared with Softwood Lye unless they show a negative reaction to the caustic level of that product.

Use Wood Lye White and Extra White oil for the whitest floor, normal white oil for a pale floor, natural oil for oaky look. Wood Lye Grey can be used in conjunction with white, grey or natural oils. Since there are no particular rules for which oil goes on which preparation then test ahead of undertaking large surfaces.

Application of Wood Lye is essentially a manual process, but removing the excess is best done with a polishing machine and wet vacuum.

The oil application method shown in this picture series is for commercial workers and makes use of polishing machines to give the smoother finish demanded in higher traffic residential properties and commercial properties such as restaurants, sports halls, museums etc.

This technique is also recommended for any larger projects i.e. greater than 40m<sup>2</sup>, since the machines will take a great deal of the effort out of the work and the time-saving will outweigh the expense of hiring them.

Cleaning away excess oil is the most demanding part of any oiling process. Read how to do this and be equipped with enough cloths. Only apply oil to an area that you know you will be able to buff and clean away within the time available.

## *The Process:*

Ensure your floor is correctly sanded.

Stage 1 involves soaking the wood with Wood Lye then after an hour washing off the excess. The wood must be allowed to dry overnight.

Stage 2 involves application of your choice of oil. Probably this will be a white oil, either Master Oil White (which has 5% pigment mix) or Extra White 118 (which has 13% mix). The choice of whiteness depends on your design requirement. Excess oil is then removed and the floor is left to cure overnight.

Stage 3 follows the next day and involves a 2<sup>nd</sup> application of oil buffed in to hone the wood surface. It is optional to use fine grade patina disks at this stage to smooth the surface although this may remove some colour. Stage 3 can be left till later in the building process assuming the floor is sufficiently protected, but must then be preceded by a wet clean before the oiling

Stage 4 cover O & M cleaning instructions for this type of floor finish. Since Lye treated floors are normally pale then the recommended soap is the white version.

### *You will need:*

Machines: for best and most economic results

I recommend the following machines:

a 16" rotary single disk polisher 150 rpm ie. HSS Floor Scrubber/Polisher. Code 58611

a solution tank for the polisher

a wet / dry vacuum ie. HSS Wet Vacuum. Code 58211