

Floor Care and Maintenance

It is essential that all timber flooring is regularly maintained to increase the longevity of the product and to ensure it remains in the best condition possible.

A maintenance programme should ideally start three weeks after flooring installation to ensure all finishes and adhesives have settled and fully cured. Along the Grain advise that the timber floors should be cleaned daily, and maintained either weekly or monthly, depending on the volume of traffic in the area, using the recommended product depending on the finishes that were applied.

Importance guidance to adhere to for maintaining wood flooring:

1. Do not wash your floor for 3 weeks after installation. The timber finish will require time to fully cure
2. Use a recommended wood floor cleaner
3. Do not use tile or vinyl products to maintain your wood floor as they will dull the surface
4. Ensure hoovering and brushing the flooring is regular to avoid grit or debris on the surface
5. Always use door mats both sides at entrance ways as this stops dirt from outside damaging your wood flooring
6. Ensure stiletto heels are removed before walking on the flooring as this can damage the surface of the wood
7. Ensure felt protector pads are used under the legs of furniture to prevent damage to the flooring surface
8. Don't slide furniture across the floor as this can scratch your wood floor
9. Always wipe up spillages and stains immediately using a slightly damp towel or cloth, ensuring the area is left dry
10. Prevent water being walked or leaked onto the wood floor
11. Avoid using water to wash flooring as this can damage or stain the wood
12. It is advised not to install wood flooring in bathrooms, kitchens or conservatories where leaks or excessive humidity may occur
13. Correct humidity and temperature conditions must be maintained within the environment, with an air temperature around 16-22 degrees. A humidifier may be necessary in winter to keep movement in the wood down to a minimum
14. If using underfloor heating it is advised to turn up the heat 1 degree each day after installation to allow the wood to adjust to the temperature changes. The temperature should never be greater than 27 degrees
15. The underfloor temperatures should not drastically change. The environment should be kept between 40-60% relevant humidity otherwise deformation could occur. If the heating is turned off during the warmer months, it should be turned back on gradually and controlled, like after installation
16. When the floor starts to dull we recommend you recoat the wood to restore its sheen
17. To prolong the flooring further we advise the condition of the floors are inspected every 12-18 months, to check the condition of the seals and surface of the wood, and a resealing being completed if necessary.