

Floor Care for
Australian Oak
Engineered Flooring

GENERAL CARE

Below are the recommended methods (and material suggestions) for the care and cleaning of Australian Oak engineered flooring coated using the latest, eco-friendly and durable LED-cured hardwax oil. Regular cleaning will prevent dirt and grit from wearing and scratching your floor and will extend the life of the finish considerably.



Loose dirt and dust should first be removed by the use of an electrostatic mop, or by vacuuming (after first ensuring the head of the vacuum won't scratch your floor). A swivel-type-cleaning pad is preferred (e.g. Sabco Super Swish); normally these products are supplied with one dry electrostatic pad (top left image) and one wet microfiber pad (top right image) that are interchangeable; these types of cleaning products are available from most well-known hardware and building supplies chain stores.

After dirt/dust removal, use a spray bottle (either, mop-mounted or hand-held) containing a mixture of the Vesting Wax & Clean concentrate and water (mixed as noted on label) to mist, or lightly "spritz", the floor. This cleaner is specifically designed for LED-cured HWO finishes; in addition to cleaning the floor, it adds a small amount of wax to further optimise coating life. The Vesting Wax & Clean concentrate can be purchased separately from Oslek Flooring in 1-litre or 2.5-litre containers. Clean a section of the floor at a time, working along the boards in the grain direction to remove any marks and collect any missed grit. Best cleaning results are achieved by frequent rinsing of the microfiber pad in water to continually remove any lifted dirt and grit. It is most important not to over-wet timber floors, nor to allow moisture to remain on a timber floor for any period. After floor cleaning is completed, the damp mop should, either, be thoroughly rinsed with clean water, or better still, washed in a washing machine ready for the next use.

Do not under any circumstances use any cleaners containing bleach, ammonia or caustic-based chemicals to clean the floor (e.g. Domestos, White King or other common household cleaners) as most: (i) are caustic, (ii) can weaken the coating and (iii) will very likely cause colour distortion and unsightly staining.

Fats such as cooking oil and greasy foods can be extremely penetrative and mark the floor permanently. Household acids such as lemon juice, vinegar, coffee and acid in

products like cup noodles can also be extremely penetrative. Therefore, we strongly recommend that such spillage mishaps need to be removed and cleaned immediately using the methods noted above. To further protect your floor, it is always worth considering applying an extra clear over-coat for wet areas such as the kitchen and the dining area where the floor is most exposed to fatty foods.

To prevent scratching of the floor by items of furniture, all furniture feet, legs and bases in contact with the floor should be fitted with protective pads (e.g. adhesive-backed felt type) prior to placing these items in the coated floor areas. These protective pads are readily available through any hardware outlet, building supply companies, etc.

Natural timber needs to 'breathe', therefore, it is important to be aware that the use of rugs, mats or hall runners, can discolour the floor, even when those coverings are considered "breathable." If the timber under the floor covering discolours, it is best to remove the covering immediately. This will allow the timber to 'breathe' and it will usually return slowly back to its original colour.

SCRATCHING AND DENTING

Flooring coated with LED-cured hardwax oil can be refinished if excessively damaged. A big plus here is that our LED HWO finishes are designed to be recoated without the need for a lot of sanding. For best results, we recommend contacting us directly, so we can give you up-to-date information. Just provide us with the original order specifications for your installed floor.

CLIMATE CONTROL

Australia's sun can be very harsh, so we recommend the use of blinds, curtains, exterior blinds/awnings or, if possible, utilising external glazing with built-in UVA and UVB protection. This will help prevent fading or discolouration. Moving rugs and furniture on a semi-regular basis will help the floor to age evenly.

RE-FINISHING

Sometime in the distant future, it may become evident that the floor finish is worn when some areas remain wet longer than other sections after cleaning, or when the base colour (stain) is disappearing.

Should this occur, we have re-finishing systems in place for recoating. However, we strongly recommend that clients first contact Oslek Flooring (ph: (03) 9877 1966) before commencing refinishing, as technologies in this area are constantly improving and evolving. We can also suggest specialist tradespeople, based on your location.

Thank you for choosing Australian Oak Engineered Flooring for your project. If you have any further questions, contact an Australian Oak specialist on 03 5139 7000.