



## Care Instructions for UV Finished & Oiled Floors

*Oil finished hardwood floors have a very different appearance from traditional UV finished or polyurethane hardwood floors. Over time, as applications of oil and maintenance occur, the floors will tend to look better as it ages and develops a rich patina. Oiled floors are easy to maintain and will look great for a lifetime when maintained properly. Every high-quality surface must be properly maintained to preserve its value and your investment.*

### **Clean and Care Interval**

The care interval depends on the overall traffic and wear & tear of the flooring. The following recommendations should be seen as a guideline only.

- ✓ Low traffic areas (residential)
  - about every 2-4 weeks
- ✓ Medium traffic (offices)
  - about every 1-2 weeks
- ✓ High traffic, highly frequented areas (public areas)
  - about every 1-2 days

**Dry Cleaning:** To remove loose, coarse dirt (e.g. dust and sand particles) regularly use a soft broom or vacuum cleaner regularly with the hard floor attachment (not the beater bar) to prevent accumulation of dirt and grit that can scratch or dull the finish.

**Wet Cleaning:** Please make sure to avoid standing liquids as it may lead to swelling and damage your floor. Blot up spills (water, juice, food, oils, wine, coffee, etc) immediately to protect your floor from staining and water damage. Use a wood floor cleaning solution made specifically for UV Oiled Floors, following manufacturer instructions. After drying, you may use a clean and dry cloth for buffing in case of potential marks left on the surface.

**Maintenance:** UV Oil Floor Protectors are readily available to household consumers. These products create a protective film providing long-term protection.

**Touch Up & Repair:** Natural Oil Care products can be used for spot repair on either UV and/or natural oil finished flooring. It will help cover minor scratches and worn-off areas. Oil care products can also be used to refresh your natural oil finishing flooring, restoring its sheen. These products should be applied in small amounts using non-abrasive, soft cloths rubbing into the wood grain.

**Fading:** Natural floors contain organic pigments and are subject to fading when exposed to direct sunlight. Where possible, use drapes or other systems to protect your floor from excessive light.

**Joints:** A natural plank floor system expands and contracts in response to fluctuations in temperature and humidity. By controlling the environment, maintaining an adequate temperature and relative humidity, you will minimize the visible effects of the seasonal contraction and expansion of your floor. Optimum recommended temperature is 68°F – 72°F and relative humidity is 30% - 50%. *In very dry climates, the use of a humidifier might be necessary.*

To purchase recommended maintenance products, contact your Authorized Innovata Flooring Dealer.

**AFTER INSTALLATION:** If the floor needs to be covered to prevent wear and dirt penetration due to additional construction, use paper or cardboard. Do NOT tape paper or cardboard to the floor to keep it in place. Do NOT adhere any tape to the face of the floor as it will damage the finish. NEVER use plastic, which does not allow the floor to breathe. This operation should be performed by the installer if it is necessary.

#### **REGULAR, ROUTINE CLEANING & MAINTENANCE WITH WOCA SOAP:**

WOCA Natural Soap is designed to clean and protect oil finished surfaces from dirt, stains and wear and tear. WOCA Natural Soap cleans and leaves behind an invisible layer of soy and coconut fats, which greatly help to ward off most anything. In fact, when used on a regular basis, WOCA Natural Soap increasingly makes your oil finished wood floor more dirt and wear resistant and easier to keep clean.

Follow these simple steps:

1. Daily cleaning is done with vacuum cleaner or by sweeping. The frequency of floor cleaning depends on the wear on the floor.
2. Natural Soap is shaken carefully before use.
3. Mix 3 ounces of Soap into each gallon of lukewarm water. It is recommended always to work with 2 buckets; one with the Soap solution and the other one with rinse water. Clean the floor with minimum quantity of water – leave soap water on floor briefly in order to dissolve dirt. Remove dirty soap water with hard-wrung cotton mop or cotton cloth and rinse out in rinse water bucket. Change rinse water often!
4. Always wipe floor with soap water on hard-wrung mop or cloth in order to re-establish the protective Natural Soap film.
5. Using the 2-bucket cleaning method is effective and yields an extremely clean surface. It is, however, also possible to use a Swiffer-type system in combination with WOCA Soap Spray, provided that any micro fiber pad is replaced with a cotton pad.

**Please note:** DO NOT use microfiber as this will gradually wear down most wood floor finishes.

**Tip:** If a haze is visible after the soap treatment, put a cotton cloth under a dust mop and quickly polish away the haze.

## **PERIODIC MAINTENANCE WITH WOCA OIL REFRESHER (generally 1-4 times a year)**

WOCA Oil Refresher, available in Natural and White, is used for periodic cleaning and maintenance of oiled wood floors. Oil Refresher combines efficient cleaning with oil rejuvenation, as additional oil penetrates the wood and forms a protective layer in the surface.

### **Work Instructions:**

1. Shake the bottle well before and during use.
2. The floor must be free of dust before treatment.
3. Mix Oil Refresher with lukewarm water in a ratio of 1:40 (3 oz. Refresher per gallon of water).
  1. Mixing ratios can vary depending on wear and requirement.
  2. **We recommend using two buckets, one with Oil Refresher solution, the other with clean rinse water.**
4. Mop a small section of floor with a lightly wrung cotton mop along the wood grain. Immediately afterwards, dip mop into Oil Refresher solution, wring it hard and mop the area, again along the grain. Change rinse water often!
5. Leave the floor to **dry for approx. 2 hours before use.**
6. For slightly higher sheen, polish the dry floor with a white pad.
7. It is possible to use WOCA Oil Refresher Spray with a Swiffer-type system, provided that any microfiber pad is replaced with a cotton pad.

**Please note:** DO NOT use microfiber as this will gradually wear down most wood floor finishes.

**Tip:** If a haze is visible after the Oil Refresher treatment, put a damp cotton cloth under a floor machine and polish it off, or mop the floor with water only.

## **REJUVENATION WITH WOCA MAINTENANCE OIL (as needed)**

WOCA Maintenance Oil may be used for the maintenance of all oiled wood surfaces and is especially suitable for regular maintenance of oiled wood floors. Maintenance Oil is available in several colors. Product, room and floor temperature should be at least 59 degrees. Ensure good ventilation during application and drying time.

### **Work Instructions:**

1. Wash floor with WOCA Wood Cleaner using 3 ounces per gallon of lukewarm water. Let the floor dry completely.
2. Shake oil container well before and during use.
3. Apply approx. 1-2 ounces per 40-50 sq. ft. onto the floor and polish oil by hand or with floor machine.
4. It is important that the Maintenance Oil is carefully polished into the wood. Continue polishing until the wood appears saturated and the surface looks uniform.
5. Polish off all excess oil from floor using cotton cloths under the pad before proceeding with the next section of floor to be finished. Hand wipe all edges and corners. The floor should not appear wet and no excess oil should be left on the surface.
6. When using a floor machine the oil will be pre-hardened after approx. 4 hours and may be cautiously taken into use. Manually polished floors after 24 hours.
7. Do not expose floor or woodwork to water during hardening time of 24 hours.

8. After 3-5 days the floor may be treated with WOCA Soap to provide additional protection against wear and tear.

**Tip:** For fastest drying time, leave windows slightly open to ensure a steady flow of fresh oxygen.

**Warning!** Rags, pads or waste soaked with WOCA oil may self-ignite if improperly discarded. Immediately after use, place all rags and waste in a sealed, water filled bucket for proper disposal.