

Care & Maintenance Guide for Lacquered Wood Flooring

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1. Introduction

Lacquered wood flooring is a wonderful choice if you're after a clean, polished look with a little extra protection built in. It has a smooth finish that sits on top of the wood, helping to guard against everyday wear and tear.

It's often chosen for busy homes because it's low maintenance and easy to clean, which is always a bonus when life gets a bit hectic.

With just a few simple habits, your floor will keep that fresh, finished look for years to come.

2. Understanding Lacquered Flooring

Unlike oiled flooring, lacquered wood has a protective layer that sits on the surface.

This means:

- The floor is more resistant to spills and stains
- Cleaning is generally easier
- The finish has a more uniform appearance

Because the lacquer acts as a barrier, dirt and moisture don't penetrate the wood as easily. However, once that surface is worn, it can't be spot-repaired in quite the same way as oiled flooring.

3. Everyday Care

Keeping your floor looking its best doesn't take much.

A quick sweep or vacuum is usually enough to remove dust and dirt. This helps prevent tiny particles from scratching the surface over time.

It's a simple habit, but it keeps the finish looking smooth and clean.

4. Weekly Cleaning Routine

For a more thorough clean, a weekly routine works beautifully.

Use a **damp mop**, making sure it's well wrung out rather than wet. Lacquered floors are more resistant to moisture, but it's still best to avoid excess water.

Work in small sections and allow the floor to dry naturally.

5. Choosing the Right Cleaning Products

Using the right cleaner helps maintain that smooth, sealed finish.

Look for:

- pH-neutral wood floor cleaners
- Products designed for lacquered finishes
- Microfibre mops or soft cloths

These will clean effectively without leaving streaks or dulling the surface.

6. What to Avoid

Even though lacquered floors are more protective, a few things are still best avoided.

Avoid:

- Steam cleaners
- Abrasive cleaning tools
- Harsh chemicals
- Excess water

These can wear down the lacquer over time or leave the surface looking dull.

7. Dealing with Spills & Stains

One of the advantages of lacquered flooring is how well it handles spills.

Liquids tend to sit on the surface rather than soaking in, so they're easier to clean.

Simply wipe spills up promptly with a soft cloth. For stickier marks, a suitable wood floor cleaner will do the job.

8. Protecting Your Floor from Damage

A few small precautions can make a big difference over time.

- Use felt pads under furniture
- Avoid dragging heavy items
- Place mats at entrances
- Remove shoes if possible

While the lacquer adds protection, it can still scratch if treated roughly.

9. Seasonal Changes & What to Expect

Even with a protective finish, wood still responds to its environment.

You may notice slight expansion in warmer months and contraction in cooler conditions. This is completely normal.

Keeping a steady temperature and humidity level helps maintain the floor's appearance.

10. Long-Term Maintenance

Lacquered flooring is wonderfully low maintenance compared to oiled finishes.

There's no need for regular re-oiling. Instead, the focus is on keeping the surface clean and protected.

Over time, the lacquer may begin to show signs of wear in busy areas. When this happens, the floor can be lightly sanded and re-lacquered if needed.

11. Deep Cleaning

Occasionally, your floor may need a deeper clean to remove built-up dirt.

Use a specialist cleaner designed for lacquered wood flooring. This will refresh the surface without damaging the protective layer.

Avoid anything too harsh, as this can strip or dull the finish.

12. High Traffic Areas

Areas like hallways and living rooms naturally see more use.

You may notice the finish wearing slightly faster in these spots. Adding rugs or runners can help protect these areas and extend the life of the lacquer.

13. Pets, Children & Everyday Living

Lacquered flooring is a practical choice for busy households.

It handles everyday life well, from muddy footprints to the occasional spill. However, it's still worth taking a little care to prevent scratches from toys or pet claws.

A few small habits can go a long way in keeping the floor looking its best.

14. Underfloor Heating Considerations

If used with underfloor heating, keep temperature changes gradual.

Avoid sudden increases in heat and try not to exceed **27°C**. This helps protect both the wood and the lacquered finish.

15. Common Mistakes to Avoid

A few simple things to keep in mind:

- Using too much water when cleaning
- Using abrasive tools
- Ignoring early signs of wear
- Using unsuitable cleaning products

Sticking to gentle, regular care will always give the best results.

16. Troubleshooting

Surface looking dull

This may be due to product build-up or wear. A suitable cleaner can help restore clarity.

Light scratches

Often cosmetic, but can be minimised with protective pads and careful use.

Worn areas

High traffic zones may eventually need professional re-lacquering.

17. Final Thoughts

Lacquered wood flooring is a lovely balance of style and practicality. It offers a smooth, protective finish that works beautifully in busy homes without demanding too much upkeep.

With simple, regular care, it will continue to look fresh and polished for years to come.

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