



**PROUDLY HANDCRAFTED IN THE USA**

*Arcadian \* Heartland \* Heritage \* Legendary \* Traditions*  
**FLOOR CARE & MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS**

*Please read the following information in regard to the proper maintenance of your wood flooring.*

In order to protect your new hardwood floor and to keep it looking new, it is important to follow some basic procedures to protect it for years to come. Our factory finish is one of the most advanced finishes made today. The finish contains aluminum oxide which offers increased protection that allows for a better wearing finish, yet the finish is still capable of scratching and losing some of the gloss level. By simply following our recommendations the floor will give you years of service.

**RECOMMENDED RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL FLOOR CARE INSTRUCTIONS**

**Preventative Care**

- Place commercially rated mats at all exterior entrances to absorb street dirt and moisture. The mats need to be periodically cleaned, changed, or dried out as often as needed. In addition, place mats at high-wear traffic areas and/or pivot points. Example – checkout counters. Keep in mind that mats or area rugs may cause color differences due to variation in light exposure.
- When possible, avoid direct sunlight from hitting the surface of the flooring as Ultraviolet light can change the appearance of wood flooring causing discoloration.

**Routine Maintenance**

1. Sweep, vacuum, or dust mop daily to remove loose dirt or grit from the surface of the flooring. Doing so will help to prevent wear and scratches on the finish. Use only a soft bristle type broom or vacuum attachment that is recommended for hardwood floors. For dust mopping, use only an untreated electrostatic type dust mop. Scrubbing machinery or power scrubbers are not recommended to clean the floor.
2. Blot up liquids immediately with a clean dry cloth. Do not allow spills or puddles to remain on the floor for an extended period of time as it may cause damage to the wood flooring.
3. For routine cleaning — Use the Bona® Swedish Formula® Hardwood Floor Care System. For information on Bona Kemi products call 1-800-574-4674 (8-5 MST) or go to [www.bonakemi.com](http://www.bonakemi.com). Bona floor care product systems can be sourced through your local flooring retailer.
4. Apply Hardwood Floor Cleaner to a clean rag to remove heels marks or stains.
5. ***Do not damp mop floor with water*** or allow water to remain on the floor as it may damage the flooring. Avoid the use of products that contain oils or wax that may leave a residue allowing the floor to be slippery or sticky and in addition these materials may prevent future coats of finish from properly bonding to the original factory finish.

**Repair procedures**

Use of fillers or touch up kits available can help to repair minor scratches and/ or gouges in the floor. In the event that a board has become damaged beyond repair it is possible to remove an individual board and replace it with a new one according to NWFA installation instructions regarding single board replacement.



# INDEPENDENCE®

## HARDWOOD



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### **Recoating procedures**

When the hardwood floors have lost their shine, they usually can be recoated to restore the desired gloss level using the Bona Prep™ system with Bona Traffic™ or Bona Strong™ finishes. Prior to recoating the floors, the finish manufacturer instructions must be followed properly to help ensure a successful application of finish. If you are thinking about recoating your hardwood floor, consider hiring a Bona Certified Craftsman to give you peace of mind in a job well done while saving you time and effort. A bona Certified Craftsman is a professional contractor that has been trained in the Bona Floor Care System. The Bona Recoat System will maintain your floors with the industry's best protective finish available.

### **Water and wood don't mix**

Using any of the following items to maintain the Floor will void all manufacturer warranties!

Water	Wax
Oil Soap	Furniture Polish
Vinegar, Ammonia	Dust Control Sprays
Household Detergent	Cleaners that leave an acrylic finish

Any of the above can damage the finish, leave greasy films, discolorations or make the Floor slippery and hard to maintain. If any improper cleaning methods are used to maintain the hardwood Floor, the homeowner or end-user will be responsible for all subsequent damages done to the Flooring.

### **Keeping the hardwood floor beautiful**

Floorings are factory finished and protected with several layers of technically advanced high quality UV Cured Urethane Finish. This finish is tough, durable, smooth and easy to maintain. The Manufacturer recommends BonaX Hardwood Floor Cleaner and BonaX Micro-Fiber Mops for maintaining UV Cured Flooring. Contact a retailer or visit [www.BonaX.com](http://www.BonaX.com) or call (800) 872-5515 for the nearest dealer, technical department, or advice on maintaining or restoring the Floor's finish.

### **Scratches, indentations and gouges**

#### **Indentations**

The species of wood used to manufacture the Flooring is resistant to deep scratching and indentations (impact compression). However, the amount of impact pressure is determined by the object's weight and the size of the impact area.

#### **Spiked heels**

A 125 pound lady wearing high heel shoes can exert as much as 3500 pounds of pressure per square inch. The size of the indentations are usually 3/16" to 1/2", thus the pressure on wood floor may exceed 7,000 pounds.

#### **Legs of chairs, tables and furniture**

Felt pads should be glued to all legs of chairs and furniture. These pads should be checked once a month for wear and see if they have filled with grit. Replace as needed. Do not slide or drag objects across floor as they may scratch and/ or dent the hardwood flooring.



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Use floor protectors and wide load bearing leg bases or rollers to minimize scratches, gouges and indentations from heavy objects. Rollers or casters should be at least one inch wide and made of non-marking hard rubber. Metal or plastic types should never be used.

### **Roller chair caster damage**

The only type of rolling caster recommended by the Manufacturer and the NWFA is a wide barrel type roller made of non-marking hard rubber.

### **Scratches and gouges**

Micro-fine particles of aluminum-oxide have been added to the finish and are suspended in the layers of finish to provide the Floor with years of wear protection.

There are no finishes available to the wood flooring industry that will not scratch, indent or gouge. The Manufacturer does not consider these issues to be warrantable.

### **Use of mats at exterior entries**

Place mats with stiff bristles at all exterior entries to the house. A softer area rug or mat should be used on the room side of exterior doors. They will help collect the dirt, sand, grit and other substances such as oil, asphalt or driveway sealer that can otherwise be tracked onto the Floor.

### **Use area rugs**

Use area rugs in high traffic areas and pivot points (e.g. Room entries, stair landings), especially for pets or a large family.

### **Don't allow water to stand on the floor**

Do not allow ice cubes to melt on the Floor. Check in front of the dishwasher, sink, and refrigerator and around the pet's water bowl. Don't track snow or water onto the Floor without immediately drying it up. Look for water leaks under doors to the outside and near sliding glass doorways.

### **DO:**

- Sweep, vacuum or dust-mop the Floor regularly.
- Trim the claws of pets regularly to reduce scratches and indentations.
- Glue protective felt pads on the legs of all chairs and furniture to reduce scratches, indentations and damage to the Floor. Check them regularly for wear and embedded grit. Replace as needed.
- Wipe up spills IMMEDIATELY.
- Place mats outside and inside entrances or around sinks and dishwashers to protect your floor against spills, sand and abrasives. Stop dirt at the entrance. Grit, gravel, sand and dirt are enemies of hardwood floors.
- Make it a habit to keep the wood Floor clean.
- Vacuum with a vengeance. Vacuum regularly with a vacuum that does not use a beater bar head or attachments intended for carpet.
- Protect the Floor when moving appliances or furniture. Lay down a sheet of clean quarter-inch plywood or Masonite to protect the Floor. Use a dolly.
- Rearrange rugs and furniture periodically so floor ages evenly.
- Maintain indoor humidity between 35%-55% Relative Humidity to help reduce and minimize gapping



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which can be more  
colored woods or

noticeable on lighter  
stains.

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### **DON'T:**

- Use plastic film or other non-breathing coverings as humidity buildups can cause the floor to become damaged.
- Expose the floor to excessive sunlight since it can cause color fading or discoloration.
- Use water to clean or mop the Floor. Water causes deterioration of the wood itself and the finish.
- Pour cleaner directly onto the floor.
- Use round headed chair or furniture leg glides.
- Allow spike heels to indent and damage the floor. Those in disrepair are especially harmful.
- Track in sand, grit or dirt onto the wood floor. A grain of sand has 26 razor-sharp edges. That is like walking a floor with sandpaper on the soles of shoes.
- Drag furniture or heavy objects across the surface of the Floor.
- Buff, wax or polish the Floor.
- Use household dust treatment products as this will make the Floor slick.
- Use cleaning tools or machines that apply water or steam to the wood Floor.
- Roll or slide the refrigerator on the wood Floor. The weight may severely damage the Floor.
- Use rubber or foam-backed plastic mats, as they prevent airflow and may discolor the Floor.

