

## BAMBOO HARDWOODS CARE & MAINTENANCE GUIDE

Cleaning and maintaining your Bamboo Hardwoods® hardwood floor is an important part of owning it. Proper care and maintenance can extend the life of your floor for many years. By following this simple guide you can be assured you have taken the best care possible of your floor. If any information present is in question, refer to the NWFA maintenance guidelines at <http://www.nwfa.org/>.

### General Maintenance Guidelines

#### Scratches

No wood floor is scratch-proof; however there are steps you can take to minimize scratches.

- Pads should be adhered to the feet of any furniture placed on your Bamboo Hardwoods® hardwood flooring.
- Spike-heeled shoes should be removed prior to entering. The immense pressure from a spike-heeled shoe will dent and damage even the hardest wood floors.
- Shoes that may have pebbles lodged in the soles should be removed prior to entering.
- Whenever possible, lift furniture to move it rather than sliding it across the floor.
- Pet nails should be properly trimmed to avoid unnecessary gouges and scratches.

#### Remove Grit

Dirt and grit should not be allowed to accumulate on the surface of your Bamboo Hardwoods® hardwood flooring.

- Dirt and grit acts like sandpaper, destroying the UV finish that protects the beautiful wood underneath.
- Door mats or rugs should be placed inside and outside of all outdoor entryways to collect dirt that would otherwise fall on your floor. *(For floors in a commercial-type setting, a walk-off area is required at all entrances to validate your warranty).*
- Be sure to sweep and/or vacuum mats on a regular basis.

#### Avoid Moisture

If any hardwood flooring has its own worst enemy, it is water/moisture. Moisture can destroy a hardwood floor permanently.

- You should never leave any water standing free on your floor. Spills should be cleaned promptly.
- Never “wet-mop” your floor. If mopping is required, use a terrycloth mop. Lightly dampen the cloth before applying.
- Any moisture that is allowed in to the seams of your floor may permanently damage the floor.
- Dirty and soiled rugs/mats should be cleaned and replaced easily as they can trap moisture on the surface.

#### Top-Coating

Rooms that are susceptible to increased moisture exposure such as bathrooms, kitchens, etc. should be top-coated immediately after installation.

- Top-coating your Bamboo Hardwoods® hardwood flooring will help against moisture damage. Bamboo Hardwoods® recommends *Cal Floors Dress Coat or Basic Coating's Street Shoe*.
- Top-coating should be done approximately once per year and will help prolong the life of your UV finish and restore the appearance of your floor. *(For floors in a commercial-type setting, this is a requirement for validating your warranty).*

#### Miscellaneous

- Use sheer drapes, curtains or blinds to limit direct sunlight on your floor. Sunlight will cause the Natural color to darken slightly. The carbonized floor will lighten due to the UV rays. Stained colors could also be affected by the sunlight.
- Maintain humidity levels between 40% and 60% year-round.
- Never wax your floor, use oil soaps, or other household cleaners on your Bamboo Hardwoods® hardwood flooring. *Bamboo Hardwoods® recommends “Cal Floors Floor Cleaner”, any floor cleaner designed for a factory finished hardwood floor.*
- Some throw rugs with rubber backing may react with the UV finish of your Bamboo Hardwoods® hardwood flooring. Be sure to check for any warning labels on your rug to prevent discoloring of your floor.