



Laminate Care & Maintenance Industry Guidelines



The Floor Trader of Tacoma has put together this information as a consumer guide to general guidelines provided by most manufacturers.

Laminate flooring is designed to stand up to the toughest household conditions. However, to keep it looking its best, follow these simple instructions for protection and care.

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

- Use a damp cloth to blot up spills as soon as they happen. Never allow liquids to stand on your floor.
- Use acetone/nail polish remover on a clean white cloth to clean tough spots such as oil, paint, markers, lipstick, ink, or tar. Wipe the area with a damp cloth to remove any remaining residue.
- Regularly sweep, dust, or vacuum the floor with the hard floor attachment (not the beater bar) to prevent accumulation of dirt and grit that can scratch or dull the floor finish.
- Periodically clean the floor with cleaning products made specifically for laminate floor care such as Fresh Floors by WF Taylor.
- **Do not** wash or wet mop the floor with soap, water, oil-soap detergent, or any other liquid cleaning material. This could cause swelling, warping, delamination, and joint-line separation.
- **Do not** use steel wool, abrasive cleaners, or strong ammoniated or chlorinated type cleaners.
- **Do not** use any type of buffing or polishing machine.
- For spots such as candle wax or chewing gum, apply a gel solvent or isopropyl alcohol and let dwell for a few minutes. Gently scrape with a plastic scraper, such as a credit card. Be careful not to scratch the flooring. Always clean with a neutral cleaner or rinse with water to remove residue.
- A more frequent dust-mopping or vacuuming schedule may be required in very sandy areas such as a beach home.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

- Entry mats will help collect the dirt, sand, grit, and other substances such as oil, asphalt, or driveway sealer that might otherwise be tracked onto your floor.
- To prevent slippage of area rugs, use an approved vinyl rug underlayment.
- Use floor protectors and wide, load-bearing leg bases/ rollers to minimize the chance of indentations and scratches from heavy objects. As a rule, the heavier the object, the wider the floor protector.
- **Do not use tape to secure floor protection during construction or renovation.** Use ram board or similar to protect the floor.
- To minimize the natural expansion and contraction of the laminate, maintain a normal indoor relative humidity level between 35% and 65% throughout the year.