

## USA - QUICK USER GUIDE

## MAINTENANCE AND CARE OF WOOD FLOORING

**Put furniture cups or felt pads under the legs of furniture, particularly when heavy, to avoid scratches. Take particular care when moving furniture from one place to another. Do not drag it.**

**If liquid of some kind gets spilt on the floor, clean it up and dry the floor immediately to prevent water from seeping between the planks.**

**Keep your home at a constant temperature of between 68-74 °F.**

**The World Health Organization (WHO) considers a healthy level of atmospheric humidity in homes to range between 40% and 60%.**

Do not tread on the flooring with footwear you have just worn in the street (particularly if the footwear is wet or has the remains of gravel, earth or mud on the soles). A doormat should be placed at the front door so that earth or gravel is not carried into the home.

Be careful what footwear you wear. Stiletto heels, for instance, might mark the floor.

Make sure that the flooring does not get knocked by hard objects.

Changes in atmospheric humidity can lead the wood to contract or expand. These changes can be prevented or mitigated by using a dehumidifier and by ventilating or heating the room.

Protect the flooring from direct sunlight.

In the case of homes or apartments that are not used all the time, when the heating is turned on, the temperature should be raised gradually to the right point.

If the home is going to be shut up for a long period of time, special attention should be given to the above parameters and the home should be properly insulated. Wood should not be treated as if it were an inert material.

## CLEANING

## APRESTO FINISHES

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AM

**Dry cleaning:**

Generally speaking, it is sufficient to use a dust mop or broom with soft bristles or else to vacuum the floor. The flooring can be damp cleaned at any time, as required, providing that a well wrung-out mop is used.

**Damp cleaning:**

For regular damp cleaning, WOCA Soap Varnish Finished should be used to ensure that the floor is properly cleaned and cared for.

**Thorough cleaning:**

To prevent dirt from building up, the surface should be thoroughly cleaned on a regular basis with WOCA Intensive Cleaner. In more widely used areas of the home, WOCA Maintenance Varnish Finished can be used to protect against scratches and wear and tear, provided that the flooring has first been cleaned with WOCA Intensive Cleaner.

## NATUR FINISHES

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**Dry cleaning:**

Generally speaking, it is sufficient to use a dust mop or broom with soft bristles or else to vacuum it. The flooring can be damp cleaned at any time, as required, providing that a well wrung-out mop is used.

**Damp cleaning:**

For regular damp cleaning, WOCA Natural Soap should be used. WOCA Natural Soap is a top-quality product whose nutritional properties swiftly seal marks in wood, protecting the flooring from dirt and stopping liquids from penetrating the surface. If the wood needs further moisturization, WOCA Natural Oil can be used following the instructions.

**Thorough cleaning for natural finishes:**

The care required by flooring with a NATUR finish will depend on the traffic to which it is subject and its use. Apply WOCA Intensive Cleaner, followed by WOCA Natural Oil.

**Thorough cleaning for stained finishes:**

Clean thoroughly using WOCA Natural Soap and then apply WOCA Natural Oil.

Congratulations! You have chosen a top-quality wood floor by L'ANTIC COLONIAL, made using cutting-edge technology so that you can take advantage of the special characteristics of a product as exclusive as wood.

Parquet - wood flooring par excellence – improves over the years, although it needs regular basic care to keep it in optimum condition. Parquet is always a good investment, given its long life and its appeal as a timeless classic. It also comes in a wide variety of finishes, bringing a touch of warmth to the home's floors which is simply impossible with ceramic tiles.

By following a few basic tips, you can make sure that your new wood floor remains in tiptop condition, conserving its value over the years.

## MAINTENANCE AND CARE OF WOOD FLOORING

These basic tips will help you prolong the life of your wood floor.

- 1.- Do not tread on the flooring with footwear you have just worn in the street (particularly if the footwear is wet or has the remains of gravel, earth or mud on the soles). A doormat should be placed at the front door so that earth or gravel is not carried into the home.
- 2.- Be careful what footwear you wear. Stiletto heels, for instance, might mark the floor.
- 3.- Make sure that the flooring does not get knocked by hard objects.
- 4.- Put furniture cups or felt pads under the legs of furniture, particularly when heavy, to avoid scratches. Take particular care when moving furniture from one place to another. Do not drag it.
- 5.- If liquid of some kind gets spilt on the floor, clean it up and dry the floor immediately to prevent water from seeping between the planks.
- 6.- Changes in atmospheric humidity can lead the wood to contract or expand. These changes can be prevented or mitigated by using a dehumidifier and by ventilating or heating the room.
- 7.- Protect the flooring from direct sunlight.
- 8.- Keep your home at a constant temperature of between 68-74 °F.
- 9.- The World Health Organization (WHO) considers a healthy level of atmospheric humidity in homes to range between 40% and 60%.
- 10.- In the case of homes or apartments that are not used all the time, when the heating is turned on, the temperature should be raised gradually to the right point.
- 11- If the home is going to be shut up for a long period of time, special attention should be given to the above parameters and the home should be properly insulated. Wood should not be treated as if it were an inert material.
- 12.- Do not stick masking tape or similar onto the wood floor, because the solvents in the adhesive will affect the varnish used on our flooring and even remove it.

## CLEANING WOOD FLOORING

### APRESTO FINISHES

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#### **Thorough cleaning for natural finishes:**

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#### **Thorough cleaning for stained finishes:**

Clean thoroughly using WOCA Natural Soap and then apply WOCA Natural Oil.

**We recommend the use of WOCA Natural Oil before using the flooring, always following the instructions on the package.**

## ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY

Our products can be affected by the environmental conditions of the place where they have been laid. As a result, there will be constant exchanges of moisture that might alter the dimensions of the flooring (with an increase in humidity causing the wood to expand and a drop causing it to contract). The flooring might be negatively affected if a series of precautions are not taken.

By maintaining a constant level of humidity in the home, any extreme expansion or contraction of the wood can be mitigated, thus preventing excess bulging, warpage, cracks or black stains.

For optimum performance, make sure that your flooring is kept in the right temperature and humidity conditions. A temperature of 68-74 °F and relative humidity of 40% to 60% will ensure a pleasant, healthy environment and foster a sense of wellbeing, in line with recommendations by the World Health Organization (WHS).

If the heating is turned up very high (+77 / 79° F) or if the temperature is raised sharply and quickly dries the atmosphere, this might damage the flooring. Wood and its by-products are hygroscopic. That is, they absorb or release atmospheric moisture, depending on the hygrothermal conditions (temperature and humidity) of the place where they are located.

A suitable environment must be ensured (ventilation, heating, protection against direct sunlight) so that the parquet is not subject to inadvisable variations in humidity that might cause unforeseen dimensional changes.

In the case of homes with electric or water underfloor heating:

1- Do not turn on the heating and raise the temperature sharply. Do it gradually. A rapid increase in temperature might dry the wood too much, leading to cracks or warpage.

2- In the case of newly built or refurbished homes, they must be gradually heated before laying the flooring so as to avoid residual moisture in the substrate.

### NEWLY BUILT HOMES

In the case of newly built homes, it is important to understand that homes can easily take one or two years to dry out completely. For the flooring not to be affected by moisture, this whole drying process is necessary.

All building elements made using water (structural components, walls, floors, plaster, paint) will gradually release moisture until they reach atmospheric moisture levels. There is no reason for this natural phenomenon to affect your wood flooring while you are living in the home. When it is kept shut for long periods of time, however, the moisture that is released by these building elements might be absorbed by the wood flooring, leading it to expand and causing swelling, bulging, warping or black patches.

To reduce this effect, particularly in newly built homes that are not immediately going to be occupied:

1-Ventilate the home properly to reduce and compensate for any moisture released by building elements.

2-Prevent any external damp or moisture from entering the home.

3-If there is a humid atmosphere in the home, it should be properly ventilated from time to time to reduce the humidity. If the home has central heating, it should be turned on and the temperature gradually raised to facilitate this process. Alternatively, a dehumidifier should be installed.

4-If there is a dry atmosphere in the home and it is expected to be kept shut for long periods of time, it should also be properly ventilated and the atmospheric humidity raised by placing recipients filled with water around the home.

## INCIDENTS AFFECTING WOOD FLOORS

### FLOODING:

In the event of flooding or water leaks, mop up all the water immediately. If the water was not in contact with the flooring for long, the latter will probably not have been affected.

If it was in contact for several hours, several days must be allowed to pass before the damage can be properly assessed. If, after several days, the flooring starts to become deformed, it must be repaired as swiftly as possible to prevent further damage. In all cases, the home should be ventilated to dry any residual moisture.

### SCRATCHING:

It is normal for floors to become scratched over the course of time. Sometimes, when damage of this kind occurs, customers ask for just the damaged plank to be replaced. It is important to think this through carefully, because changing one plank can alter the flooring's colour pattern.

### USING & ENJOYING YOUR FLOOR:

Wood is a natural material, and you are therefore buying an exclusive, inimitable product. Wood flooring stands out for its superb properties as thermal and sound insulation, as well as being a long-lasting, timeless classic.

Because it is a natural product, this makes it unique. Do not expect to find two identical wood floors. Likewise, it is not advisable to choose individual planks for your floor to suit your tastes since, in doing so, you will be overlooking one of wood's foremost characteristics: its variety of random patterns and shades.