

CARE AND MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS FOR HARLEQUIN SOLID WOOD FLOORS

Please note that these instructions apply only to Harlequin Solid Wood Floors finished with lacquer. All other Harlequin Floors are covered by separate instruction sheets.

The recommended maintenance instructions must be followed to ensure that the Harlequin Solid Wood Floor retains its appearance and performance characteristics. Failure to do so may invalidate the guarantee. If in doubt, please contact your Harlequin Technical Advisor on the number above.

Entrance matting

Barrier mats at the entrance to the room will significantly reduce the amount of wet and dry soiling being carried on the underside of footwear.

The length of the matting should be at least 2 to 3 footfalls, and it should be regularly vacuumed and cleaned. Limiting foot borne contamination will make your daily maintenance regime considerably easier.

Newly finished floors

A floor coated with a lacquered finish is usually touch dry within approximately 3 hours. However, it continues to cure for approximately one week. The floor may receive light foot traffic 8 hours after the final coat of finish, but full heavy use should be avoided for 72 hours. Furniture may be returned to the room after 24 hours but should be fitted with protective pads. The floor should not be covered with any protective sheeting/polythene or rugs/carpets for the first week after finishing. The use of maintenance products should also be avoided for this period.

Daily maintenance

Harlequin Solid Wood Floors should be cleaned daily using dry cleaning methods, such as vacuum, scissor mop or soft broom. It is important to remove any abrasive particles of grit and dirt which may scratch the floor.

Soluble dirt should be removed using a spray-buff system or scrubber drier with suitable cleaner for large areas or using a lightly dampened or spray mop for smaller areas. When using a buffing system, the machine should be fitted with a tan pad. A red pad can be used on floors which are very dirty. Coarser pads should be avoided as they may damage the floor seal.

Always dry the floor using an appropriate mop or cloth. Remove any spilled water immediately.

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Additional Cleaning

Harlequin Solid Wood Floors which have become contaminated with grease or residue from other sources, may require additional cleaning to remove these materials. Cleaning using a suitable polish remover will remove these non-soluble materials and restore the slip resistance of the floor seal.

Always dry the floor using an appropriate mop or cloth. Remove any spilled water immediately.

Refurbishment

Periodically it will be necessary to re-finish the Harlequin Solid Wood Floor. If the floor has been maintained using wax-based polish or similar, the floor will have to be sanded back to bare wood prior to lacquer application.

If just cleaning products have been used as recommended, it is possible to apply further coats of finish without heavy sanding. The floor must be cleaned and lightly abraded prior to application.

Floor care best practice

Always use the recommended cleaning and maintenance products for your floor, following the manufacturer's instructions. Improper use can have an adverse effect on the floor and may invalidate the guarantee.

Abrasive powders or creams and strong solvents should not be used, they will result in irreversible damage.

Do not use dust control mops that are impregnated with oils.

Avoid contact with sharp edges or points. Ensure that any furniture placed on the floor has feet that will not damage the floor. Take care when moving heavy objects such as stage equipment, dragging anything with sharp edges can scratch the floor.

Do not walk on the floor in Stiletto heels, as these will damage the floor.

Tap dancing in shoes with loose screws will damage any floor, inspect tap shoes carefully before use. Note that tap dancing is not recommended on some Harlequin floors, if you are unsure please see our website or contact us for more details.

Harlequin Solid Wood Floors are extremely resilient but, like all wooden floors, they should be protected from extremes of heat or humidity which can cause movement through expansion and contraction. In situations where this is likely to occur, humidity controls should be installed.

Any surface damage such as deep scratches or dents should be addressed immediately. Failure to do so can result in water penetration and irreversible damage to the floor.

