

# MAINTENANCE FLOORING FOR ESTATE COLLECTION

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## **PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF YOUR FLOOR**

Lasting beauty can be achieved through purchasing a quality floor covering and providing proper on-going maintenance.

**Fading:** Natural floors contain organic pigments and are subject to fading when exposed to direct sunlight. Where possible, use drapes or other systems to protect your floor from excessive light.

**Joints:** Natural flooring reacts to the conditions in the environment. Natural flooring plank systems expand and contract in response to fluctuations in temperature and humidity. Controlling the environment, maintaining an adequate temperature and relative humidity will minimize the visible effects of normal contraction and expansion. Optimum recommended temperature is 70°F and relative humidity is 30% - 50%. *In very dry climates, the use of a humidifier might be necessary.*

**Photosensitivity:** Hardwood floors are photosensitive and will change color as they age or are exposed to U.V. light. In some species the natural pigmentation will be lost and can develop a "bleached" appearance. In many exotic hardwood species (i.e. Tigerwood), the flooring develops a rich patina that will darken the appearance and enhance the natural beauty of the material.

As this is a natural occurring phenomenon, accelerated with exposure to U.V. light, it is not considered a material defect and is excluded from coverage under the provisions of Manufacturer's Limited Warranty.

### **Tips to Minimize Fading/Discoloration**

- Avoid rubber-backed mats and rugs, as the backing may discolor your floor.
- Change the location of your rugs periodically. Rearrange more frequently if they are placed in front of doors and windows.
- Use light filtering window treatments (i.e. blinds, drapes, window film) that will help prevent sunlight exposure.
- Rearrange furniture seasonally to allow the flooring to darken and age uniformly.

If completing a flooring extension or board replacement after the original installation has been down for a period of time, the new flooring will have a lighter appearance. As the material is exposed to natural light, it should eventually blend in with the surrounding areas.

However, due to the age of your flooring, surface wear (and/or) exposure to U.V. light, Manufacturer cannot guarantee replacement flooring will be a 100% match to your existing product.

Remember that color variation is to be expected with natural products. However, should an individual plank be doubtful as to appearance or dimension the installer should not use this piece.

- **Follow the instructions on this installation guide as well as the guidelines listed out by the NWFA.**
- **For further detailed installation guideline, please refer to NWFA ([www.nwfa.org](http://www.nwfa.org))**
- **Oil finished floors require a coat of WOCA Refresher immediately after installation to bring out the beauty of your new floor and maintain warranty.**