



Congratulations on Your New Flooring!

Here Are Some Important Tips to Help You Protect Your New OSMO® Hardwax Oiled Hardwood Floor

- Avoid spike heels and furniture glides
 - Grit is one of the biggest dangers to your floor
 - Excessive amounts of water and wood don't mix
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- **Wood is a natural material that swells when it absorbs water and shrinks when it dries. Wipe up spills immediately to keep your floor unmarked, smooth and level. Never use excessive amounts of water to clean or mop your waxed wood floor.**
 - **Excessive amounts of water and wood don't mix. Do not use rugs with solid rubber or vinyl backings directly on your hardwood floor. Let your floor breath.**
 - **Spike heels are damaging to hardwood flooring. They strike a floor with more force per inch than an elephant's foot. Spike heels in disrepair are especially harmful to your floor.**
 - **Round-headed chair glides and narrow wheels on furniture legs are also damaging. They can scratch or permanently dent your floor. Spread the weight. Use commercially made felt protectors or furniture coasters to prevent scratches and dents.**
 - **Tracked-in dirt is like sandpaper on hardwood flooring. Use a walk-off or entry rug at every outdoor entrance to catch grit. Vacuum or shake out regularly.**
 - **Use of floor maintenance products not specifically manufactured for use on OSMO® waxed hardwood floors may damage your floor and will void your warranty. Please refer to the enclosed OSMO® Maintenance Manual for details.**

If you have any questions or would like to schedule floor maintenance appointment, please contact Signature Hardwoods directly at 866.554.4252. Thank you.



866.554.4252

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OSMO® Polyx® Hardwax Oil

Not to be confused with traditional oil finishes, OSMO Hardwax Oil is an engineered finish made with plant oils and waxes, plus just enough highly refined mineral spirits to allow easy application. This remarkable finish offers excellent durability and renewability with a unique lustrous finish. It will never crack, blister or flake off. Instead of forming a plastic film, like polyurethane does, OSMO Hardwax Oil has open pores that "breathe." This allows any moisture that does get through to get back out again without pushing off the finish.

Because it is microporous, Hardwax Oil works well in rooms with high humidity, such as kitchens. It meets German standards for resistance to stains from wine, cola, coffee, tea, fruit juice and, of course, beer.

Spot repairs are easy. There's no need to strip the whole floor or even to remove old Hardwax Oil. For minor repairs, just scuff the damaged area with fine steel wool, coat with OSMO Liquid Wax Cleaner and buff lightly when the cleaner is dry. If a more extensive fix is needed, use Hardwax Oil. Make repairs regularly, and the finish will last indefinitely.

This product provides no protection against ultraviolet rays from the sun, so it is not suitable for outdoor use.

Ingredients

Key ingredients in Hardwax Oil include sunflower, soybean and thistle oil, plus two hard, natural waxes—carnauba and candelilla. A Brazilian palm tree, *Copernicia cerifera*, produces the carnauba in its leaves, berries and stalks. Villagers cut down fronds, dry them for several days, and then beat off the wax. The candelilla comes from the outer coating on a desert shrub, *Euphorbia antisyphiliti* that grows in northern Mexico. Farmers boil the leaves and stems with water and acid to release the wax.

This is an oil-based product. Like most finishes—even water-based ones—it needs a solvent to perform properly. OSMO uses the safest one that works with oil-based finishes: benzene-free, low-odor mineral spirits. This is an aliphatic petroleum distillate, which means it is a petroleum product that has its carbon atoms arranged in open chains instead of rings. The more toxic, aromatic or ring hydrocarbons have been removed, resulting in a milder odor.

Benefits of OSMO Hardwax Oil

Environmental benefits include:

- Made mostly from readily renewable, natural ingredients.
- Extremely durable—keeps existing flooring in good shape for decades.
- When dry, meets European safety standards for use on children's furniture and toys, and has resistance to perspiration and saliva.
- Contains no biocides or preservatives, only aliphatic low-odor mineral spirits that meet the German standard for purity.

Practical benefits include:

- Preserves the look and feel of real wood—not a plastic coating.
- Easy to apply—just two thin coats.
- Will not raise the grain when applied. Therefore no need to sand between coats.
- Thixotropic—no brush marks in hot weather.
- Penetrates into the wood surface, keeping it elastic but making it water-resistant. Finished wood won't show water stains.
- Easy to clean—just vacuum and damp-mop.

Safety

WARNING: Spontaneous Combustion Danger!

Oil-soaked materials (rags, steel wool, sanding dust, etc.) may spontaneously combust. Immerse oil-soaked materials in water and store in an air-tight container.

WARNING: Contains Flammable Solvents!

Use only in areas with no open flames or other sources of ignition. No smoking. Provide good ventilation. Observe all local and federal laws that pertain to the handling and storage of these types of products.

Maintaining your OSMO wood finish

Properly maintained a floor finished with OSMO Polyx oil can last a lifetime, and is simple to refinish if needed. Below you will find maintenance instructions and information on which product to use when.

- Clean the floor as needed

Vacuum, sweep or dust regularly to remove grit. Dust the floor using the Opti-Set with the green Dust-Mop attachment. Damp mop as needed using Wash and Care and the Opti-Set with the Micro-mop plush (white fluffy pad) attachment.

- Refreshing/Repairing the finish as needed. Dull marks and traffic patterns in high use areas are normal in a floor with wax as part of the finish and can be easily refreshed. In order to refresh high use areas, such as entry and door ways, clean the surface thoroughly and allow to dry, then use liquid wax cleaner to spot restore sheen every 3-4 months or as needed. Attach the Active fiber cloth to the Opti-Set and apply a small amount of OSMO Liquid Wax Cleaner to the cloth. Rub this into the surface. Allow to dry for 30 to 60 minutes, until the material dries to a haze. Buff lightly with a soft cotton cloth (you can use either Active fiber cloth or the Micro-mop plush for this light buffing) To repair superficial scratches, stains or ground-in dirt, use a white abrasive pad or #000 steel wool to rub a small amount of liquid wax cleaner into the affected area. Wipe up immediately with a cotton cloth to remove residue so that no excess material is left on the repair area.



Wash and Care is made with soaps based on coconut oils (5 to 15 percent), plus anionic and nonionic surfactants (each 1 to 5 percent). Surfactants are cleaning agents that help dislodge stubborn dirt and grime by allowing water molecules to link up with contaminants on a surface. The anionic surfactants have a negative charge; the nonionic surfactants have none. The surfactants in Wash and Care are modified fatty acids of natural vegetable oils. They are not phthalates or other ingredients that can interfere with hormone activity in people or wildlife.

Liquid Wax Cleaner contains carnauba and candillila wax, the same two natural waxes used in Polyx-Oil. These are both plant-based waxes that regrow rapidly. Liquid Wax Cleaner also contains medical-quality paraffins and odor-free mineral spirits, both of which are petroleum products. See our Thinners section for more information about mineral spirits. The cleaner does not include biocides or preservatives.

Living with your new finish

You can walk on the floor in stocking feet once the second coat has thoroughly dried, usually eight to 24 hours. But move heavy furniture carefully, and do not unroll carpets for at least a week. OSMO Polyx-Oil cures over several weeks, and it must have contact with fresh air during this time. If possible, leave the floor uncovered for two or three weeks.

The finish may look blotchy at first, but it should even out in a day or two. If the problem persists, please call for help in evaluating the cause.

Long-term maintenance

Properly maintained, this finish lasts indefinitely. Vacuum regularly. Remove sticky spills and clean regularly with a cloth or mop dampened with OSMO Wash & Care diluted in water. Don't slosh water onto the floor.

Just as with any floor finish, high-traffic areas will show wear over time. Prompt attention restores the finish. Clean thoroughly. Dry. Then moisten fine steel wool or a white Scotchbrite pad with OSMO Liquid Wax Cleaner. Rub onto the surface. When the material dries to a haze, buff lightly with a soft cotton cloth.

For severe damage, recoat with OSMO Polyx-Oil. Clean and sand the area, then apply the finish by hand using a white Scotchbrite pad and a vigorous circular stroke. Wipe up any excess immediately. The patch may appear lighter, but it will "catch up" to the rest of the floor in 30 to 90 days. To eliminate deep scoring, you must sand out the scratches. Polyx-Oil does not fill holes in wood.



OSMO Wash and Care

**Based on coconut oil and other natural vegetable oils.
Recommended especially for floors with OSMO Polyx-Oil finish.
Gentle on the skin, and biodegradable.
No solvents, formaldehyde or phosphates.
Concentrated formula saves money and reduces the cost and environmental impact of shipping.**



OSMO Liquid Wax Cleaner

**Maintains and refreshes finish on floors and woodwork finished with OSMO Polyx-Oil (the original Hardwax Oil).
Also suitable for all waxed surfaces.
Unlike beeswax, does not lead to watermarks.
Easy to use, and odorless when dry.
Buffs to a sheen, and extremely water-repellent.**



OSMO Opti-Set

**The special maintenance set for all wooden floors designed for use with OSMO maintenance products.
Includes the dust-mop, micro and active fiber mop heads, and telescopic handle for easy storage. .**



OSMO Dust Mop Replacement

**Carries a static charge that dust sticks to.
Use for quick dusting of floors as wells as walls and ceilings.**



OSMO Active fiber-mop replacement

**For use with OSMO liquid wax cleaner.
Ideal for corners and places which are difficult to reach.
Simply machine wash, do not use fabric softener or tumble dry.**



OSMO Micro fiber-mop replacement

**Made from 100% micro fiber.
Ideal for damp mopping with OSMO Wash and Care.
Floor will dry quickly and without streaks.
Suitable for cleaning all wood and cork flooring.**