

Be Informed

Know Your Factory Finished Wood Floor

In recent years, wood flooring of many different species has become a home owner's favorite. The natural beauty and unique graining of each wood floor makes it a little different and personal. The factory-controlled finish is contamination free and superior to job site application for both speed of installation and application of stain and wear layers. Here are some things to consider when choosing wood flooring for your home:

- Wood is a natural product and will have variations in color, tone and grain.
- Wood floors will scratch and indent. If you have pets, you may want to carefully consider the use of hardwood floors.
- Natural color change will occur during the aging process of your wood floor. This is called patina.
- High heels will cause severe indentations on your floor. A 100-pound woman in high heels exerts 1,000 pounds of pressure.
- Do not use Murphy's Oil Soap or any cleaning products without referring to manufacturer's maintenance guidelines. Water and wood floors do not mix. Do not damp mop your wood floors.
- Hand-scraped wood will look different installed on your floor than installed in the showroom or as a sample. Lighting can affect the overall appearance of the flooring. and with darker woods this will be more noticeable. Influences such as lighting, grain and scraping patterns and finish gloss level may cause the floor to look shiny or glossy in one spot and matte or satin in another. Some boards will be rougher and some smoother. The scraping will be more pronounced and/or deeper in some areas than others. This is natural in a hand-scraped floor; it is desirable and not to be considered a defect.
- Factory finished floors are not sanded on the job site. They are pre-finished, therefore "over boarding" may take place (one plank being slightly higher than another).
- The industry has established realistic guidelines for tolerance levels. Please understand that the samples from which you are selecting are representative of, but not necessarily exactly what will be installed in your home.
- The perception of color, texture, patterns, etc. in a smaller sample may be different when the entire application is completed. For example, the color may be more or less intense, the texture more or less pronounced, and the shading more or less obvious. Manufacturers discontinue colors and patterns from time to time. If this occurs, you will be notified that a reselection is required.
- Due to species and staining limitations, stair railings, newel posts and stair nosings will not match your hardwood floors. Please consider this prior to choosing wood for your stairs.