

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE INSTALLING THIS PRODUCT:

DUE TO THE VARIATIONS IN BOTH COLOUR AND GRAIN CHARACTERISTICS THAT OCCUR IN ALL WOODEN FLOORING,

WE RECOMMEND THAT ALL PRODUCTS BE APPROVED BY THE CONSUMER PRIOR TO FITTING.

WE CANNOT ACCEPT ANY CLAIMS IN THIS REGARD ONCE THE PRODUCT HAS BEEN INSTALLED.



## **\*\* RECOMMENDED STORAGE GUIDELINES \*\***

All packages must be stored flat in a secure and dry area (preferably in the room where flooring is to be installed).

Packages must never be stored directly on a cement floor.

Recommended storage temperature is 15°C. (not in a cold or hot environment and never outdoors).

Relative humidity should be between 40% and 60%.

Do not open package until ready to start installation.

Open and lay one pack at a time.

## **LACQUERED/OILED**

As we know 'beauty is in the eye of the beholder'. There is little difference in the purchase cost between a lacquered and an oiled floor; therefore it will most likely be the look of the flooring that determines which the consumer will choose. This said there are a number of other considerations, which should be born in mind when taking this decision.

Lacquered hardwood floors are pretty much non-maintenance. Obviously they need to be swept over with a soft broom from time to time and occasionally wiped over with a lightly moistened mop or damp cloth. They will however show scratch marks with usage, as would a lacquered tabletop. With a bad scratch, it is possible that a French polisher may be able to improve the appearance; however local repairs generally achieve limited success.

It is of course possible to completely sand and re-seal a lacquered floor, although this would not normally be required until such times as the flooring has given several years of hard wear. Unless the flooring has been badly damaged during its lifetime, this process will pretty much restore the flooring to 'as new' condition.

Oiled floors are on the other hand much more forgiving where scratching is concerned. Scratches tend to be less obvious and are also much easier to repair locally. A light sand, followed by the re-application of oil, will generally restore the appearance of the flooring without the need to re-finish the entire area.

There is however maintenance issues, which one needs to take on board, before purchasing an oiled product. It is the saturation of the timber surface with oil, which protects the flooring against spillage and soiling. It is important therefore to ensure that oil is applied to the surface of the flooring periodically.

How often the flooring needs oiling will depend upon the environment in which the product is laid. Logically; an oiled floor laid in the hallway of a country cottage, where one-steps immediately from the outdoors onto the flooring, will require more maintenance than an oiled floor laid to the lounge of a penthouse apartment in the West End of London. In the winter months; the proprietor of the cottage would also do well to consider providing some further protection of the flooring; by way of an entrance mat laid just inside the doorway of their home.

In conclusion, the use of common sense is your best aid in maintaining the long lasting good looks of an oiled floor.