

## Maintenance and prevention tips

Although your finished hardwood floor offers high durability and easy maintenance, it is not indestructible. In order to maintain and preserve the beauty of your floor, the following are tips which should save you time and worry:

- Regularly sweep or vacuum the floor to prevent sand or abrasive dust from accumulating and scratching the finish.
- Use manufacturers specialized maintenance products for safe, quick and easy maintenance of your hardwood flooring. Please see [www.osmo.de](http://www.osmo.de) for oil finishes maintenance. Also:

[www.osmo.de/export/sites/www.osmo.de/documents/PBL\\_Pflegeanweisung\\_GB\\_0911lr.pdf](http://www.osmo.de/export/sites/www.osmo.de/documents/PBL_Pflegeanweisung_GB_0911lr.pdf)

- Place doormats outside and rugs inside at every entrance to prevent sand or abrasive dust from accumulating.
- Place a rug in front of the dishwasher and the kitchen sink to protect the floor from water, oily detergent spills and fallen objects.
- Use protectors under all narrow casters or replace them with wider rubber casters. Avoid plastic casters.
- Protect the floor when moving heavy pieces of furniture. Carry them or place them on a rug, wrong side up, and slide the rug. Refrigerators should never be moved without adequate floor protection.
- The relative humidity level in your home must be maintained at 45% (40-50 ~ throughout the year. Problems related to humidity level variation can be minimized by proper ventilation, dehumidifying or heating.

## THINGS TO AVOID

- Do not pour any floor cleaner directly on floor.
- Never allow any liquid to remain on floor.
- Avoid dripping T-bars which leave excess water on floor. Some manufacturers recommend cleaning hardwood floors with a T-bar rinsed in a water and vinegar solution. This is acceptable so long as the T-bar is squeezed dry beforehand.

- Never use wax, oil-based detergent or any household cleaners. These may dull or damage the finish, leaving a greasy film, making the floor slippery and more difficult to clean.