

Maintenance Instructions

How Often Should You Clean Your Laminate Flooring?

Plan on a weekly maintenance cleaning for your laminate flooring and reserve time every couple of months for deep cleaning. We'll give you general instructions for both types of cleaning and tips for caring for your flooring below, but always follow the cleaning and care instructions for your specific flooring and use the cleaning materials the manufacturer recommends.

NOTE

- If you have children or pets or if your laminate flooring is in an entryway or foyer, you may need to clean more often. In some cases, it's a good idea to give laminate flooring a quick cleaning each day.
- You can vacuum laminate flooring, but be sure to use either an attachment designed for the floor or a vacuum with the rotating brush turned off. The wrong attachment can scratch your floor. A rotating beater brush will spread dirt and dust around and can gouge the laminate.
- Do not scrub or wet wash the new floor for at least four days following installation to avoid causing a problem with the bond of the adhesive to the subfloor.
- Do not use excessive amounts of water when cleaning the floor.
- Avoid the use of harsh chemicals or coarse scrub pads which could damage the flooring surface.

Regular Maintenance

Regular, weekly cleaning has several benefits. In addition to keeping your flooring looking good and making deep cleaning easier, periodic cleaning can reduce allergens in your home and remove sand and other debris that can scratch your flooring.

Instructions

Clean Up Liquids Quickly

Use a microfiber towel or dry sponge mop to clean up spills or mud as soon as possible. Liquid will damage laminate flooring if you leave it unattended for long periods of time, and spills that dry will be more difficult to clean later. For heavy grime deposits, you can use a small amount of laminate-floor cleaner on a microfiber cloth to spot-clean. After wiping up the spill, dry the area with a clean cloth.

NOTE

- Do not use a steam cleaner or steam mop on your Timeless Laminate.

Sweep Dry-Mop, or Vacuum

Use a broom or dry mop to remove loose material such as dirt, grass, dust and, if you have pets, pet hair. Be sure to clean in the corners, around the baseboards and under furniture. A broom with soft bristles or a microfiber dust mop is best for laminate flooring.

NOTE

- A robotic vacuum lets you keep up regular cleaning with less effort. Just make sure it's designed and set up for laminate flooring.

Deep-Clean Your Timeless Laminate Flooring

Deep-cleaning laminate flooring takes more effort and time than regular cleaning, but it can make your floors noticeably cleaner and restore the floor's shine by removing remnants of mud, drips and spills — anything that can block the original beauty of the floor. In most cases, you can deep-clean laminate flooring with a broom, mop, damp cloth and small amount of cleaning solution for laminate flooring.

Instructions

Perform Maintenance Cleaning

Clean up any liquid spills or drips. Sweep, dry-mop and vacuum the floor as normal to remove loose dirt, dust and debris.

Damp-Mop the Floor

Dampen the pad or head on a microfiber mop and mop the floor to remove any dirt or dust buildup you didn't catch during the maintenance cleaning. Clean the pad as needed. Use as little water as possible when mopping, as too much water may cause the flooring planks to swell or may seep into the joints and get under the floor.

Make Your Timeless Laminate Shine

For buildup that a damp mop won't remove, use a cleaner for laminate flooring and follow the instructions on the packaging. Scrub problem areas by hand using the solution on a clean microfiber cloth. Don't use an abrasive pad. It'll scratch the flooring. Once you've applied the cleaner, you may need to damp-mop again with water to remove streaks or excess cleaner that could collect more dirt.

Clean Any Remaining Grime

Some spills and marks may not come up when you damp-mop or spot-clean. For example, cleaning dried gum or candle wax from laminate flooring will require more effort. Cool the material with some ice cubes sealed in plastic or with an ice pack you'd use in a cooler. Carefully and gently use a plastic putty knife to scrape up the material. To wipe away crayon or ink marks, use a small amount of nail polish remover on a microfiber cloth. Once you've removed problem grime, wipe up any residue with a clean, damp cloth. Dry the floor thoroughly after cleaning.

Maintain Your Timeless Laminate Flooring

Good care and maintenance will keep your laminate flooring looking its best for years to come and make cleaning easier.

- Felt floor protectors should be used under furniture legs to help avoid surface scratches and damage. (Glide n' Guard Floor Protectors should be used under all heavy appliances.)
- Vacuum/Sweep the floor frequently to ensure grit and dirt are removed to avoid scratching or damaging the flooring surface.
- Avoid using waxes, polishes and any commercial cleaners not designed for laminate. Harsh cleaners, such as those with bleach, can cause damage, and sudsy cleaners can leave behind sticky residue that collects dirt.
- Do not use a vacuum with a beater bar or rotary brush.
- Use exterior door mats at your entry doors. Use area rugs inside the doors and place the rugs on pads designed for use with laminate. Clean the mats and rugs regularly so they can effectively keep dirt off of your floors.
- Remove cleats or shoes with hard heels or soles before walking on laminate flooring.
- Regularly trim your pet's claws.
- If you'll be using an office chair on laminate flooring, choose one with rubber wheels or swap out the plastic casters with rubber replacement wheels.
- Apply felt pads to the legs of furniture on laminate flooring.
- Don't slide furniture across the floor. Get a helper and lift furniture to move it.
- When moving heavy equipment or appliances, be certain to protect the floor by covering it with hardboard or plywood panels to prevent surface damage.
- Do not use a steam mop.