

Understanding how a Hardwax-Oil Finish interacts with the wood fibers and wears over time is the key to understanding the many advantages of this finish on the whole and in comparison to commonly used “plastic” finishes such as polyurethanes and aluminum-oxides. Historically used throughout Europe and by early American settlers to preserve and enhance the beauty of natural wood surfaces, Hardwax-Oil finishes are being rediscovered for their many unique benefits from the beauty they preserve to their ease of maintenance. Our Hardwax-Oil is a modern take on this traditional finish and has been improved with technology to connect the oil to the wood fibers by means of a molecular reaction, resulting in more durable protection.

Penetrating vs. Coating

Acrylic, polyurethane, and aluminum oxide finishes form a surface coating on the floor, essentially a visible “plastic” film that sits on top of the wood. This coating will inevitably scratch over time, trapping dirt and degrading the appearance of the wood. A significant disadvantage to these coatings is that they can not be spot repaired. Rather, the entire surface must be sanded and recoated – a costly, disruptive and time-consuming process – typically needing to be done every 7-10 years. With each successive re-sanding a layer of wood is consumed allowing for at best only about 3-4 re-sandings before the wood must be replaced.

Conversely, our Hardwax-Oil Finish is not merely a surface coating, but rather is a penetrating finish that becomes a part of the wood. The natural oil penetrates deeply into the wood pores, bonding with the wood fibers while the wax remains on the surface to create a beautiful matte finish and to form a protective, resistant layer. Spot repairs of scratches or damaged areas are possible and easily achieved. This is true for spot repair of the entire floor. A floor finished with Hardwax-Oil never needs to be re-sanded. The natural luster of the Hardwax-Oil can easily be rejuvenated with periodic application of maintenance oil. With proper care and maintenance, a floor finished with our Hardwax-Oil will last a lifetime and will always maintain its genuine, natural beauty.

Appearance and Aging Process – Hardwax-Oil vs. Polymerized Finishes

A Hardwax-Oil finish respects and enhances the natural look and feel of the wood. Easily distinguished by its elegant and sophisticated matte appearance, Hardwax-Oil allows the ultimate color of the wood to flourish and to continue to be enhanced over time. Wood finished with Hardwax-Oil will scratch and dent, but the difference is that it may be easily spot-repaired. With our Hardwax-Oil Finish, age and use serve only to enhance the rich patina of the natural wood – the more foot-traffic there is, the more beautiful the floor becomes.

On the other hand, a floor finished with a polymer (“plastic” finish such as polyurethane) will never look better than the day it was first finished. The look of the floor degrades over time as scratches diffuse light and pick up dirt, causing the floor to look dull and dingy. This degrading process accelerates when deep scratches penetrate the surface coating and expose unprotected wood.

Additional Hardwax-Oil Benefits

Our Hardwax-Oil is extremely water repellent and does not watermark. Nor will it crack, flack, peel, blister or panelize like a polymerized finish. The open cell structure of the Hardwax-Oil allows the floor to “breathe” which has a regulatory effect on moisture, ensuring a healthy room climate, and keeping with the wood’s natural hydroscopic characteristics. Additionally, our Hardwax-Oil is stain-resistant against wine, beer, cola, coffee, tea, fruit juice and milk.

Natural, Non-toxic, 100% VOC-free

Our Hardwax-Oil finish is ALL NATURAL, non-pollutant and completely non-toxic. It does NOT contain biocides, preservatives, lead-benzene and is 100% VOC-free (Volatile Organic Compounds). Our Hardwax-Oil is produced from natural materials such as vegetable oil and natural waxes made from purified renewable natural raw materials.