

# Wood flooring Care guide

## Room Climate

It is important that you maintain a constant temperature/humidity for your wood flooring. DO NOT change the temperature/humidity of the environment too rapidly as this may cause damage to your wood flooring. A simple rule is that your wood and/or wood floor will enjoy living in the same consistent indoor climate as we do.

A room temperature of 20°C (68°F), a relative humidity of about 50-60% is preferred.

Please note an example: You can stress your floor if you leave your home unattended and when returning home use quick climate change influencers like heater/s and air conditioner/s to rapidly change the room/area temperature and humidity.

A humidifier / dehumidifier may be helpful to keep the temperature and humidity constant if/when required.

## Care

### Commonsense should always prevail, for example:

Close windows and doors to protect your flooring from the elements such as rain.

Do not leave damp/wet mats or objects on your laminate or wood flooring. Prevent tap/water leaks.

Protect your flooring from UV light. Excessive, direct, unfiltered UV light can cause damage. Protection such as tinted, double-glazed windows, drapes, blinds, sheers etc can also reduce exposure to UV light.

Protect your flooring from prolonged exposure to direct heat and/or indirect heat (over 25 degrees) from any source eg. sun, heaters, fireplaces etc.

**Dry cleaning:** It is generally sufficient to clean your wood flooring using a dry mop, anti-static mop, a soft broom or vacuum cleaner with a soft brush attachment. Take care to prevent contaminants such as stones and sand on the surface of your wood flooring.

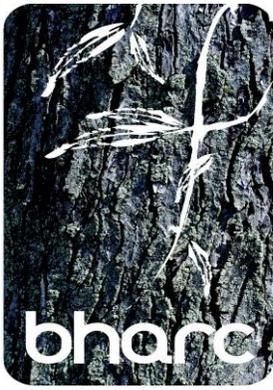
**Damp cleaning /care:** Damp mop your floor surface only when required. Please ask your **bharc** distributor for the best product to suit your individual wood flooring, project and use requirement. Usually a neutral non-soapy, non-abrasive cleaner can be added to water. Do not use products that will leave a residue on your wood flooring.

**Please note: Always wring out the cloth or mop well before wiping the floor. Do not wet mop. DO NOT use a steam mop on your wood flooring.**

**Note:** It is recommended MOST cleaning be a simple vacuum (with a soft brush foot) or an anti static mop wipe. The less damp mopping the better. Wet mopping, unless removed thoroughly, can leave 'smears' from moist unremoved surface contaminants. Cleaning products can also leave unwanted residues on the surface and/or layers of your wood flooring.

### Additional preventive protection

To preserve the quality and beauty of your wood floor we recommend using protective pads under chairs and furniture legs. Chair castors and office roller chairs must use type W (soft) lined rollers. If you have pets, keep their nails trimmed regularly.



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### Heat all areas evenly

Especially with electric heating systems it is important to make sure that there are no so-called 'hot spots', i.e. a concentration of wiring resulting in elevated temperatures in that area. The underfloor heating system must provide a consistent temperature throughout the whole floor area. If only a part of the wood flooring area to be installed is heated, the wood flooring must be separated by moldings (with floating floor) or an adequate expansion gap (with glue-down) where the heated and unheated areas meet (e.g. living / dining with heating in living but none in the dining area). The same provision applies to areas installed that run on a separate heating cycle. The cycles all must run on the same temperature in the areas to be installed with bharc flooring.

### Temperature

The maximum surface temperature at any time must not exceed 25°C on the flooring surface. To check an existing system, heat it up to its maximum and put a thermometer on the concrete surface. Anything over 25°C is too high. Make sure that the temperature control will only allow a maximum of 25°C. Hot/Warm water underfloor heating systems are also suitable, however, the same rules as for electric systems apply. In the case of a concrete base and pipes embedded in a screed layer over the top (usually 30 to 40 mm), a heat-up procedure has to be followed in order to ensure that the screed layer has reached proper moisture levels.

Always have the system checked and run before the installation of the wood flooring.

If the wood flooring has been installed in the summer months, when you turn on the heating for the first time in winter, increase the heat slowly (by about 5°C per day) to your desired temperature (but not above the maximum temperature of 25°C). Please follow this procedure every time the system has been turned off. If you are installing the wood flooring in the winter time, it is a good idea to have heating system running at a medium temperature during installation. The surface temperature of the subfloor during installation must be min 18°C and relative air humidity must be max. 65%.

Please check with the manufacturer of the underfloor heating system to ensure it complies and is suitable for use with wood floors.

Let your project manager/builder know as early as possible in which areas (with underfloor heating) you are planning to install bharc floors.

# bharc