

Maintenance instructions - Lacquered Karelia wood floor

The surface of Karelia wood flooring has been pre-finished with five coats of hardwearing UV hardened acrylic lacquer, which has no formaldehyde content and does not emit any other harmful additives into the room space. In order to maintain the beauty of your parquet floor, follow our simple maintenance instructions.

Ambient air

It is important that, in rooms where the flooring is laid, the relative humidity of the air is kept within the limits of 40 % and 60 % and the room temperature between 18 degrees C and 24 degrees C. In the United Kingdom, these conditions will normally obtain but, in exceptionally hot or exceptionally cold weather, heating and ventilation need to be balanced lest there be abnormal expanding and shrinking of the parquet, for which the retailer, manufacturer or installer cannot take responsibility. Distortion can be prevented by using an air humidifier in dry conditions. This will also be healthier for you and your family.

Cleaning

- Use mats on both sides of your front door, so that as little as possible grit and other dirt is carried onto the floor.
- Remove particles with a vacuum cleaner or a brush.
- When you want to clean the floor thoroughly, 'dry' wipe it with a barely moist cloth.
- A drop of any neutral washing liquid can be added to the washing water if required and your cloth dipped in it and well squeezed out before wiping the floor. If liquid is spilt on the floor, wipe it off immediately.
- We do not recommend any conditioner for parquet floors.
- Do not use wax.

Prevention of scratches

In order to protect the floor from scratches and knocks, use felt pads on your furniture. Remove any grit or other abrasives immediately. Remember parquet does not like stiletto heels.

Removal of stains

The fresher the spot, the easier it will be to remove. For stain removal you can use the substances mentioned in the table below.

Type of stain	Cleaning substance
fruit, berries, juices, milk, cream, soft drinks, beer, wine, coffee, tea, urine	synthetic cleaning agents
chocolate, fat, oil, shoe polish, marks by shoes, tar, bitumen	mineral turpentine
sealing wax, correcting ink, ballpoint pen, ink, lipstick	household spirits
blood	cold water

Karelia®

Wood Flooring

Reconditioning of a lacquered Karelia floor

If in the fullness of time the lacquer surface becomes worn or dull, the floor can be sanded and re-lacquered. Then your floor will be as good as new.

It is recommended that re-lacquering is carried out by a professional. A number of special tools are required and the expertise of the professional is needed to ensure the best possible finish for your high quality Karelia flooring.

For re-lacquering, standard varnishes for parquet floors can be used. Read the instructions carefully.

To remove the old varnish a suitable abrasive-belt sander should be used. The grade of sanding paper or net must be approx. 50 and sanding carried out at right angles to the parquet boards. Corners and edges have to be sanded with a disc sanding machine using sanding paper grade 50. In the same way, scratches and knocks can be repaired with a mastic of sanding dust and base varnish or with a filler that matches the colour of the floor.

After repairs have been completed, a final sanding is required. The grade of the sanding paper or net should be between 80 and 100.

After sanding, loose dust must be carefully removed from the surface of the parquet.

Apply three coats of base varnish using a steel spatula. Consumption of varnish approx. 100 - 150 gr/m².

If sanding is required after applying the base varnish, the grade of the sanding paper or net has to be between 120 and 160. After sanding, loose sanding dust must be very carefully removed from the surface of the parquet using a barely-moist cloth.

Apply two layers of finishing lacquer using a steel spatula, mohair spatula or lacquering spatula and brush. Consumption of varnish approx. 250 - 300 gr/m².

After lacquering, let the floor dry properly.

Caring for your pre-finished Karelia parquet is very simple and satisfying providing you remember the most important principles:

- correct humidity and temperature conditions, ventilation, air humidification
- mats on both sides of the front door
- prevent water being trodden onto the floor especially in hallways
- immediate removal of stains
- felt pads on furniture.