

# ECOTIMBER® CLEANING & MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS FOR FACTORY URETHANE FINISHES

Our durable factory urethane finishes are easy to maintain and should provide years of protection for your wood or bamboo floor.

**Please Note:** Tradespeople performing work on other elements of the space are one of the most common causes of scratching and damage to prefinished flooring. Flooring should be one of the last items installed in a remodel or new construction project. If other work is performed after the flooring is installed, the floor should be cleaned thoroughly and covered with a protective layer prior to that work beginning. After installation, follow these simple guidelines:


**Prevent Scratches** – There is no such thing as a “scratch-proof” wood floor, but following these basic procedures will reduce the likelihood and frequency of scratches:

- Felt padding should be permanently affixed to the legs of all furniture before it is moved into the space.
- Do not allow people to wear spiked heels on the floor, which will severely damage even the hardest wood floors and finishes.
- Pet claws should be properly trimmed at all times.
- Work boots and shoes that may have pebbles lodged in the soles should be removed prior to entering.

**Remove Grit** - Care should be taken to prevent dirt, sand and grit from accumulating on the surface of your floor. They will act like sandpaper and abrade the finish. Walk-off mats should be placed inside and out at all exterior exits, and the floor should be swept or vacuumed frequently. All mats or rugs should be cleaned and/or replaced on a regular basis. They should also be moved occasionally to allow natural color changes caused by light to occur evenly in all areas.

**Use Proper Cleaning Products** - To clean the EcoTimber factory urethane finish, we recommend the Bona-X® Swedish Formula Hardwood Floor Cleaner ([www.bonakemi.com](http://www.bonakemi.com), 800-574-4674). Vinegar mixed with water (applied with a slightly damp mop – never wet-mop) is also effective at removing scuffs, dried spills, and dust film. To remove hard-to-clean substances such as chewing gum, use Goof-Off® or Goo-Gone®, available at most hardware stores and supermarkets. Floor waxes, oil soaps, and petroleum-based cleaners should not be used under any circumstances.

**Avoid Standing Moisture** – Water and hardwood floors don’t mix. Never wet-mop your floor, and always clean up spills and standing water as soon as possible. With water or any other cleaning agent, be sure to thoroughly ring out the applicator or mop prior to applying it to the floor. A damp mop is fine as long as the moisture is limited to an amount that will evaporate almost immediately. Moisture that is allowed to seep into the seams between the planks may cause damage to your flooring. Do not allow soiled mats or rugs to stay on the floor as they can trap moisture on the surface.

**Top-Coating/Re-coating** - In areas such as bathrooms, kitchens, and spaces where food service occurs, top-coating the floor immediately after installation will help prevent against moisture damage. In heavy food service areas such as restaurants, two to three top-coats are recommended. Periodic recoating in any area will help prolong the life and restore the new appearance of your floor. By recoating the floor at the first signs of wear, you will be able to bring your floor back to new condition with relatively little cost and inconvenience. To top-coat or recoat your EcoTimber® floor, lightly screen (abrade) the top surface of the factory finish and then apply Bona Traffic® floor finish by Bonakemi® [] ([www.bonakemi.com](http://www.bonakemi.com), 800-574-4674). Bonakemi® also offers the Bona Prep® system that allows top-coating without screening or sanding. Follow all BonaKemi® application instructions carefully.