

tuttoparquet®

Important information about

hardwood floors – Leaflet 4

Wood is a “living” material. For this reason it is susceptible to changes caused by external factors such as sunlight, temperature, humidity and everyday use.

It's important to know that the colour of a hardwood floor depends not only on the wood fibres, but also on other substances that are naturally found in the wood itself, known as extractives. Since the colour of these substances may vary based on exposure to air and light, the hardwood floor's original colour will naturally and inevitably change over time, generally towards darker colour tones. This behaviour is the same in stained, thermal treated wood, in direct proportion to the colour tone. Due to their elevated content of extractives, tropical woods are particularly susceptible to this oxidation process and can make the silica traces naturally found in the structure of the wood species appear even more evident. Long exposure of the floor to the sunlight (maybe through windows), can create a discolouring of the floor (U.V. sun rays are able to discolour also materials other than wood). To prevent this phenomenon we advise to use suitable curtains, blinds or special protective film coverings to the windows to filter U.V. rays.

Generally speaking dark woods will lighten in colour and light coloured woods will darken. One exception is Teak, which mellows in colour.

Oak wood characterized by a striped grain along with shinier band and flecks known as silver figures and ray fleck. Woods with these characteristics, which indicate an intersection with medullar rays, constitute an increasingly sought-after feature.

These characteristics clearly distinguish the more valuable strips in terms of both aesthetic appearance (fibre regularity) and technical performance (dimensional stability, impermeability, etc.).

Wood is naturally susceptible to dimensional variations that depend on room temperature and humidity. To prevent these factors from generating undesirable effects on the floor, the room's climate must always be kept within the recommended limits: air temperature between 15°C and 30°C and, most importantly, air humidity between 45% and 65%. What's more, these temperature and humidity ranges are the same ones recommended for people's comfort and health.

The hardwood floor finish has a protective function. Over time, foot traffic will cause the floor to lose its shine, the extent of which depends on the intensity of traffic and use. Damage caused by sharp or fallen objects, along with highly concentrated loads (high heels, work ladders, etc.) can leave marks (dents) on the surface.

Wood does not have the same uniform appearance as synthetic materials. For this reason no two floors in the same wood will ever be exactly identical.

A wood sample consisting of just a few strips will give a general idea of how the entire floor will look. However, it can never fully represent the floor's final aesthetic result.

DISCLAIMER:

Showroom samples and photographic reproductions can give an example of the product's appearance but they may not be representative of the full range of color, texture and grain variations, which can occur in the product itself.

The images on our website are provided for reference only and should not be used as the sole basis for choosing a particular style of flooring.

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