



## Maintaining & Cleaning Oiled Wood Floors Including UV Oiled Floors

**Please Note: For White floors use the "White Natural Soap" and White Maintenance Oil for any other colour use the "Colourless Natural Soap" and Universal Maintenance Oil.**

If the recommended cleaning and maintenance products are not used then the Solid Wood Flooring Company cannot be held responsible for any deterioration or lack of durability of the finish of the floor. Some propriety cleaners can contain chemical and other substances like alcohol that can damage the surface and finish, especially on oiled floors.

To keep your floor looking good after installation, and the initial clean with natural soap, make sure you use felt pads on all chairs, sofas and table legs. For regular cleaning you should just use a micro fibre mop and/or soft brush vacuum cleaner (not one that has a rotating brush) as these generally have a plastic underside that can cause damage to a floor. You only need to use the natural soap and maintenance oil when the floor starts to look dry or lacks "lustre". The frequency with which you need to do this depends on the usage of the floor and traffic.

### Regular Cleaning

Regular cleaning is easy and should be done with the dusting pad on a mop with a Velcro base. This will remove most of the dust that will collect on the floor and is quick and easy.



You can also use a vacuum cleaner with a soft brush head like the one shown. **Do not use a vacuum with a rotating brush** as this will likely have a support bar underneath which can leave marks and scratches on the floor. Once your floor starts to look a little dull with maybe marks on then give it a **thorough clean**. You can do this as often as you like as the special natural soap includes natural oils that replenish the floor.



**Thorough Clean**

This simple process should be followed to keep your floor looking clean and like new, by using the professional cleaning products we supply then you can increase the time between re-oiling as you will be nourishing the wood with each clean. This is the best product to use as it will reduce the number of times you need to apply maintenance oil.

**Please remember White Natural Soap for white floors and Colourless for all other oiled floors.**

### Step 1

Get two large plastic buckets and fill both to 2 thirds of the way up with very hot water (not boiling but too hot for your hand). Add the Blanchon Natural Soap to one bucket using a mix of between 20-50 to 1 (100-200ml of soap to 5ltrs of water) depending on how dirty your floor is.

### Step 2

Make sure you have a clean sponge on your squeeze mop and soak it in the hot water bucket with the Natural Soap solution. Stirring it around and then squeeze as much water out as you can.

**DO NOT OVER WET THE FLOOR.**



### Step 3

You then clean between 0.5m<sup>2</sup>-1m<sup>2</sup> or less per rinse (depending on how dirty and dry the floor is). You'll be able to tell how dirty the floor is after the first boards are cleaned. It is always better to clean in the direction for the floorboards rather than across them.

For first time cleans in building sites do not do more than 0.5 m<sup>2</sup> before rinsing and soaking in the natural soap.



### Step 4

**TIP:** If the floor is very dirty or you have a large area over 25m<sup>2</sup> then you should get new hot water and Natural Soap Solution. You will be able to tell this by looking at how dirty the water in the clean rinse bucket is. Do not keep cleaning if the water in the clean rinse bucket is getting really murky.

Continue to clean the floor, rinsing the mop or sponge after every 1-2m<sup>2</sup>. When you soak the sponge in the natural soap solution, swirl the sponge around to get as much of the soap and natural oil as you can, before squeezing out again over the natural soap bucket and repeat this until you have finished cleaning the floor.

Allow the floor to dry before putting it into use, drying times are usually 15-60 minutes. Once dry the floor can be put into full use.





As can be seen from the before & after photos, the floor that has been cleaned with the Blanchon Natural Soap has not only been cleaned but is also more nourished. This is because the Natural Soap also contains natural oils that replenishes the floor, using really hot water helps as it opens the grain of the wood allowing better absorption of the oil; and it will also help reduce any existing scratches as well.

If the floor gets very dry over time or is subject to heavy usage then use the Universal Maintenance Oil Spray and a clean micro fibre mop to just wipe over the surface, applying a thin, even coat and quickly removing any excess. DO NOT apply maintenance oil if the floor has not been cleaned as above as the pores of the wood are likely to be closed with dirt and dust.

Always use the correct professional products to look after your floor and not supermarket propriety cleaners that can damage the floor and leave residual chemicals or waxes.

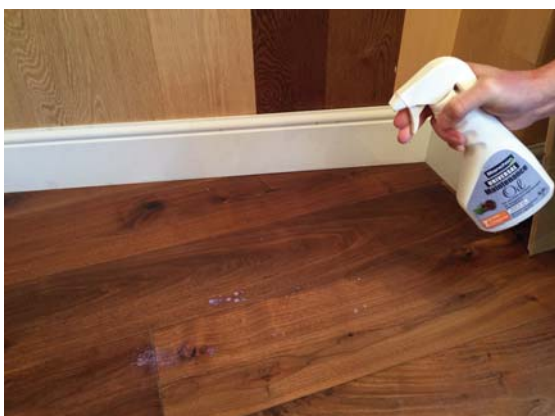
### **Maintenance Oil Application**

**Please remember White Maintenance Oil for White Floors and Universal Maintenance Oil for all other types of floors.**

The frequency of the application of the universal maintenance oil will depend on the amount of traffic the floor experiences. For commercial applications this process could be needed once a month, whereas normal domestic properties may not require maintenance oil for a year or maybe even two years after installation. The more times you complete this process the more the floor will gain a sheen. If there is underfloor heating you may need to apply the maintenance oil more regularly especially in the winter months when the floor will be subject to a lot more heat in drier conditions.

#### **Step 1 for Universal Maintenance Spray**

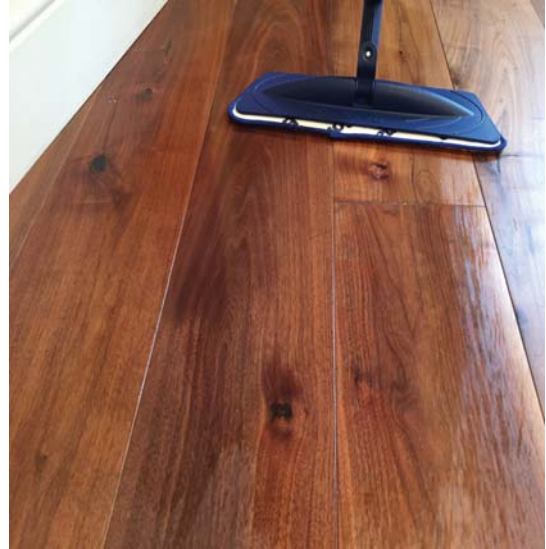
Apply a very small amount of maintenance oil at a time, DO NOT try and do too much all at once as you will only need a very thin coat. Once you have applied some oil like the image "A" below for the spray, start to work in and spread across the floor with the applicator pad.



Images "A" Universal Maintenance Oil Spray and applicator pad

## Step 2

Apply the maintenance oil evenly with the micro fibre pad on a mop until it has penetrated the floor and spread as far as you can. You then repeat step 1 above on the next area making sure you “blend” in the edges. It is very important not to apply too much maintenance oil as the thinner the layer the better because it will cure quicker. The floor should look refreshed and new “NOT SHINY” if it looks to shiny you have applied too much and you need to buff off the excess quickly.



## Step 1 for Application of White Maintenance oil

It is best to get a small container like the one shown in image “B” below so that you only apply a small amount, if you pour it on the floor from the container you will have excess oil on the floor, which is a waste, and also means you will probably put too much on the floor.



Use a small container and apply the oil very sparingly

## Step 2 for Application of White Maintenance oil

As soon as you have applied a little oil you should then spread and work into the board with the applicator pad. Each time you do this it will add not only to the protection of the floor but also enhance its look.



**Drying Times**

The Universal oil will dry within 20 minutes but the white maintenance oil due to its pigmentation will take between 4 to 6 hours. If you use cheap propriety products that you can buy from supermarkets or DIY stores you will eventually have problems. You should only use what the professionals use.

**Please call 01666 504015 if you need anything else or advice.**