

# Caring for Laminate

The good news is that laminate flooring is a relatively low maintenance and easy to clean. There are a number of steps that can be taken to ensure that your new flooring stays in top condition.

To avoid damaging laminate flooring, never push or drag furniture around. Always ensure that any furniture is lifted, particularly if heavy. Pushing or dragging furniture or heavy items on your laminate flooring may scratch or dent it. If possible place soft castors or felt pads under chair and table legs.

Additionally, a doormat will help keep the dirt outside your home. Grit or small stones can cause the surface to become scratched especially if stuck in the soles of shoes or boots.

It is important to bear in mind that laminate flooring is often not waterproof, it more frequently could be water resistant, it is important you know the flooring product you are living with. The majority of laminate flooring can be kept clean with a solution of water and vinegar (Always check manufacturers guidelines or test on a small inconspicuous area if in doubt). Generally, a cup of household vinegar to one gallon of warm water can be used with a slightly damp, well rung soft mop, ensuring that you do not over wet the floor – if water soaks through it can seep into and under the layers causing warping.

Any spills should be dealt with as soon as possible using a damp cloth and the residue cleaned away with a dry cloth immediately. Keep floors dirt and dust free as much as possible by regularly sweeping with a soft broom or vacuuming with a hard floor attachment. A dry microfibre mop or cloth can be used to remove and collect loose dirt and dust.

It is not recommended that floors with bevelled edges or V grooves are cleaned with a wet mop. This may cause dirt to accumulate in the grooves and when dry would prove more difficult to remove, Hoover/sweep the flooring thoroughly before wiping or mopping.

Substances such as candle wax or chewing gum can be removed from laminate flooring by first using ice to harden it and carefully scraping off with a plastic scraper. Wipe clean after with a lightly damp cloth.

## **Top Tips for looking after your laminate flooring.**

1. Position doormats by entrance doors.
2. Use felt pads on the feet of moving furniture, table & chairs.
3. Vacuum regularly (watch out for grit on the Hoover wheels).
4. Sweep with a soft broom.
5. Consider trimming pets nails.
6. Do not use anything abrasive when attempting to remove stains.
7. Do not over wet when cleaning.
8. Do not leave puddles to soak in.
9. Try to avoid prolonged exposure to direct sunlight.