

# Cleaning and care of lacquered parquet, matt and B-Protect®

## General Information

Lacquering is a treatment that creates a film of lacquer on the surface of the parquet floor intended to protect the wood from wear and dirt. These special parquet sealing lacquers stand out for their good adhering qualities on wood, high wear toughness and good chemical resistance. The lacquer coating is subject to more or less wear depending on how much traffic there is. Routine cleaning and maintenance of the sealant helps protect the lacquer; in other words, it reduces wear and tear while improving the appearance of the lacquer surface.

## Initial treatment – Living areas

Since all elements are installed manually on-site, we recommend applying additional edge protection once the installation site has been cleaned. By doing so, you will better protect untreated joints and edges against dirt and moisture penetration. Eco Parquet Care can be used in living areas. The product is used pure and undiluted, applied onto a pre-cleaned floor in a thin and even coat.

## Initial treatment – Areas with particularly intense use

In locations that see heavy use, including restaurants and hotels, offices, shops, etc., as well as for types of wood sensitive to humidity, such as beech, we recommend that matt-lacquered surfaces undergo initial treatment with Bauwerk Parkett's Wax Polish. This product is handled by professional parquet installers and is rubbed into the parquet surface using specialist polishing machines.

**Important:** Please use the "Parquet care Eco" for the first cleaning of B-Protect® surfaces or B-Protect® Wax care. The B-Protect® Wax Care product is handled by professional parquet installers and is rubbed into the parquet surface using specialist polishing machines.

## Maintenance Cleaning

Generally speaking, a soft broom, dust mop or vacuum cleaner is sufficient for routine cleaning and the removal of loose dirt. Stubborn dirt can most easily be washed away with a damp cleaning cloth.

In larger spaces, a single-disc machine with a fine cleaning pad may be used in addition to wet cleaning equipment, such as a spray mop. Parquet Cleaner or a pH-neutral, non-abrasive cleaning agent is added to the mopping water. Wet cleaning must involve very little moisture. The surface should dry out within a minute.

## Maintenance care

Besides cleaning, it is important that the parquet is also maintained. This ensures that the lacquer coating is protected with the right maintenance product.

## Living areas

Colourless Parquet Care Eco is applied undiluted and leaves a thin, even protective film once it has dried.

## Routine care for areas with light use (living areas)

Lacquered parquet not only needs cleaning, but also special care. This means protecting the lacquer coat with proper care products.

In living areas, regular care should be performed around once a year, depending on the intensity of use. Colourless Parquet Care Eco is used undiluted, creating a thin, even protective film after drying. The floor should be thoroughly cleaned before it is applied. Apply a thin coat of Parquet Care Eco over the entire surface of the clean parquet floor using a cleaning mop (such as Bauwerk Parkett's Cleaning Mop). Distribute along the grain of the wood to achieve a thin, even coat, and leave it to dry.

## Routine care – Public areas that see heavy use

In areas that see high or very high levels of use (e.g. due to outdoor footwear being worn indoors or direct access from the street), we recommend general care or regular care treatment using Wax Polish for matt-lacquered surfaces (not those with B-Protect® lacquering), with subsequent polishing. Likewise, depending on the intensity of use, our water-based Parquet Care Eco product can also be used in public areas. For surfaces with B-Protect® lacquering, please only use Parquet Care Eco.. Please note that layers of care products can change the floor's anti-slip class of friction properties.

## Basic cleaning

If a layer builds up after extended use of the care products that is too thick or dirty, this must be removed by thorough cleaning. The intensive cleaner is ideally suited for this job. (Please note the instructions on the bottle). To ensure the cleaning is effective and efficient, a suitable scrubber can be used for larger areas.

**Please note:** It is possible to clean sealed parquet floors quickly with a modern scrubbing machine today. However, because of the wide range of manufacturers and machines, it is absolutely necessary that you inform yourself about the handling and use of the equipment you plan to use!

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## Use of other care products on floors by Bauwerk Parkett

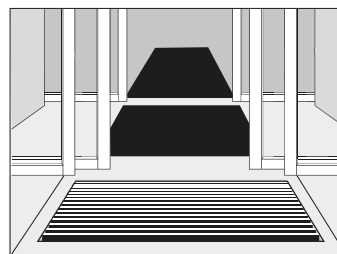
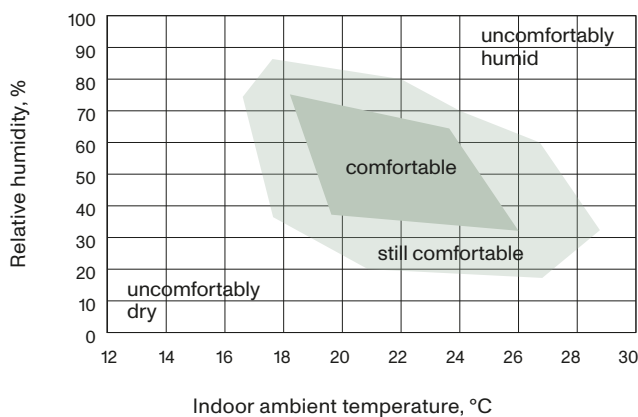
There is a wide variety of products for sealed parquet flooring maintenance available on the market today. Because of this product diversity, we cannot guarantee how well they will work. Therefore, we only recommend the products named here for the care and maintenance of floor surfaces sealed in the Bauwerk Parkett factory. The use of any other products is at your own risk and responsibility.

## General information

- An effective «dirt barrier» (grate, rough doormat and textile doormat) at the entrance helps keep sand and dirt off the parquet floor.
- Attach soft felt gliders to furniture, chair and table legs to avoid dents and scratches. Check these regularly.
- Adhesive tape for attaching cover material or labelling instructions must not be attached to the surface of the parquet, as this can result in damage to its surface treatment.
- With intensive local use, e.g. due to a castor chair, we recommend laying an appropriate protective mat made out of plasticiser-free polycarbonate in the area where the chair is used.  
Castor chairs must be equipped with standard soft castors (EN 12529 type W). These castors are always two-tone. Small stones and dirt can be pressed into the castors' running surfaces. These should be cleaned regularly.
- Remove water and other liquids from the floor as soon as possible.
- For those types of wood, which expand and contract considerably (such as beech), larger gaps can appear in winter. By humidifying the air and maintaining a healthful room climate, you can reduce the amount of this contraction.
- Anti-slip and yoga mats, as well as carpet backs and similar objects, must be plasticiser-free, and not lead to the accumulation of heat when the underfloor heating is on. Please also read our technical memorandum on "Parquet and Radiant Floor Heating" for more on this.
- Do not use steam cleaners, steam vacuum cleaners or any other cleaning devices that apply uncontrollable amounts of water or steam onto the floor.
- Refrain from performing basic cleaning and oil care at excessively high temperatures. In the event of strong sunlight during summer, make sure that there is sufficient shading, and in winter, reduce the flow temperature of your underfloor heating.

## Indoor climate

Like people, parquet needs a healthy room climate: ideally, this means a temperature of 20–22°C at a relative humidity of 40–60%. During heating periods, the relative humidity should not drop below 35%. With underfloor heating, the surface temperature must not exceed 29°C.



An ideal floor covering for an entranceway

A healthy room climate is always a combination of temperature and relative humidity, as well as regular circulation of air.

In a flat that is not immediately moved into, it is necessary to create a room climate similar to that of a space where people live immediately after the parquet is installed. The temperature, air humidity and circulation of air must be configured in a way as if people were living in the flat. This can prevent damage, e.g. due to excessive temperatures or construction emissions.

The construction materials used, like wall paint, sealing products etc., can emit various chemicals, such as ammonia, that accumulate in the air. This can result in damage to the wood (typically, discolouration). Properly and regularly ventilating the room, or setting the ventilation system to a high air-circulation setting is thus important. This also guarantees that the flat is completely emission-free when you move into it.