

Cleaning and care

Natural-oiled parquet

General information

Oiling is a treatment that results in the parquet floor surface being impregnated with oil without creating a film and is intended to protect the wood from wear and dirt. The effectiveness of the oil coating is subject to amount of use as well as wear and tear. Routine cleaning and maintenance of the surface helps protect the oil coating by reducing the effects of wear and retaining or improving the appearance of the used parquet surfaces. Floors in living areas are usually re-oiled once a year. In public spaces, this may need to be carried out a few times a year. The cleaning and care products referred to in the following were specially developed for natural oiled surfaces and therefore can be used without difficulty.

Initial maintenance – Living areas

We recommend that you do the first maintenance right after pre-finished parquet is laid. This protects the untreated tongue and groove areas from the penetration of dirt and moisture. This is particularly important for moisture-sensitive wood types, such as beech, maple, oak Farina, oak Avorio etc. We recommend that you use our Care Oil Eco colourless (product No 1002 2243) or our Care Oil colourless (product No 1101 0996) for the initial maintenance.

Initial treatment with very high-intensity use

If very intense use is expected, as well as for floors in public areas, it is recommended that the floor undergoes an initial treatment using colourless Care Oil Plus (product No 1012 6153) or Hard Wax Oil (product No 1015 4104). These oils provide particularly high surface and edge protection. Because these products require the use of a single-disk machine, they must be applied by a professional floor installer.

Maintenance cleaning

A soft broom, dust mop or vacuum cleaner is sufficient for general 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. Standing moisture must always be avoided.

Stain removal

Intensive Cleaner can be used to remove persistent stains. Tannin stain remover spray handles water and tanning stains. Use Universal Cleaner Plus for any spilled grease or oil. Any areas cleaned must undergo additional treatment. Special micro-fibre short-pile wipes have antibacterial properties and excel at absorbing moisture.

Maintenance care with low-intensity use — Mop Care (occasional care in living areas)

Intended specifically for the routine maintenance of parquet floors that see low-intensity use. Mop Care is a concentrated care product based on natural ingredients, and is intended for mixing with mopping water. Directions: Remove loose dust and dirt from the parquet surface. For stubborn dirt, clean the floor beforehand with Parquet Cleaner. Add 1% Cleaner (50 ml per 5 l of water) and mix well. Mop the floor with a wet mop (for example, a Flat Mop). You should only use microfiber cloths suitable for parquet. After drying for about one hour, an even, matt protective film will appear. The frequency of wash cleaning depends on how intensively and hard the surface is used.

Oil maintenance for light use (in living areas)

Apply the Care Oil Eco or Care Oils in a thin layer completely over the parquet floor using a flat or a wash mop. Make sure the layer is evenly distributed and allow to dry. The consumption rate for Care Oil Eco is 20–25 g/m², and 15–20 g/m² for Care Oil. There are specially coloured care oils for stained surfaces. Please refer to our care oil matrix.

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Oil care with high-intensity use

Apply a thin coat of Care Oil Plus over the entire surface of a clean parquet floor using a cleaning mop. Consumption: approx. 20 g/m². Then rub the product in evenly using a single-disk machine and remove any excess. The drying time is approximately 5 to 6 hours. There are specially coloured care oils for stained surfaces. Please refer to our care oil matrix.

The Hard Wax Care product (product No 1015 3294) can be used for surfaces treated with hard wax oil. This special wax care product offers high protection for the surface. Apply a thin coat of undiluted Hard Wax Care product, then evenly distribute it and rub it into the surface using a single-disk machine. In order to achieve a higher level of gloss, the dried surface can be additionally polished using a white pad.

Basic cleaning

If the floor becomes extremely dirty or if layers of the cleaning agent have built up over time, a thorough basic clean can be carried out with the Intensive Cleaner.

Spray on the intensive cleaner, spread evenly and thinly, leave it to work briefly. Loosen the layer of dirt by using a single-disk machine and suitable pad or an appropriate brush scrubber. Remove any loose dirt with an absorbent cloth, sponge or machine. Wipe the surface that has been cleaned with the Intensive Cleaner thoroughly once again with clean water and allow to dry. For basic thorough cleaning, we recommend that you work in twos. Then, depending on the intensity of use, the floor can undergo another treatment using care oils.

Please note: It is possible to clean oiled 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 from the supplier.

Use of other care products on floors by Bauwerk Parkett

There is a wide variety of oil, solvent-containing waxes, low-solvent wax pastes, water-based oil-wax emulsion, or soap products for oiled parquet flooring maintenance available on the market today. Because of this product diversity, we cannot assume any guarantee for how well they will work. Therefore, we only recommend the products named here for the care and maintenance of oiled floor surfaces from the Bauwerk factory. The use of any other products is at your 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.
- Basic cleaning and oil care should not be carried out at too high temperatures.
- In summer, make sure there is sufficient shading in case of strong sunlight and in winter, reduce the flow temperature of underfloor heating.

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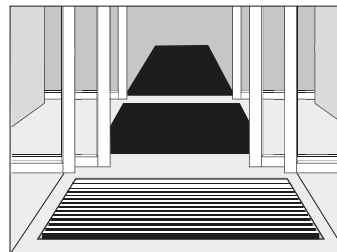
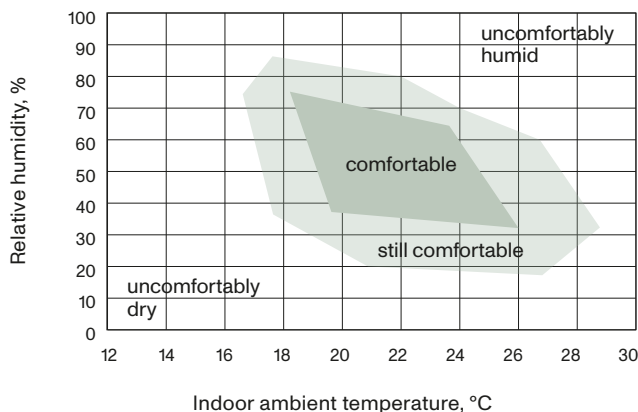
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Safety instructions

Oil-soaked rags and cloths, etc. can combust spontaneously because of the natural characteristics of dried vegetable oil. You should therefore store oil-soaked rags and cloths in tightly closed metal containers or in the open, and spread them out on a non-flammable surface to dry. After they are completely dried out, you can dispose of them with normal household waste. Never use vinegar-based cleaning agents, soft soaps, toothpaste, solvents or highly concentrated alkaline cleaning agents on the parquet.

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.