



BJELIN

Instructions for care of lacquered/UV coated hardened wood floors

A floor must be well-maintained in order to keep its finish and beautiful appearance year after year. Continuous maintenance also makes it harder for stains to take hold and makes future cleaning easier.

General information

How often your floor has to be cleaned depends on how heavily it is used. Regular cleaning and maintenance will extend the service life of your floor.

Your wooden floor is made of natural material. This means that the properties of individual boards can vary. Remember that even a hard floor can become dented or scratched.

Exposure to UV light changes the colour of many products such as wooden floors and textiles. Leaving an area of the floor covered can result in lighter-coloured areas. This is not a product defect but is a natural characteristic of wood. For example, if you cover part of the floor with a rug, you should move it from time to time to create a more uniform colour change of the floor. Another option is to roll up rugs when you are away on holiday to even out the colour.

For cleaning and maintenance, we recommend the use of Bjelins Ecoline products or their equivalent. Floors should be cleaned with a cold pH-neutral cleaning agent (pH 7-7.5) diluted in tap water. Do not use cleaning agents containing ammonia.

Indoor climate

Wood is hygroscopic, which means that it will move with changes in relative humidity. It will swell in the summer and shrink in the winter. Small gaps may appear between the boards as it shrinks. This is perfectly normal for wood. We recommend that a relative humidity of between 30-60% be maintained to avoid large movements in the wood floor.

Prevent dirt and damage

Sand, gravel and moisture cause wear on your floor. You should therefore provide a sufficiently large area for removing coarse dirt outside and a moisture-absorbing doormat inside the door. This is especially important at entrances to public buildings; see below. These measures ensure that your floor will last a long time and will keep cleaning and maintenance low.

Always lift furniture, never drag it across the floor! Place felt pads on your furniture legs to protect the floor. Of course these will have to be replaced from time to time. If you use chairs with wheels, the wheels must be made of soft rubber material. The floor can be better protected by a mat under the chair.

Cleaning in construction work (only applies for heavily soiled floors)

For best results, the wooden floor should be laid last in construction. If additional work is to be done in the room, a protective covering should be placed over the wooden floor as it is laid, completely covering all of the installed wood flooring. The floor must be thoroughly cleaned after the protective covering is removed.

1. Vacuum the floor using a wooden floor adapter and then dry mop the surfaces with a microfibre mop. Change regularly to a clean mop.
2. This only applies for cleaning in construction work and only if the floor has been exposed to dust from construction. Add an acidic detergent such as vinegar (12%) to water at a mixing ratio of 1:20. Do not use more liquid than will allow the floor to dry within 2-3 minutes. One mop is sufficient for approx. 20-25 m² before it must be replaced with a clean one. Remember that only a clean mop will do the job.
3. The acidic cleaner or vinegar mixture loosens particles that are stuck to the floor. This could be dust from plaster or filler material.
4. After dry mopping, mop the surface with a clean microfibre mop moistened in tap water. Change the mop as needed and do not use more liquid than necessary. The surface should be dry within 2-3 minutes.
5. This process neutralises the vinegar mixture, and dust from construction is taken up in the microfibre mop and removed from the floor.

Daily cleaning

Use mostly dry cleaning methods such as vacuum cleaners, dust mops or microfibre mops. If necessary, the floor can be damp mopped after cleaning, using a microfibre mop and Bjelin Wash Care Ecoline Spray cleaner or equivalent. This is applied directly to the floor just before wiping with a microfibre cloth. Do not use more cleaning agent than will allow the floor to dry within 2-3 minutes. Wash your mops regularly in a washing machine. You can also use a neutral cleaning agent diluted in tap water. Never overdose the cleaning agent regardless of the method used. Bjelin Wash Care Ecoline is also available as a concentrate for mixing with ordinary tap water. Do not use soaps or products containing ammonia.

Stain removal

Remove stains as quickly as possible. They are easiest to remove when they are new. Exercise caution with strong stain removers, as they may affect the finish.

Bjelin Wash Care Ecoline Spray or equivalent is recommended for both daily cleaning and stain removal. Apply the cleaning agent directly to the stain and allow to act for 2-3 minutes. Wipe with a microfibre mop. This cleaner is sufficient to remove most stains and should be used as the first choice.

Bjelin Magic Cleaner Ecoline Spray or equivalent is recommended for more difficult stains. This is a stronger cleaner that restores the floor surface. Do not apply more cleaning agent than will allow the floor to dry within 2-3 minutes. Allow to act for 10 minutes before cleaning with a microfibre cloth and ordinary tap water. Repeat if necessary. This is used primarily for so-called restoring of floors.

Read and follow the instructions for the cleaning agent, never overdose the cleaning agent regardless of the method used, and ensure that all water is immediately removed.

Periodic maintenance of lacquered/UV coated floors

After many years of use, the surface of your floor may have lost some of its lustre and become somewhat more difficult to clean due to wear and scratches. In this case, we recommend that you clean your floor thoroughly, complete with a daily cleaning and then treat your floor with Bjelin Refresher Ecoline.

We recommend that this be done in the following steps:

1. Initial cleaning by vacuuming and damp mopping. If necessary, restore the floor using Ecoline Magic Cleaner or equivalent in accordance with the above instructions.
2. Apply Bjelin Refresher Ecoline or equivalent with an applicator mop, such as the Bona Applicator Mop. It is important that the refresher be applied along the wood grain and that the application be done by hand and never with a polishing machine. The lacquer refresher dries in approx. 30 minutes. Test in a less visible place such as behind a door to ensure the desired result.

Don't wait too long before refreshing the surface of a stained floor. If the surface is worn through, it is very difficult to restore it again. Overcoating fills the pores and yields a smoother surface. Note that lacquer applied over the factory finish will usually have inferior properties.

Maintenance in public areas

Floors in public areas are subject to much higher wear and tear than in residential areas. Prepare a thorough maintenance schedule and follow it to increase the service life of the floor. Follow the cleaning and maintenance recommen-

dations described for homes, but at more frequent intervals. The schedule may vary from room to room depending on use. It is very important to reduce the risk of wear and tear due to moisture and soiling in public areas. Gratings, preferably covered over, must be provided outside of entrances to public areas, with coarse mats inside the door followed by moisture-absorbing mats. Moisture-absorbing mats must be changed at regular intervals, as they can sometimes fill up quickly. The size of the entrance area should be sufficient to prevent the floor from becoming damp and to ensure that soiling remains in the entrance. As a rule of thumb, 7 steps should be taken in each zone to achieve sufficient drying. Not only does a well-functioning entrance significantly affect the life of the floor, but also cleaning and maintenance costs.

Instructions for maintenance in public areas:

1. Initial cleaning by vacuuming and damp mopping. If necessary, restore the floor with Ecoline Magic Cleaner or equivalent according to the instructions above.
2. Apply Bjelin Refresher Ecoline or equivalent with an applicator mop such as the Bona Applicator Mop. It is important that the refresher be applied along the wood grain and that the application be done by hand and never with a polishing machine. The lacquer refresher dries in approx. 30 minutes. Test in a less visible place such as behind a door to ensure the desired result.

Don't wait too long before refreshing the surface of a stained floor. It is very difficult to restore the surface if it has been worn through. Overcoating fills the pores and yields a smoother surface. Note that lacquer applied over the factory finish will usually have inferior properties.

Repairing floors

Slightly deeper scratches should first be treated with touch-up lacquer and then with Bjelin Refresher Ecoline or equivalent. As always when refreshing or repairing floors, start by thoroughly cleaning the area you want to treat.

Deep scratches, cracks or other damage can be filled with wood filler or with a suitable colour hot melt wax before lacquering. Heavily damaged boards may need to be replaced.

Repair and spot renovation of damage/scratches

For best results, we recommend that all measures be performed by trained professionals. The easiest way to replace a damaged board is by taking up the floor. If this is not possible, visit bjelin.com for more detailed instructions.

Further information

Please see www.bjelin.com or contact support@bjelin.com for further maintenance information.



Designed in Sweden
www.bjelin.com

LIMITED LIFETIME WARRANTY FOR STRUCTURAL DURABILITY
Bjelin warrants the durability of the multilayer product structure relating to the pressing and fusing the single layers with one another. This means that these engineered hardwood floors will not delaminate when properly installed and maintained according to Bjelin's installation and maintenance procedures, as enclosed with the floor.



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