 Floor care sheet

Urethane finish

1. **Curing time for all finishes to reach full hardness is about one – three weeks.** Do not use any liquids, including water, to clean the floor during the first three weeks. Any spills and standing water will need to be removed immediately during this time. Floor coatings are only resistant to chemicals and water after they are fully cured. We recommend using Pallman product floor cleaners. You can find our list of recommended floor care products via this link to our web site. <http://kitsapwoodflooring.com/recommended-products-2/>

2. **Walk on floor (in stocking feet): four – six hours after final coat depending on job site conditions.**

3. **Replace furniture (carefully, lift and set, never slider drag): one – two days after final coat.**

4. **Laydown area rugs: two – three weeks after final coat**.

**Maintenance tips to serve the longevity of your floor and finish.**

1. **Dust mop floors daily to remove dirt and grit**. Do not use dust mop treatments as they will over time build up on the finish and create a residue that may prevent recoating.
2. **Vacuum floors with a head made from soft horsehair bristle**. Be very careful with steam mops as they will force steam into the cracks of your flooring and may cause pre-mature finish failure.
3. **Never wet mop the wood floor**. Never let spilled water dry on the floor, wipe it up immediately. Water will find its way into the cracks and may cause cupping and deterioration of the finish. If your floor needs a thorough cleaning (four times a year) use a microfiber mop and cleaning solution for your floor finish.
4. **Have floors recoated when the surface sheen starts to show wear**. Every finish, as it wears, will start to look duller. Do not wait until the finish is worn off in spots or the entire room will have to be sanded down to bare wood, and refinished. This is much more expensive then a clean and coat.
5. **Furniture glides are very important**. Good quality glides are made from plastic that is laminated to thick wool piano felt. If kept clean and in good shape glides will protect wood floors from wearing prematurely. All furniture on the wood floors should have glides. Chairs should have glides replaced every year or two.
6. **Cracks in separation between boards.** Most solid wood floors in a heated space will endure some separation, this seasonal moment is a normal characteristic of wood flooring, and it never stops, regardless of the age of the wood. In the winter when the heat is on, the humidity indoors decreases, this change causes the wood to shrink and cracks get larger. The gaps in floors of light-colored wood or white stain floors tend to show more than cracks and darker natural color wood floors. Radiant flooring heat and flooring around heating ducts are especially affected. Controlling the humidity is one way to minimize the seasonal shrinkage of wood. Keeping the humidity at about 40%-50% will help.
7. **Pets.** Please remember that pets (especially dogs) will have a tendency to leave scratches in the floor finish. During the curing process, the finish is more susceptible to these scratches. One of the best ways to minimize scratches in the finish, from pets is to be sure their nails are trimmed before letting them onto the floor.