

Silk Oxi - Care and maintenance recommendations_ME Floor

1. Silk Oxi Finish description

Silk Oxi finish is a wood coating made from natural components, including plant-based oils and other eco-friendly ingredients. The finish cures naturally, allowing the oils to penetrate deeply into the wood's pores, strengthening its structure and providing excellent protection against moisture, dirt and external impacts. Parquet floors with Silk Oxi finish offer unique properties, such as natural moisture absorption and release, promoting a healthy indoor microclimate. The open-pored texture and matte gloss level replicate the appearance of raw, unfinished wood. Combined with brushing techniques, this finish highlights the authentic texture and tactile feel of natural wood.

Silk Oxi finish requires periodic maintenance to preserve its protective and aesthetic properties. Although the maintenance process may seem straightforward, it is recommended to seek professional assistance, especially if you want to ensure high-quality and long-lasting care.

2. Indoor microclimate

To maintain structural stability, shape and geometric dimensions of parquet made from natural wood, it is essential to keep an optimal temperature and humidity regime. In a room with parquet flooring, the air temperature should remain between 18-26°C, and the relative humidity should be in the range of 40-65% for engineered parquet and 45-55% for solid parquet. It is important to maintain this microclimate consistently. Use hygrometers and thermometers to monitor humidity and temperature levels in the room. There are combined devices available that display both parameters simultaneously and can signal when action is needed.

Parquet, as a natural material, is subject to seasonal changes: it expands with increased humidity and contracts when humidity decreases. During the colder months, when humidity can drop below 40%, it is recommended to maintain it at an optimal level using humidifiers to prevent the parquet from drying out and developing gaps. If humidity is not controlled, it can drop to 35% or lower during the peak heating season, which will negatively affect the parquet.

At the first signs of moisture impact, such as swelling, deformation or the appearance of stains, it is necessary to promptly identify and eliminate the source of moisture. It's crucial to quickly dry and ventilate the room. Ensure that plumbing systems are functioning correctly, as leaks can quickly lead to floor deformation. Provide good ventilation in the rooms to prevent the accumulation of

excess moisture. Use air conditioners or dehumidifiers to maintain humidity at the optimal level.

Constant monitoring of microclimate parameters and timely response to changes will help prevent damage and extend the life of your parquet.

3. Exploitation recommendations

Use soft felt or fabric pads on the furniture legs, before placing furniture on parquet floors. These pads help reduce the risk of scratches and dents when moving furniture. Monitor the condition of the pads, as they can wear out and lose their protective properties.

Use rollers with soft tires (type W according to EN 12529 standard) for office chairs, trolleys and containers with wheels. This prevents damage to the flooring. If possible, replace hard rollers with soft ones or use protective mats under furniture with hard wheels.

When walking on parquet, it is preferable to wear soft floor-safe footwear such as indoor slippers. Avoid walking on the parquet in high heels, shoes with metal tips or worn-out shoes that could leave marks on the floor, cause dents and wear on the coating.

Pet claws should be carefully trimmed to prevent scratches on the floor. Keep your pets' paws clean (especially after walks) to avoid dirt and sand getting onto the parquet.

In high-traffic areas such as entryways, kitchens and under office chairs, it is recommended to use protective mats. They help protect the parquet from moisture, dirt, wear and coating damage.

Direct sunlight can cause color changes in the parquet. To avoid uneven fading - periodically move furniture and rugs, allowing the entire surface of the parquet to be evenly exposed to light.

If stains or spills occur on the parquet - immediately remove them with a soft cloth. Use specialized products for intensive cleaning and care of parquet flooring.

4. Care Recommendations

To keep parquet floors in good condition, it is important to prevent the accumulation of abrasive particles and dirt using specialized care products. To minimize penetration of dirt particles into the room, it is recommended to place doormats at the entrance and clean them regularly (as abrasive particles can quickly accumulate underneath them).

To remove abrasive particles - use a vacuum cleaner with a soft nozzle that does not damage the protective coating or a mop with a microfiber pad to prevent particles from contacting the floor surface. Dry cleaning is advised be done normally - as soon as abrasive particles appear or approximately once a week.

Water-soluble stains can be removed manually using a slightly damp microfiber pad and a special care product (or use a washing vacuum cleaner designed for parquet). Do not wash parquet floors with a large amount of water, as this can cause the coating to dull and the wood to over-moisten. Moisture traces after cleaning should evaporate within 3-5 minutes. For regular cleaning - use only specialized products for oiled and waxed floors, which create a protective film and extend the life of the coating. Damp cleaning should be done as needed, but at least once a month.

To remove stubborn stains - use a microfiber cloth dampened with a special cleaner for surfaces coated with oils and waxes.

Prohibited:

- Use of cleaning equipment that has an abrasive effect on the protective coating;
- Use of steam cleaners;
- Carrying out work that leads to over-wetting of the parquet;
- Use of universal cleaning agents, as well as those containing ammonia, chlorine, or peroxide.

5. Restoration and renewal

Despite the high durability of Silk Oxi finish, it requires periodic maintenance to preserve its appearance and durability. Although the renewal process seems easy and straightforward - it is better to entrust this task to professionals to ensure a high-quality and long-lasting result.

5.1 Local restoration of Silk Oxi finish

In areas with high foot traffic (such as entrance doors, hallways and kitchens) it is recommended to periodically restore the coating using colorless waxes specifically designed for quick restoration of floors treated with oils and waxes. Before use - be sure to read the manufacturer's instructions and follow them strictly. Frequency of restoration depends on the intensity of use.

5.2 Complete renewal of Silk Oxi finish

Over time, parquet floors might require complete renewal. Use colorless oils intended for renewing floors coated with oils and waxes. This will restore the protective and aesthetic properties of the finish.

Recommended renewal frequency: depending on the wear or for residential premises — every 2-3 years, for public spaces — 2-4 times a year.

6. Carrying out construction and renovation work

If any work is planned in the room that could potentially damage the parquet floor – it is necessary to protect the floor in advance using appropriate covering materials. These materials should effectively shield the floor from over-wetting, dust, point loads and falling objects. This approach will help preserve the integrity and appearance of the coating in situations with a higher risk of damage.

7. Restoration recommendations

7.1 Repairing minor damage

To repair minor damage such as chips, cracks and scratches - it is recommended to use specialized soft wax fillers that match the color of your parquet.

Wax Preparation: for easier application - slightly heat the wax filler using a soldering iron with adjustable temperature. This will make the wax softer and facilitate its application.

Application: melted wax easily fills even the most difficult-to-reach areas and wood pores, preventing moisture from penetrating the damaged elements. It is important to ensure that wax does not overheat - this could damage the coating.

Removing Excess Wax: after wax application - remove any excess from the surface and surrounding areas using a plastic spatula.

Final Treatment: to eliminate the shine of the newly applied wax and create a uniform surface - use a matting sponge.

7.2 Repairing major mechanical damage

To repair major mechanical damage such as wide cracks or significant chips - it is recommended to use specialized high-melting-point wax fillers that match the color of your parquet.

Wax Preparation: Heat the high-melting-point wax to the required temperature using a soldering iron with adjustable temperature. Ensure the wax does not overheat to avoid damaging the coating.

Application: Fill the damaged area with the heated wax and press a metal plate over it to evenly distribute the wax and ensure a strong bond with the surface.

Removing Excess Wax: After filling the damage, remove any excess wax from the surface using a plastic spatula.

Final Treatment: To match the shine of the restored area - apply a restoration spray lacquer with a gloss level of 10% and less. This will give the surface a uniform and natural appearance.

Advantages of High-Melting-Point Waxes: Their high mechanical strength and wear resistance make them ideal for repairing significant damage.

7.3 Touching Up Light Chips and Scratches

To touch up light chips, scratches and small worn areas - use restoration touch-up markers tinted to match the color of your parquet. These markers allow you (quickly and effectively) concealing minor damage, restoring the uniformity of the color and appearance of the surface.