

## **ENGINEERED WOOD FLOOR PROTECTION, CARE & MAINTENANCE**

## **General Care – All Coating Types**

Flooring should be one of the last items installed in a project. In order to protect the floors while other trades are finishing their work prior to final cleanup and turnover to the owner, use a breathable protective covering. Do not use red rosin paper, and do not use poly film or other non-breathing coverings as they can cause damage from humidity buildup. Clean the floor thoroughly before laying the covering to ensure that no debris is trapped underneath. Tape pieces of protective covering together but do not tape them to the wood flooring.

- Temporary floor covering should never be kept in place longer than a few (1 5) days.
  For installations over radiant heat, the covering should never be left in place for more than a few hours.
- Place walk-off mats at all entrances to collect dirt and debris that could damage or dull the flooring finish. Mats are also required in areas where people congregate and/or stand for long periods of time, such as in front of ovens, sinks, service counters, and cash registers.
- Install felt floor protectors underneath all furniture.
- In food service areas such as restaurants and cafeterias, top-coating a urethanecoated floor will help prevent moisture damage caused by frequent spills. See below for recommendations on how to top-coat the specific flooring product you have selected.
- Do not allow people to wear spiked heels on the floor, which will damage even the hardest wood floors and finishes.
- Pet claws should be properly trimmed at all time.
- Work boots and shoes that may have pebbles lodged in the soles should be removed prior to entering.
- Sweep or vacuum frequently. Most damage to wood floor finishes is caused by debris that is walked on.
- All mats or rugs should be cleaned on a regular basis. They should also be moved occasionally to allow natural color changes caused by light to occur evenly in all areas.
   Do not allow soiled mats or rugs to stay on the floor as they can trap moisture on the surface.
- Never wet mop your floor, and always clean up spills and standing water as soon as possible. With oil-finished floors, water left for prolonged periods may cause water-spotting. With water or any other cleaning agent, be sure to thoroughly ring out the applicator or mop prior to applying it to the floor. A damp mop is fine as long as the moisture is limited to an amount that will evaporate almost immediately. Moisture that is allowed to seep into the seams between the planks may cause damage to your flooring.

## **Natural Wood Color Changes**

Serenity floorboard is an entirely natural product and as a result after a certain period of



time, natural color changes can occur. Depending on the intensity in which the floor is exposed to the sun, lighter wood turns darker while darker wood typically becomes lighter (especially during the first 3 - 6 months.)

