

Artimber®
Emerging · Enhancing · Evolving



**CARE AND
MAINTENANCE**

CARE AND MAINTENANCE FOR LACQUERED AND OILED FLOORS

At Artimber, we care about your floor post installation. We hope that it continues to look beautiful for a lifetime. Here are some easy steps for maintaining your floor so that it stays looking fresher for longer!

Protecting Your Artimber Floor (Residential use)

- Make sure to have doormats/rugs laid out at outdoor entrance areas to prevent dirt, sand, grit, and other undesirable outdoor substances from being tracked onto your floor. The rugs must be made of a breathable material to prevent moisture entrapment.
- Do not use rubber- or foam-backed plastic mats or area rugs, as they may discolour the floor or leave an imprint. To prevent slippage, use an approved vinyl rug underlayment.
- Sweep, dust, or vacuum the floor regularly to prevent the accumulation of dirt or grit that can scratch or dull the finish.
- Use protective caster cups or felt pads on the legs of furniture to prevent damage to the flooring. Use wide-bearing leg bases, barrel-type caster wheels, or rubber rollers to minimise indentations and scratches from heavy objects. As a rule of thumb, the heavier the object, the wider the floor protector needs to be.
- Use a dolly when moving large furniture, appliances, and other heavy objects. First, put down a sheet of plywood or Masonite to protect the floor and help prevent denting. Carpet or cardboard is not adequate to prevent surface compression-scratches.
- To avoid denting or scratching the floor, never try to slide or roll heavy objects.
- Avoid gouges or cuts in your floor from sharp objects. While your floor is very wear-resistant, sharp or pointed objects can damage it. Don't walk on your floor with stiletto-style heels, spiked shoes, or cleats as they may cause indentations or punctures in your floor. Keep pets' nails trimmed to minimise finish scratches.

- Rearrange area rugs and furniture periodically. So that the floor ages evenly.
- Protect your floor from direct sunlight as much as possible. Use curtains and UV-resistant film on large glass doors and windows. UV sunlight will naturally soften the tone of different species of engineered timber to varying degrees. Although Artimber coatings have UV inhibitors, protection from UV sunlight must be taken into consideration during the space and cost planning process.

Maintaining the Proper Interior Environment

Artimber will not be held responsible for any damages that might occur on a floor that is not installed and kept within a proper indoor environment. Some tips to maintaining a stable indoor environment can be followed below:

- Maintain a normal indoor relative humidity level between 35% and 55% and a temperature of 15-27 °C throughout the year to minimise the natural expansion and contraction of wood.
- During the hotter seasons (dry indoor conditions), wood stoves and electric heat can also tend to create very dry conditions. Using a humidifier is recommended, to prevent excess shrinkage.
- Minor gapping between wood planks during the hotter seasons is a normal occurrence with engineered timber flooring, when installed over radiant heat.
- During the cooler months (more humid indoor conditions), using an air conditioner, dehumidifier, or periodically turning on your heating system can maintain humidity.
- Avoid excessive exposure to water during periods of excessively cold or wet weather.

Repairing Your Floor

Please follow the below recommendations, in the event of accidental damage.

- Retain several planks during installation and set them aside in a safe, environmentally controlled place for future repairs.
- Minor damage (small holes and scratches) can easily be repaired with finishing putty. Finishing putty is available in a range of blending colours to compliment the tone of your floor and can be purchased from your local hardware store.
- Major damage will require board replacement. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Artimber for assistance

Cleaning Your Installed Floor

To keep your floor looking fresh and beautiful, be sure to clean it periodically, depending on foot traffic with a pH neutral solvent. For this Artimber Recommends products from the LOBA range, available to purchase from our store.

Regular Cleaning

You will need:

- 2 x Buckets
- 1 x Loba Spray Mop
- Water
- LOBA Cleaner**



1. Thoroughly sweep or vacuum the floor before cleaning.
2. Shake the content of the LOBA cleaner well and add 50ml to a bucket containing 10 litres of water, which is adequate for up to 100 square metres.
3. Fill the second bucket with cold water. This will be your bucket for rinsing.
4. Damp-wipe the surface. Using too much water and leaving the product applied for too long can cause swelling or the timber flooring.

5. Depending on how unclean the floor is, keep the cleaner on for one to two minutes.

6. Rinse the mop thoroughly in your rinsing bucket and wring out hard.
7. Put the mop to the water and wring it out well to ensure it is as dry as possible. Re-mop the just-cleaned area, attempting to absorb as much moisture as possible.

Builders Clean (or very dirty floor)

You will need:

- 2x Buckets
- 1 x Loba Spray Mop
- Water
- LOBA Care Remover**



1. Thoroughly sweep or vacuum the floor before cleaning.
2. Shake the content of the Loba Care Remover well and diluted in a ratio of 1:10 with water.
3. Fill a second bucket with cold water. This will be your bucket for rinsing.
4. Damp-wipe the surface. Using too much water and allowing the product to be applied for too long can cause swelling or the timber flooring.
5. Immediately after this, wipe off the solution with a mop dampened in water and neutralise it.

Spot Cleaning

You will need:

- 1 x Cotton Cloth
- Water
- LOBA Cleanfix**



1. Shake the content well
2. Patch-testing on a tiny portion of floorboards, at a hidden location, to make sure there isn't a negative response.
3. Allow Spot Remover to work for 10-20 minutes to dissolve the stain.
4. Scrub with a brush until the stain is removed.
5. Wipe with a cloth that has been soaked in warm water and wrung dry.

Important Care & Maintenance Information

1. In food preparation areas do not allow spilled Oils, fats or acidic substances like turmeric and red wine to remain on the timber floor surface.
2. Remove spills immediately with wax cleaner – Natural or warm soapy water and a sponge. Artimber does not warranty the surface coating if there is the lack of, or inappropriate maintenance. It is up to the buyer to ensure due care & maintenance is conducted to maintain longevity of the goods. For more information on Scratching & Denting, Climate Control and other important care information we recommend reading our Installation & Specifications website page www.artimber.au/technical
3. Always vacuum with the hard floor attachment, not the beater bar. You can also use a dust mop or broom to sweep the floor and minimise abrasive grit, debris, and dirt.
4. Do not damp mop. Rather, periodically clean the floor with an engineered timber flooring cleaner specially formulated for the installed floor finish.
5. Do not use wax or polish. Also, avoid oil-based, ammoniated, or abrasive cleaners, such as steel wool or scouring powder.
6. Do not wet mop the floor with soap, oil soap, strong detergent, or any other liquid cleaning material. This could cause swelling, warping, delamination, and joint-line separation. Doing any the above will void the warranty.
7. Never use any type of buffing machine for cleaning.