



CARE & MAINTENANCE

Care & Maintenance

Oiled Floors

How to look after a Vienna Woods oiled engineered-oak floor — cleaning, re-oiling and the finish-specific routine that keeps it strong.

Oil penetrates the grain and patinas with age. Looked after simply — damp-mopped, re-oiled on schedule for its finish — an oiled floor develops rich character while staying strong and long-lasting.

SCOPE OF USE

Internal domestic & light-commercial oiled floors (hardwax · oxidative · UV-cured).

AUDIENCE

Homeowners · specifiers · installers.

STANDARDS REFERENCED

Care & maintenance guidance — no Building-Code claims made.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Warranty (VW-WTY-001) · Installation Guide (VW-INS-001) · Lacquered-floor Care (VW-CARE-LAC-001).

DOCUMENT CONTROL

DOCUMENT NO. VW-CARE-OIL-001	VERSION 2.0	DATE ISSUED 7 July 2026	SUPERSEDES Jun 2026 issue
OWNER Vienna Woods Ltd	NEXT REVIEW July 2027	CLASSIFICATION Controlled	
STATUS Issued			

Understanding oiled floors

Oil is a traditional finish, widely regarded as the most attractive. It gives a soft, natural sheen that mellows with age. Unlike lacquer (which sits on top of the wood), oils penetrate the grain to nourish and protect from within, leaving a natural, breathable surface that patinas over time. There are three main oiled finishes:

- **Hardwax oil** — a blend of oils and waxes; durable, low-sheen, natural feel; needs more frequent re-oiling.
- **Oxidative oil** — a traditional penetrating oil that dries by oxidising; warm, rich, forms a patina; needs the most frequent maintenance.
- **UV-cured oil** — cured under UV light in production; extra wear resistance, easier long-term care; no oiling needed immediately after installation.

Your maintenance routine depends on which finish has been applied.

Daily & weekly cleaning

- Vacuum or sweep regularly with a soft-bristle head to remove grit and prevent micro-scratches.
- Damp mop weekly with a well-wrung mop and a **floor soap made for oiled floors** (Vienna Woods recommends and supplies suitable products such as Ciranova or Admonter). Use about one capful per litre of warm water.
- Never flood the floor — damp mop only; standing water may stain or damage the timber.

Environmental care

- Keep indoor humidity 40–60% and temperature 16–24 °C. Fluctuations may cause gaps or surface stress.
- Expect some natural movement as the floor expands and contracts.
- Use UV protection (curtains, blinds, window film) to reduce uneven fading. Some colour change under UV is normal.
- Protect high-traffic areas with breathable mats and use felt pads under furniture legs.

Routine maintenance & re-oiling

Regular oiling preserves the durability and look of an oiled floor. Re-applying a **maintenance oil suitable for the finish** (Vienna Woods recommends and supplies FirstFloor Maintenance Oil, or another approved maintenance product) nourishes the timber, deepens colour and strengthens wear resistance. Frequency depends on the finish and traffic:

- **Hardwax & oxidative oil:** re-oil at least annually, more often in high-traffic or dry areas. Oxidative finishes need the most frequent attention.
- **UV-cured oil:** re-oil every 18–24 months, or when the surface begins to dull.
- Top up oil in high-traffic or dry areas as needed; spot-treat scratches with oil.

Frequent staining is often a sign the floor is due for a fresh application of maintenance oil.

How to re-oil

- 1 Vacuum or sweep thoroughly. Do not introduce moisture until the oil is applied.
- 2 Wash with a damp mop and floor-soap solution; allow to dry completely.
- 3 Apply maintenance oil in a thin, even layer with a microfibre mop (a buffing machine gives the most even finish over larger areas).
- 4 Coverage: about 1 litre covers ~100 m².
- 5 Drying: 6–12 hours to dry fully, walkable in socks immediately. Good airflow speeds drying; high humidity slows it.

IMPORTANT — THE 10-DAY CURE PERIOD

Do not use water or any cleaning solution on the floor for the first 10 days after applying maintenance oil. Keep it free of dirt and moisture; vacuum or sweep only.

DIY & professional options

- **DIY re-oiling:** homeowners can maintain their own floor — clean and dry it, apply a thin even layer of maintenance oil with a microfibre mop or a rented floor-buffing machine, work it in, and let it dry before walking on it. Contact us to arrange buffing-machine hire.
- **Professional maintenance:** for heavily worn or dried-out areas, we recommend a professional re-oil for correct application and a longer floor life without sanding.

Spill & stain management

Wipe spills immediately with a water-dampened cloth or mop (both water and oil can stain). Keep a bottle of pre-mixed floor-soap solution handy. To treat a stain, escalate only as far as needed:

- 1 Vacuum/sweep, then wash with a damp mop and floor-soap solution; allow to dry.
- 2 If it persists, dilute floor soap 1:1 with water and wipe along the grain; allow to dry.
- 3 If it still persists, spot-apply straight floor soap with a microfibre cloth along the grain, then wipe off excess.
- 4 As a last resort, gently rub floor soap into the stain with a green pad along the grain; wipe off.

Scratch treatment

- Buff a small amount of maintenance oil into the scratch with a cloth, wipe off excess, allow to dry.
- For deep scratches or repairs, contact Vienna Woods on 0800 843 662 before doing further work.

Care by oil type

FINISH	KEY TRAITS	MAINTENANCE
Hardwax oil	Natural matte, durable, breathable	Re-oil at least annually (more in high-traffic areas); buffing recommended.
Oxidative oil	Traditional, rich colour, patinas	Needs the most frequent oiling — at least annually, more in high-use areas.

FINISH	KEY TRAITS	MAINTENANCE
UV-cured oil	Factory-cured, extra durable; no oiling at install	Lower maintenance; re-oil every 18–24 months, or when dulling.

Do's & don'ts

Do: expect some movement and slight colour change under UV; move rugs occasionally to even out colour; vacuum and sweep regularly; clean spills immediately; keep pre-mixed floor soap handy; mop with a suitable floor soap and replenish the oil regularly; use a door mat; use natural-backed mats (synthetics/rubber may discolour oil finishes); use felt pads under furniture legs and replace them.

Don't: steam clean or steam mop (damages wood and finish); use solvents, chemicals, dusting sprays or general household cleaners; over-wet the floor (no wet mopping — damp only); scrub hard or use abrasive pads aggressively; place pot plants directly on the floor; sand off the finish without contacting us first; wear stiletto heels; drag heavy furniture.

Quick reference

FREQUENCY	CARE TASK
Daily	Vacuum or sweep with a soft-bristle tool.
Weekly	Damp mop with diluted floor soap (~1 capful per litre of warm water).
Annually	Re-apply maintenance oil to hardwax and oxidative finishes (more often in high-traffic areas).
Every 18–24 months	Re-apply maintenance oil to UV-cured finishes, or when dulling.
After re-oiling	No water or cleaning for 10 days — vacuum/sweep only.
As required	Spot-treat scratches and stains; top up oil in high-traffic or dry areas.

With consistent care, an oiled timber floor develops rich character while staying strong and long-lasting. Thank you for choosing Vienna Woods.

Vienna Woods Ltd · support@viennawoods.co.nz · 0800 843 662 · viennawoods.co.nz