

FOSTER SPECIALTY FLOORS

**THE CARE &
PRESERVATION OF YOUR
WOOD FLOOR**

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THE CARING OF YOUR WOOD FLOORS

Wood is naturally porous and will absorb and release moisture in relation to its environment. If the humidity in your facility rises, the wood flooring will absorb this moisture until it equalizes with the atmosphere. If the humidity decreases, the wood flooring will release its moisture until the point of atmosphere equalization. Either of these conditions may cause abnormal expansion or contraction of your wood floor. Excessive ranges of humidity or dryness will cause the floor to cup or cause shrinkage cracks between the boards.

Although a small amount of expanding (tightening) and contracting (shrinkage) is normal, we have included the following guidelines to help you maintain your wood floor with the best long-term results.

As recommended by the Maple Flooring Manufacturers Association, the Wood and Synthetic Flooring Institute and Foster Specialty Floors.

As Sports Flooring experts, we all understand that service and longevity of any floor is directly related to its regular maintenance, yearly recoating, and how clean the floor is kept.

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THE DO'S



A



DO maintain adequate ventilation at all times. Keep ventilation system operating all year, as well as 24 hours a day. Provide natural air circulation as often as possible. Artificial heat may be required during the humid the summer months, especially the first year when the building is drying out. Be careful not to introduce warm moist outside air in the summer months. HVAC units should be checked to monitor the amount of outside air that is introduced into the room.



DO control air-conditioning humidity. Be sure your air-conditioning system is operating within 35%-55%, which is the normal range of relative humidity. Summer months are critical. Inspect floors regularly for excessive tightening or shrinkage. In areas of consistently high or low humidity, a 15% or less fluctuation will not adversely affect the maple.



DO keep the floor clean. The floor surface should be kept free from dust, grit dirt, sand and abrasive particles. Normal cleaning requires only dusting with a properly treated mop. This should be done regularly after each 3 hours of use.



DO dry buffing periodically. If necessary, to remove scuffmarks and bring back the original luster, use a fine polishing pad (white clean cloth) on a rotary type electric buffing/polishing machine. Sweep the floor perfectly clean and vacuum to remove all dirt and steel wool particles prior to buffing. When using this method of polishing, we would recommend a fine mist of specially formulated gym floor cleaner be applied in small areas just before buffing. This will help reduce the pad's friction and possible damage to the floor.



DO take care to prevent unnecessary exposure to moisture. Wipe any spillage from the floor surface immediately. Wall or roof leaks must also be corrected immediately. Any evidence of dampness within the building should be brought to the attention of the architects and engineers. Interior drains and downspouts should be properly insulated to prevent the development of excessive condensation or freezing during winter months. Check exterior door weather stripping and thresholds for a weatherproof fit once a year. If your facility experiences a flood of any magnitude, please call our office at once at 888-66-FLOOR.

THE DONT'S



B



DON'T use water on the floor. Water is your floors worst enemy. Avoid excessive exposure to water from foot traffic during inclement weather; by protecting the floor at exterior doorways with walk off mats. Make sure moisture is not trapped beneath the floor protection. Windows and doors should be kept closed during rain or snow. Clean rugs or mats often. NEVER use a power scrubbing machine or wet mop on your wood floor.



DON'T use household cleaning products or procedures. Avoid the use of soap, detergents or other water-soluble cleaners. Do not use oils or water emulsion type waxes or cleaners. These can leave floor sticky or slippery and be potential hazard to athletes. Never wax gymnasium floors. Do not use treated mops on your maple sports floors.



DON'T obstruct, in any way, the expansion joints around the perimeter of your floor. Wood blocking wedges or any dense unmoving material must not be placed in the expansion joints adjacent to the walls and doorways surrounding your wood floors.



DON'T anchor gym equipment, bleachers or machinery to your wood floors. The equipment should be anchored to the concrete slab beneath the wood floor by approved methods. Isolation of equipment from the wood with adequate expansion space is essential. Consult an experienced flooring contractor before proceeding in this area.



DON'T use non-recommended tape on your wood floor. Almost ALL tape will damage the gym's finish when removed. Foster Specialty Floors only recommends one type tape that has been shown not to damage your gym floor. This item can be found at Foster.us.



DON'T allow heavy point loading on your wood floor. Avoid walking on your wood floors with sports cleats and high heels in disrepair. Avoid using a lift on the wood floor without proper protection of the maple surface and finish. The cell structure of maple will indent at 400 psi.

ROUTINE MAINTENANCE



Normal cleaning requires only dust mopping with a dust mop treated with a product specifically formulated for wood sports floors. The floor should be dust mopped regularly after each three hours of use or as needed, if use is unusually heavy. Lightly spray specially formulated maple floor cleaner on untreated clean mop. Mop should be slightly damp, not soaked. Turkish towels may also be used. Push the mop the entire length of the gym. Do not stop until the floor length has been traversed. Turn and continue mopping to the other end, slightly overlapping each pass. Respray the mop after each down and back circuit. Continue until the entire floor is clean. NOTE: DO NOT ALLOW GYM FLOOR CLEANER TO PUDDLE ON THE FLOOR IT CAN CAUSE A LOSS OF GLOSS.

Place floor mats or rugs at all entryways, bathroom exits, or other high traffic areas to remove excessive dirt and moisture. Clean mats often.

Spills should be wiped up immediately.

For stubborn stains, spray gym floor cleaner on the stain and let stand for 5 seconds. Wipe dry and repeat as necessary to remove stain.

DO NOT use dust mop treatments or floor cleaners that contain wax, silicone, or oils. Do not pretreat dust mops. Use of these products can cause adhesion problems when recoating.

DO NOT use water on the floor.

Allow only approved clean athletic shoes on the floor. Black soled shoes will leave scuff marks on the finish.

DO NOT use tape on the floor, as it can chip the finish when removed.

At least once a year, (in some cases twice a year), dry screen the floor with 100 grit screens, tack clean, and apply one coat of gym finish. A heavily used floor may require two coats or an additional recoating during the year.

When finish chips or becomes very dark, consider re-sanding the floor to bare wood and refinishing the entire floor. Normally, this should be considered once every 12 to 15 years.

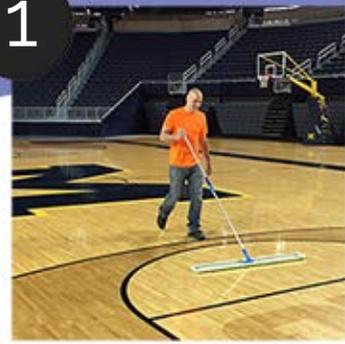
MAINTENANCE



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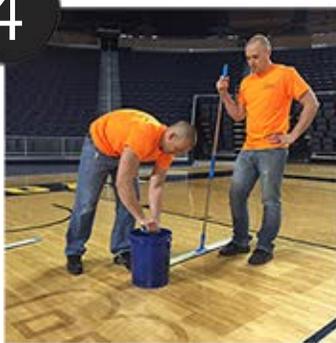
1 DRY DUSTING
Floors should be dry dusted daily to remove the dust and dirt that can harm your athletic surface.



2 DUST BEFORE DAMP CLEANING
Dust your floor right before Damp Cleaning to ensure the surface is clear of sand and dirt.



3 MIXING CLEANER
Your floor will become slippery if the contaminants aren't removed. Use a solution of 1 part cleaner to 10 parts water.



4 RINSE AND WRING
Saturate and wring out the cleaning pad. The cleaning pad may need to be rinsed and wrung often if your surface gets a lot of use.



5 DAMP MOP
Attach cleaning pad to the bottom of your Specialty Mop. Push mop up and down the floor with the grain of the court floor.



6 DAILY CLEANING
Clean your athletic surface daily with Specialty Cleaners to keep your floor looking newer longer.

BEFORE USING, READ ALL DIRECTIONS

FOR REGULAR MAINTENANCE OF FINISHED FLOORS

1. Floor should be Dust Mopped first to remove the loose dirt.

2. Mix one part cleaner concentrate to ten parts water. Pour 1/3 - 1/2 gallon of concentrate into a clean empty 5 gallon container. Fill the rest of the container with water making sure to leave working room in the bucket. Using a second rinse bucket will keep dirt and grime out of the bucket of cleaner.

3. Saturate Cleaning Pad in the bucket of cleaning solution. Wring pad thoroughly and then lay pad flat on the floor. Press Aluminum Mop head firmly against Cleaning Pad to re-attach the pad back to the velcro bottom of the mop.

4. Damp mop your floor by walking down and back the entire length of your floor with the grain of the wood. As the Cleaning Pad gets dirty remove the pad and rinse as needed.

5. Can be used with an auto scrubber. Use white pads only.