

# The Best Way to Clean your Hardwood Floors

If you treat your hardwood floors right, they will reward you with years of beauty and longevity. Our guide will break down the varying degrees of maintenance required to keep your floors shiny and in tip-top shape. Read on for the best way to clean hardwood floors in your home!

## **What *Not* to Use on Your Hardwood**

Stay away from these cleaners, as they will dull the floor's finish over time, leave residue, or damage your floors.

- Steam cleaners
- Harsh detergents
- Water and vinegar cleaners
- Wax cleaners

Giving your floors a daily sweeping with a broom will be your best defense against scratches and surface damage, like dust and debris. Then use a lightly damp microfiber mop for a gentle but effective clean. Be sure to clean up any excess water to prevent stains.

[Have pets? Keep their nails trimmed to prevent scratches on your hardwood.](#)



Heavy traffic areas of your home, such as the entryway, should be cleaned weekly. Use a vacuum for a more powerful clean and to get hard to reach corners. Be sure that your vacuum has a specific "hard floor" setting or attachment – this will raise the vacuum and

use the gentle brush roll to prevent scratching or dragging. After vacuuming, pair a microfiber mop or pad with a pH-neutral non-toxic cleaner. This will remove bacteria from your floors and will not streak.

Use mats or rugs in high-traffic areas to minimize dirt, debris, and scuffing.

Monthly cleanings are important for preserving the longevity of your hardwood. Polish your floor with water-based or urethane-based polish at least once every few months to renew and refresh the floor's finish. This will protect your hardwood and will not leave behind any residue.

