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## A. Special attention with all parquet floors

### 1. Indoor climate

- 1.1 Wood is a natural, living material which is able to adapt its own humidity to the environment, even after it is processed into solid or multi-layer parquet. The volume of the wood is changing depending on the absorption or release of humidity. This is called 'swelling' or 'shrinking'.

Wood releases humidity into the air with low air humidity ('dry' air) which happens mostly during the heating season. Therefore, its volume is reduced – it is 'shrinking'. With too low air humidity the wood dries out (under drying). This will lead to open joints and cracks in the parquet.

The wood absorbs humidity with increasing air humidity and its volume enlarges – it 'swells'. If the air humidity and, therefore, the wood humidity is too high, swelling damages (deformations) can occur.

These reactions cannot be avoided due to the naturalness of the material wood. However, damages to the parquet floor can be avoided with keeping the right room climate.

**This is why it is absolutely necessary to provide for a healthy room climate which additionally adds significantly to the well-being of people.**

- 1.2 Considered as healthy room climate is (Europe):

- room temperature between 18 and 22 °C
- relative air humidity between 35 and 55 %

For Scandinavian countries like Sweden, it is a relative air humidity between 25 and 45 %.

- 1.3 Measures to achieve the room climate:

- suitable air humidifiers are to be used with too low air humidity
- suitable air dehumidifiers are to be used with too high air humidity
- The heating / the thermostat has to be adjusted to the correct room air temperature
- a permanently installed hygrometer which is connected to a detection system is suggested for monitoring the climate
- Plants

## 2. General information on parquet tiles with naturally oiled surface

- 2.1 The surface of parquet tiles is not only processed with suitable hard oil in order to be protected against humidity and abrasion but also for the preservation of the naturalness of the wood. The wood pores and the pattern should remain visible and noticeable and the surface should remain 'breathable'.

The parquet tiles are delivered from the factory with a surface that has been oiled and is ready for use. The used hard oil generally needs some time after its application to harden completely. Especially at the beginning it is important to take care of the surface and to clean it correctly in order to increase the life expectancy of the parquet tiles.

The parquet surface will gradually become more resistant to dirt and abrasion as a protective layer will build up with the use of suitable cleaning agents and care products for oil treated parquet floors (maintenance cleaning according to point B/1.3).

Like every floor surface, the oil treated surface of a parquet tile is also subject to natural wear. Fine dirt and sand act for example like sandpaper. Metal covered shoe soles and shoes with small heels (stiletto heels) as well as hard rolls of office chairs and furniture can cause irreparable dents (indentations) in the wood structure. Permanently standing wetness causes the danger of swelling and often leaves unpleasant stains.

Signs of wear on the oil treated surface of the parquet tiles are inevitable but they can be partly avoided.



### 2.2 The following points are to be considered:

- Dirt removal zones (e.g. doormats, dust control mats) should be provided in entrance areas
- Felt pads should be used on chair and table legs
- Office chairs and stools with rollers should only have wheels type W for hard coverings (soft acc. to DIN 68131 with wide double contact areas. Additionally, suitable mats (polycarbonate mats) should be used
- For furniture with rotating wheels and rolls, e.g. under tyres in car dealerships, the use of suitable mats (polycarbonate mats) is recommended
- Contaminations of any kind such as standing wetness, e.g. beverage bottles (bottom of bottle), water for flowers etc. are to be avoided respectively to be cleaned up immediately; do not clean up contaminations with wet cloths; microfiber cloths, steel wool, steam cleaners or similar may not be used (see also point B)
- The cleaning and maintenance instructions have to be strictly followed (see point B)

### 2.3 Measures for extraordinary strains

- Protection of the surface with heavy use and contamination by covering with suitable, solid material (e.g. paper of milk cartons or cardboard packaging)  
Attention: only cover the floor as long as absolutely necessary (the wood needs to “breathe”)
- Furniture objects or similar may not be moved on the floor and should additionally be filled carefully

Note: There is a danger of graying through the intrusion of water with mechanical damages or excessive wear. The parquet surface should be refinished and touched up immediately (see point B/2 – touching up).

## 3. Initial care of the parquet surface

- 3.1 In order to increase the resistance of the oiled surface of parquet tiles, they should be treated with suitable maintenance oil for oiled parquets **before their first use (implementation)**. Handling occurs according to the indications of the care products' manufacturer.

Therefore the floor needs to be cleaned beforehand (see points B/1.2 and B/1.3) and consecutively treated with suited maintenance oil. The processing is made according to the instructions of the manufacturer of the care product.

## B. Cleaning and maintenance of oiled parquet surfaces

Instructions of the manufacturer regarding the use and safety of the care products and cleaners which will be used have to be considered. If applicable, consultation with the manufacturer is necessary. The user is responsible for the usability and compatibility of the products.

### 1. Maintenance and cleaning instruction

#### 1.1 In general:

- Wipe slightly damp with a suited floor cloth (e.g. cotton dust mop)
- Never wipe wet – do not pour mopping water directly on the floor
- Micro fibre cloths, steel wool or steam cleaners may **not** be used
- Do not use any aggressive, abrasive and cleaning agents not suited for oiled wooden floors
- Do not wipe with clean water after the care and cleaning processes (possible exemption: intensive care – please consider manufacturer instructions)

Note: Use one bucket each for the mopping water with the care / cleaning and one bucket with lukewarm water for the rinsing and consecutive wringing-out of the floor cloth.

#### 1.2 Cleaning with slight contamination (dry cleaning)

Vacuuming or sweeping is sufficient for the daily cleaning with slight contamination.

### 1.3 Regular care/cleaning with normal contamination (maintenance cleaning)

A suited care/cleaning agent for oil-treated parquet floors is used for the regular cleaning of the parquet tiles with normal contamination.

The care/cleaning agent is added in the correct mixing ratio according to the information of the manufacturer to the warm mopping water. The floor is wiped slightly damp with a suited, well wrung-out floor cloth.

Example: Cleaning with Woca floor soap, mixing ratio 0.125 litre soap in 5 litre warm water.

### 1.4 Thorough cleaning with heavy contamination

A thorough cleaning with a suited intensive cleaning agent for oil-treated parquet floors should be made with heavy contamination of the parquet tiles.

The intensive cleaning agent is added to the warm mopping water in the correct mixing ratio according to the manufacturer's instructions. The floor is wiped slightly damp with a suited, well wrung-out floor cloth.

Possibly: Wiping with a clean floor cloth and cold, clear water is necessary in order to remove residues of the cleaning agent (consider manufacturer's instructions).

The parquet surface has to be treated with a suited maintenance oil after a thorough cleaning in order that a new protection film builds up (see also point A/3.).

Example: Cleaning with Woca intensive cleaning agent, mixing ratio 0.125 litre intensive cleaning agent in 5 litre warm water. Consecutive wiping with a clean, well wrung-out floor cloth and cold, clear water. Final initial care of the surface with Woca maintenance oil.

### 1.5 Removal of stains

Persistent stains/contaminations can to a certain degree be removed with a suited stain remover for oil-treated parquet floors.

The stain remover is applied on the stain / contamination acc. to manufacturer instructions. The use should be tested first at a non-visible spot. Thinners may not be used.

Example: Spray Woca stain remover over the stains and allow reacting. Repeat the treatment if necessary.

### 1.6 Intervals for the care

The care interval (acc. to point B/1.3) is depending on the type of use of the installed areas. The following recommendation is a reference value and can furthermore be adjusted to the local requirement:

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|---|-----------------------|
| • Moderately used areas (e.g. living areas)                           | approx. all 2-4 weeks |
| • Medium used areas (e.g. commercial areas)                           | approx. all 1-2 weeks |
| • Heavily used areas (e.g. restaurants, stores, light industrial use) | approx. all 1-2 days  |

## 2. Revitalisation of oiled parquet surfaces

Parquet tiles surfaces which start to look dull and grey after longer use can be revitalised by the application of a thin layer of maintenance oil.

Deeper damages have to be repaired beforehand with suited wood putty/wax or suited parquet spattling compound.

The floor needs to be cleaned previously similar to the initial care and afterwards treated with suited maintenance oil. The processing of the maintenance oil has to be made according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Example – Revitalisation with Woca maintenance oil natural (at room temperature, minimum 18 - 20 °C)

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- Cleaning of the parquet surface (acc. to point B/1. et seqq. – acc. to degree of contamination)
  - Complete drying (air drying) of the mopping water
  - Constant, thorough working in of the Woca maintenance oil natural (ready to use) with pad holder and polishing pad or with the single pad machine in order that no oil film (excess) remains on the surface
    - The treatment possibly has to be done multiple times for the saturation of the wood. The right amount of oil is applied when the floor shines semi-matt.
  - Possibly polish thoroughly after the oil application with a soft cotton cloth or white polishing pads.
  - Spare the floor during the curing time (24 hours) and do not wipe it.
  - Machine-polished floors can be again accessed after a short period, hand-polished floors can be again accessed after approximately 4 hours.

**Attention: Oil-soaked cloths have to be soaked in water after use and be dried outside.  
Danger of self-inflammation!**

These recommendations are based on general experience in practice. However we do not assume any liability for the completeness, correctness and applicability in the individual case.

We recommend the products of the company Klumpp for the surface treatment of the oiled parquet tiles.

Should you have any further questions, please contact us for information.  
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