

# THE GARRISON COLLECTION

## OIL FINISHED HARDWOOD FLOORING CARE & MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

**Instructions for:** Du Bois, Nouvelle, Newport, Time Inspired II, Château Capri, French Connection (EXCEPT Cloud), and Villa Gialla (Romantique & La Belle ONLY).

Like any floor covering, The Garrison Collection factory finished wood floors will show signs of wear over time, depending on the size and lifestyle of your family. By observing a few precautions and setting up a regular cleaning routine and maintenance program, you can expect years of beauty from your Garrison Collection hardwood floor.

### CARE & MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES

The following are examples of the reasonable and necessary maintenance you are expected to perform. They are not intended to be an exclusive list:

- Use **ONLY** WOCA cleaning and maintenance products on Garrison Collection oil finished Floors. Use of other cleaning products may damage your floor and void your warranty. (*See recommended WOCA products below.*)
- **NEVER** clean your floor with plain water, hardwood floor cleaning machines, steam cleaners, petroleum based cleaners, household dust treatments or cleaning products other than WOCA products. (*See warranty exclusions under Improper Maintenance.*)
- Sweep or vacuum regularly since built-up grit can damage the surface of the wood. The vacuum head must be a soft bristle brush or felt type. **Do not use a vacuum with a beater bar head.** Be certain the wheels of the vacuum are clean and do not damage the finish.
- **NEVER** use tape on your floors, even those tapes with low adhesion properties.
- Remove spills promptly using a soft cloth and WOCA Soap in a diluted format per WOCA mixing instructions.
- Use area rugs in high-traffic areas and pivot points (e.g., stair landings, room entries, etc.), especially if you have a large family or indoor pets.
- Keep pets' nails trimmed and paws clean and free of dirt, gravel, grease, oil, and stains.
- Use a dolly and protective sheets of plywood when moving heavy objects, furniture, or appliances.

- Place protective felt pads beneath furniture legs and feet to reduce scratches and dents. Replace pads as needed.
- Remove shoes with spiked or damaged heels before walking on floor.
- Make certain furniture casters are clean and operate properly (a minimum 1"-wide vinyl surface where it comes in contact with wood is recommended). Clean wheels periodically to remove dirt and debris.
- Exposure to the sun and its UV rays accelerates the oxidation and aging of wood. This can cause the wood stain and/or wood to fade and/or to change color. We recommend that you rearrange rugs and furniture periodically so the floor ages evenly. Exotic species such as Brazilian Cherry are more susceptible to color change during the aging process. These warranties do not cover damage from the sun and its UV rays.
- Maintain the proper relative humidity in your home between 35% – 55% at all times during the year. Use of a humidification system may be required to maintain proper humidity levels to avoid excessive drying of the wood flooring. Seasonal gapping should be expected. Surface checking can be expected if the humidity level is not properly maintained between 35 – 55% R. H. or if the floor's surface temperature exceeds 82°.

## RECOMMEND WOCA CARE & MAINTENANCE PRODUCTS

Garrison proudly uses WOCA products on all of our oil finished floors. WOCA is the leading plant-based, environmentally responsible, sustainable, nonpolluting, durable wood finish, with no artificial color pigments or preservatives. We recommend the following WOCA cleaning and maintenance products for optimum durability a lasting good looks of your Garrison Oil finished floor. Use of other cleaning products may damage your floor and void your warrant

**NOTE:** Most WOCA maintenance products are available in White or Natural. Use the “White” for lighter woods (such as French Connection - Vintage White Wash or Provence) and use the “Natural” for natural tones or darker woods (such as French Connection – Caffe or Syrah).

### THE THREE MAIN MAINTENANCE ITEMS:

- **WOCA Natural Soap**

WOCA Natural Soap cleans and nourishes your Garrison oil finished floors and should be used on a monthly basis. It leaves behind an invisible layer of soy and coconut fats, which makes your floor more dirt and wear resistant and easier to keep clean.



We suggest using the two-bucket method recommended by WOCA. You'll need a self-ringing mop and two buckets - one bucket containing the Soap (3 oz. solution/gallon of water) and the second bucket with pure water to rinse the mop. (Change the water in the second bucket as needed to prevent the floor from getting a grayish gleam caused by dirty water.) For detailed instruction and a video tutorial, visit the support section of our website.

*NOTE: Take care to wring your mop thoroughly. Excessive water on your floor may damage your floor and void your warranty.*

You may also use Natural Soap in spray format for spills and weekly dusting if so desired.

*\*Available in White or Natural*

- **WOCA Oil Refresher**

Refresher should be used quarterly to give your floor a thorough cleaning. Just like the Natural Soap, we recommend application using the 2-bucket method described above. This oily cleaner not only cleans, but also leaves an oil residue to promote the longevity of the oil finish.

*\*Available in White or Natural*



- **WOCA Maintenance Oil / Maintenance Paste**

Although the oil finish on your Garrison floor should last between 3 to 5 years without needing to be re-oiled entirely, higher traffic areas, and areas needing deeper cleaning may become dry and you may want to apply some oil to bring it back to life a bit. Use the Paste for a higher level of sheen.

*\*Available in White or Natural*



#### ADDITIONAL PRODUCTS RECOMMENDED FOR LONG TERM PRESERVATION AND CARE:

- **WOCA Stain/Spot Remover**

To remove those tough to get out spills and stains, use Stain Remover. Be careful to use according to directions.

While great at getting out the stains that the Natural Soap cannot get out, the Stain Remover may also dry out the area affected. We recommend apply a bit of Maintenance Oil or Paste to bring it back to life.



- **WOCA Wood Cleaner/Prep**

Use to give the floor a good cleaning prior to re-oiling. Normally used with a string mop and allowed to dry.

NOTE: DO NOT use for regular cleaning of your WOCA oil floor.



- **WOCA Master Oil**

For use when re-oiling floors.

*\*Available in White or Natural.*



## INSTALLATION NOTES

Unlike other brands, you do not need to re-oil any Garrison product after installation. There are, however, two maintenance related things to remember:

1. We recommend you install our flooring after all major construction, including painting, has been performed completely. This is especially important for wire brushed products as drywall dust and other dirt is extremely difficult to remove from the wire brushed grooves.
2. Install Cleanly. It is very important to remove all glue residue during an oiled floor installation as trying to remove dried-on glue and residue will most likely dry out flooring in affected areas.
3. We recommend you clean your new floor with WOCA Natural Soap immediately after installation.