

INSTALLATION GUIDE



TECHNICAL GUIDELINES

CHAPTER #16

Resealing and overcoating for lacquered floors

GUIDELINES FOR: RESEALING & OVERCOATING

16.1 General Guidelines.

Your Ted Todd real wood floor can last for generations if regularly looked after, following the care systems out lined in Chapter 12.

If the point comes where the lacquerbased surface finish of the floor is very scuffed or too clogged to be realistically cleaned with the Care Systems, then a Reseal maybe necessary.

This will involve lightly abrading the surface finish back, just to the wood surface, and reapplication of new lacquer.

It is recommended that a professional floorbuffing machine be used to abrade the surface to remove the old lacquer.

Please consider that if there is damage to the wood, such as large dents or scratches that have affected the surface of the wood, visible wear, cupping, crowning, or discoloration, you may need to sand the floor down before you can restore the finish. If you apply new finish over old dents and scratches that are in the wood, they could become more noticeable.

The resealing process will generate dust. So do wear a dust mask, take frequent breaks to vacuum the dust and keep doors closed to stop the dust migrating elsewhere inside the building.

16.2 Initial steps.

- Decide upon which lacquer system to use for the resealing.
- Remove all furniture, vacuum or sweep the floor to remove any dust or grit.
- Clean the floor with Ted Todd Floor Care Easy Clean.
- Allow the floor to dry.







Figure 1: Use the floor kit specifically created for the finish of your floor for cleaning solutions.



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16.3 Start the abrading process.

- Working around the edges of the room, hand-sand away the lacquer from the surface of the floor using 180 grit sandpaper. Typically work this out to about 10cm away from the skirting. This should also include any corners or nooks where the buffer machine will not be able to reach. Do not use a hard sanding block as this will not allow the sandpaper to penetrate the natural shape of the wood surface. Clean up the dust.
- Following the instructions for the buffing machine, use a dark-coloured fibre buffing pad, one which is sufficiently abrasive to remove the surface lacquer without damaging the wood floor surface.
- Move the buffer from side to side across the floor in the direction of the grain, overlapping each course by about 15cm. The old finish turns to powder as you go, so it's easy to see the areas you've covered. Keep the buffer moving at all times when running but stop every five minutes or so and vacuum the pad.
- Keep going, as above until the whole room floor is abraded.



Figure 2: It is recommended that a professional floor-buffing machine be used to abrade the surface to remove the old lacquer.







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16.4 Cleaning up.

- Vacuum the floor to remove the abraded dust.
- Check to ensure that no areas or small dents have been missed.
- Always clean with the grain and pay attention to any gaps or bevels between the boards.
- Finally, dry tack the floor with a microfibre cloth along the grain direction and check that all of the dust has been removed, including from any joints or bevels.

16.5 Applying the new floor finish.

- Always follow the instructions supplied with your chosen floor lacquer for detailed application methods.
- The method of application will broadly follow the guidelines as below.
- Wear protective overshoes to prevent contaminating the prepared floor.
- Decide where to start the main lacquering application. This will normally be the far corner, opposite the entrance to the room. Work backwards so that you don't stand on the newly-lacquered floor.
- Start around the far edge of the room and apply the lacquer by hand with a brush covering the floor from the edge of the room to about 10cm away.
- To avoid the lacquer drying out at the edges before the main floor area can be covered, restrict the length of edge that is hand-lacquered at any point in time.







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Figure 3: The main application of the lacquer should be with a long-handled roller.

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- This also applies to any tight corners or small alcoves where it could be difficult to apply lacquer with a roller.
- The main application of the lacquer will be with a long-handled roller. Lacquer should be poured onto the floor in a line about 2 cm wide, in line with the grain, applying only enough lacquer to allow spreading for up to 10 minutes. This is to ensure that the lacquer doesn't dry out before the adjacent areas are covered.
- Using the roller, the applied lacquer should be rolled out initially with the grain of the floor and then across the grain.
- Repeat the above, allowing a good overlap between each pass and work quickly to keep a wet edge to the lacquer.
- Check the instructions for the chosen lacquer to see how many coats will be required, what the drying time should be in between coats and whether any buffing or denibbing is required between coats.
- Allow the recommended drying time, and check that the new lacquer has properly hardened before walking on or moving furniture etc. back into the room.
- Do maintain the correct cleaning and care regime for your newly refurbished floor!

16.6 FAQ's

Can I do this myself?

This process can be undertaken by a skilled DIY'er or skilled tradesperson.

But if in doubt do call in a professional, reputable flooring contractor who can advise on the best method for your individual floor. The professional contractor will do the job more quickly, will have the correct tools, will make less mess and will probably do a better job.

Is Resealing the same as a full sand and reseal?

No. A full sanding of the floor will actually sand away a layer (usually around 1mm) of the top layer of wood (the wear layer). This will require very specialist, accurate wood floor sanding machinery. This process will also significantly alter the appearance of the floor as it will change the depth of the bevel at the joints of the planks.







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