



LOVIN' MY



LAMINATE  
FLOORING

CARE & MAINTENANCE TIPS



# Caring For Laminate Floor

***We love laminate flooring and hope you do, too!***

Laminate flooring is quite possibly the best flooring solution today. Not only is it luxurious looking and easy to maintain, but it will continue to look like new for years to come. Why? Because surface scratches are rarely visible thanks to the wear layer of laminate flooring, and spills wipe right up with no chance of staining. Furthermore, removing asthma and allergy-causing dust, dust mites and pet dander is a snap.

As easy as it is, we still get questions about caring for laminate flooring. This guide is meant to answer those questions and provide guidance for dealing with unexpected happenings on a laminate floor!

Here's what you will find in this guide:

- 13 Tips on How to Care for Laminate Floors
- Dealing with Stains on Laminate Flooring
  - › Troubleshooting Tip: Dealing with removing a film
- Laminate Floor Repair Kit Must-Haves



## 13 Tips on How to Care For Laminate Floors

1. Never leave any amount of liquids (water, juices, soft drinks, alcohol, etc.) on the floor for more than the time necessary to clean the spill. Immediately wipe up wet areas from spills, foreign substances or wet shoes.
2. Use either a natural or color-fast doormat outside and inside each entrance to your home to prevent dirt, sand, grit and other substances from being tracked onto the floor.
3. Use wide-bearing, non-staining floor protectors - such as hard plastic or felt pad protectors – under chair and table legs.
4. Always use a micro fiber dust mop and laminate flooring cleaner in a spray bottle to clean your laminate floor. Consider purchasing a laminate flooring cleaning kit which includes a microfiber mop and bottle of laminate floor cleaner. (We recommend Bruce laminate cleaner and Bona laminate floor cleaner. Both are available from any big box retailer or local hardware store.)



5. Make sure you only spray the mop with cleaner rather than spray cleaner directly on the floor.
6. Stay away from any commercially produced cleaner not specifically designated for laminate only. More specifically, stay away from: Mop and Glo, Murphy's Oil, and cleaners with harsh abrasives which will damage the protective overlay of laminate flooring.
7. Do not use steel wool or scouring powder, as this could scratch the floor.
8. Do not use any cleaning agents containing wax, oil or polish. Leftover residue from these agents can leave a dull film on the floor.
9. Never use a floor steam cleaner, as this will harm your floor and void your warranty.
10. Stay away from Swiffer wet jets, Swiffer wet pads, steam cleaners, and damp mops. They put too much moisture and/or commercial cleaner on the laminate floor. Moisture will cause the laminate flooring to swell; the commercial cleaner will cause a haze on the surface that is difficult to remove.



**Never use steel wool.**

11. Sweep and vacuum away as long as you never ever use a beater brush on your laminate floors. If you do, you will notice over time pronounced scratchings, scuffmarks and indentations!



**Never use a vacuum with a beater brush.**

12. To keep your high gloss laminate floors looking glossy, consider cleaning them (frequently) with a microfiber mop and hot water in the spray or mister bottle. High gloss laminate flooring often shows prints; it marks very easily so make sure you keep the mop handy for a quick polish.



**Use a micro-fiber mop.**

13. Beware of adding any soap to your cleaning solution as it will enhance the slippery-ness of your laminate floors. As one of our customer service experts explained, "Even a drop or two of soap added to vinegar and water makes my laminate floor a slip and slide!" If that happens, try using vinegar and water in between cleanings.



# Dealing with Stains on Laminate Flooring

**You'll love it!** When it comes to stains, there aren't any we've found that you won't be able to easily and quickly take care of.

- For Juice, Wine, Grease, Chocolate: Dampen a rag with water and a laminate floor cleaner and spot clean
- For Cigarette Burns, Asphalt, Shoe Polish, Paint, Ink, Crayon, Dried Foods, Nail Polish: Dampen a rag with rubbing alcohol, or 100% pure acetone, and spot clean
- For Candle Wax, Chewing Gum: Allow to harden and gently scrape with a plastic scraper



**In case you encounter a film on laminate flooring:** To "defilm" your laminate flooring, use 100% pure acetone and elbow grease. It can be a tedious process but it works just great. **ALWAYS MAKE SURE THAT THE AREA IS WELL VENTILATED.**



## **Removing Soot:**

As Brad Young, installation tech expert at Kronotex USA demonstrates in the video "Laminate Flooring and Fireplaces" sooty burn marks, like from a hot ember thrown from a crackling fire, can be removed simply by wiping away with your finger! Check out "Is Kronotex USA Laminate Flooring Safe Near a Fireplace?" on the Kronotex USA Blog.





# Laminate Floor Repair Kit Must-Haves!

As incredibly durable and stain-resistant as laminate flooring is, accidents do happen. For that reason, we recommend that you have a laminate floor repair kit handy with 3 must-haves: towels, laminate floor cleaner and micro-fiber mop, and laminate floor repair kit for dents and scratches.



- ***Towels for liquid or water spills on laminate floors***

“Topical moisture” is an enemy of any floating floor system especially if it isn’t addressed quickly. That’s because liquids, if left standing on your laminate floor for an extended period of time, could seep into the seams of the planks and cause problems later on. Always have a towel (cloth or paper) handy in rooms where these accidents are likely, principally kitchens.

- ***Have a laminate floor cleaner and mop!***

While this may sound more like care and maintenance advice, include a laminate floor cleaner and closed-loop terry cloth or micro-fiber mop in your laminate floor repair kit. It’s the best way to proactively protect your laminate floor from small scratches and abrasions.

- ***Have a laminate floor repair kit for scratches, dents and chips***

Sometimes, accidents will leave behind big scratches, dents and even chips on the laminate floor. That’s when you’ll need a laminate floor repair kit intended to repair impacts or deeper scratches in direct-pressure laminate (DPL) floor laminate floors. (You do not want to use a high-pressure laminate floor repair putty.)

***Be sure to note the color on the package so you’ll get the best match to your floor’s basic color.***

Add a plastic putty knife to your kit to smooth the filler into the scratch or dent. Use acetone to remove any residual haze left on the surface of the floor. Remember always use acetone in a well-ventilated area and always follow the manufacture’s instructions.

Be aware, when using putty, that oil-based putty can leave a haze around repair drawing more attention to the spot if the area around the repair is not cleaned. Water-based filler putty will shrink as it dries.



***Regarding serious plank damage on laminate floors:*** For damage that can’t be easily handled with a small dab of putty or repair pen or furniture pencil, you may need to replace the entire plank. Non-glued installation will be a lot easier to do plank replacement than replacing a plank that has been glued. In either case, you may want to hire a professional installer to do the work for you.



# Here's why we love Kronotex USA laminate floors

## ***Fade resistant laminate flooring***

Let the sun shine in. Kronotex USA flooring is non-fading and will retain its brilliance over many years thanks to its built-in UV protection.

## ***Stain resistant laminate flooring***

Because Kronotex USA flooring's special clear coat finish keeps ugly stains from penetrating, "Oops" means never having to say, "Honey, I just destroyed our floor."

## ***Wear resistant laminate flooring***

Kronotex USA flooring stands up to feet stomping, paws scratching and other things known to destroy hardwood in a heartbeat.

## ***Work resistant laminate flooring***

It doesn't take much work to keep Kronotex USA flooring clean. Sweep with a broom, or use a vacuum. Footprints and dirt come off with a damp cloth. For stubborn spots, use a laminate floor cleaner.

### ***For more questions ...***

about care and maintenance of your Kronotex USA laminate flooring, contact us at [info@KronotexUSA.com](mailto:info@KronotexUSA.com)



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*Have a beautiful floor!*  
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