



**HEIDELBERG**  
·FLOORING·

Contact: Ryan Marion  
PH: (812) 548-6987  
ryan@heidelbergflooring.com  
www.heidelbergflooring.com

## Care and Maintenance, Constance Natural Oil Finish (Collections: Constance)

Congratulations on installing your new Heidelberg Wood Flooring hardwood plank floor. Your flooring is finished with natural oil finish. This finish emits zero VOC. Please follow the maintenance guidelines below for optimal performance and esthetics of your new floor. Suggested cleaning and maintenance products may be purchased through your Heidelberg supplier, or by visiting our website, [www.heidelbergwoodflooring.com](http://www.heidelbergwoodflooring.com).

### REGULAR MAINTENANCE

- Regularly vacuum or dust mop your floor to prevent sand or abrasive dust buildup that can scratch the floor finish.
- Wipe up spills and spots immediately with a damp cloth.
- One to four times a year, mop your floor with Constance Oil Refresher. This will introduce a small amount of oil into the floor to freshen it and extend the time before a re-oiling becomes necessary. See website for more details.
- If cleaning more than four times per year becomes necessary, use **Constance Soap**. Please remember to still mop with **Constance Oil Refresher** twice a year. See website for more details.
- Do not use ammonia or oil-based wax, polish, household dust treatment chemicals, abrasive cleaners, or furniture cleaners.
- Do not wet mop the floor, as excess moisture may cause damage to your wood floor.

### PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE

- Place high-quality floor mats and area rugs near outside entrances to prevent dirt, sand and other unwanted substances from being tracked directly onto the flooring. Also, if you have wood flooring in your kitchen, a throw rug with a soft or felt backing should be placed in front of the sink area to catch spills and splashes.
- Attach felt floor protectors on moveable furniture, including chairs, tables, sofas, etc. that sit directly on the floor.
- Keep pet nails trimmed and filed in order to minimize excessive wear.

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## Constance Natural Soap

### Maintaining

- It is recommended to mop your floor with **Constance Soap** approx. one week after oiling it and then clean your floor with Constance Soap only when dirty.
- The soap solution, which contains soy and coconut fats, forms a protective film on the floor after drying, making future cleaning quicker and easier.
- Never apply soap to an oiled floor until at least 36 hours after the last oil application.

### Instructions:

- Mix Constance Soap and lukewarm water in a solution of 1:40. For very dirty floors the solution mix can be increased up to 1:20 except for oak floors. Oak floors should never be cleaned with a solution stronger than 1:40
  - Mixing solution should be:
    - Two gallons of lukewarm water + 6.4 oz. (just over ¼ cup) of Soap.
    - Three gallons of lukewarm water + 9.6 oz. (just under 1 ¼ cups) of Soap.
    - Four gallons of lukewarm water + 12.8 oz. (just over 1 ½ cups) of Soap.
- If the soap solution is not properly mixed, footprints may show on a soaped floor even after drying. This is caused by using too much soap. To remove excess Soap, clean the floor with WOCA Wood Cleaner.
- Use a good quality mop, such as the **Constance Sweep Mop**, which has no loose ends.
- Remember that a wood floor should be DAMP mopped.
- Sweep or vacuum the floor before cleaning with **Constance Soap**.
- In one bucket, mix a solution of **Constance Soap** (well shaken) and luke warm water. Pour luke warm water in a second bucket and use as rinse water.
- Dip a clean mop in the soap solution. Wring the mop. The mop head should retain enough moisture to dampen a 4' x 8' section of flooring. Spread the solution across the work area, then mop the damp area as you would a vinyl kitchen floor. For very dirty spots, let the solution set for a few minutes, then come back to the spot and scrub with a dish scrubbing brush. Continue mopping until the mop head becomes dirty or is not moist enough to thoroughly clean.
- Dip the mop in the rinse water bucket. Slosh around very well. Wring the mop head as thoroughly dry as possible. This will remove dirty water and keep the mop head clean. Do not rinse the previously cleaned floor.
- Dip the mop in the soap solution and wring. Clean the next section.
- Repeat the process until the entire floor has been cleaned. The floor should be dry within 5 to 15 minutes. If water is still visible on the floor surface after 2-3 minutes, the mop was too wet during the cleaning process. Wipe up excess water and reduce moisture in the mop.
- It is not unusual to see a "haze" on darker floors after soaping. Simply put a cotton cloth under a dust mop or floor buffer and quickly polish away the "haze".
- Coverage: 3000-4000 sq.ft./liter.
  - \* **Constance Oil Refresher** should be used instead of Soap at least once a year. If floor is cleaned four times a year or less, Oil Refresher is recommended instead of Soap.



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## Constance Oil Refresher

**Constance Refresher** is an oil/soap combination used for regular cleaning and maintenance of oiled wood floors. Oil Refresher, available in natural and white, combines efficient cleaning with re-oiling as additional oil penetrates into the wood, forming a protective layer within the surface of the floor. This means longer wear before re-oiling. Oil Refresher should not be used more than four times per year as this may create unwanted build-up. Floors requiring more frequent cleaning should be cleaned with **Constance Soap** with intermittent use of **Constance Oil Refresher** up to four times per year.

- Clean your floor with **Constance Oil Refresher** only when dirty.
- The **Constance Oil Refresher** solution not only cleans and nourishes oiled floors but also forms a protective film on the floor after drying, making future cleaning quicker and easier.
- Never apply **Constance Oil Refresher** to an oiled floor until at least 36 hours after the last oil application.

### Instructions:

- For traditionally oiled floors, mix **Constance Oil Refresher** with lukewarm water in a solution of 1:40 (3.2 oz per gallon of water).
  - Mixing solution should be: Two gallons of lukewarm water + 6.4 oz. ( $\frac{1}{4}$  cup) of Oil Refresher.  
(UV-oil) Three gallons of warm water + 9.6 oz. ( $1\frac{1}{4}$  cups) of Oil Refresher.  
Four gallons of warm water + 12.8 oz. ( $1\frac{1}{2}$  cups) of Oil Refresher.
- If too much Oil Refresher is used in solution, footprints may show on the floor even after drying. To remove excess Oil Refresher, clean the floor with **Constance Wood Prep**.
- Use a good quality mop, such as the **Constance Sweep Mop**, which has no loose ends.
- Remember that a wood floor should be DAMP mopped.
- Sweep or vacuum the floor before cleaning with **Constance Oil Refresher**.
- Shake the container well before use.
- In one bucket, mix a solution of **Constance Oil Refresher** and lukewarm water. Pour lukewarm water in a second bucket to be used as rinse water.
- Dip a clean mop in the oil refresher solution. Wring the mop. The mop head should retain enough moisture to dampen a 4' x 8' section of flooring. Spread the solution across the work area, then mop the damp area along the direction of the floor boards. For very dirty spots, let the solution set for a few minutes, then come back to the spot and scrub with a dish scrubbing brush. Continue mopping until the mop head becomes dirty or is not moist enough to thoroughly clean.
- Dip the mop in the rinse water bucket. Slosh around very well. Wring the mop head as thoroughly dry as possible. This will remove dirty water and keep the mop head clean. Do not rinse the previously cleaned floor.
- Dip the mop in the Oil Refresher solution and wring. Clean the next section. If water is still visible on the floor after 2-3 minutes, the mop was too wet. Wipe up excess water and reduce moisture in the mop.
- Repeat the process until the entire floor has been cleaned.
- Leave the floor to dry for at least two hours before use.
- Coverage: 1500-2000 sq.ft./liter.



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## Constance Wood Prep

**Constance Wood Prep** is used to prep oiled floors before re-oiling. It is also used to clean very dirty floors before treating the floor with **Constance Soap** or **Constance Oil Refresher**.

### Instructions:

- Change the rinse water as it becomes dirty. By keeping rinse water clean, the cleaner solution will last longer. Change the cleaner solution also, as it becomes dirty.
- Use a high quality sweep mop, such as **Constance Sweep Mop**, which has no loose ends.
- Mixing solution should be:
  - Two gallons of lukewarm water + 6.4 oz. (  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup) of Wood Prep.
  - Three gallons of lukewarm water + 9.6 oz. ( 1  $\frac{1}{4}$  cups) of Wood Prep.
  - Four gallons of lukewarm water + 12.8 oz. ( 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups) of Wood Prep.
- Sweep or vacuum the floor before using **Constance Wood Prep**.
- Mix in one bucket the solution of **Constance Wood Prep** and lukewarm water. In a second bucket, pour lukewarm rinse water.
- Dip clean mop in cleaner solution. Wring the mop until the head is damp. Mop a portion of the floor along the wood grain. For very dirty spots, let the solution set for a few minutes, then come back to the spot and scrub with a dish scrubbing brush or pad. Continue mopping until the mop head becomes dirty or is not moist enough to thoroughly clean.
- Dip mop in rinse water and slosh around very well. Wring the mop head as hard as possible. This will remove dirty water and keep the mop head clean.
- Dip the cleaned mop into the cleaner solution and wring. Clean the next section.
- Repeat the process until the entire floor has been cleaned.
- For very dirty floors, apply cleaner solution and scrub with brush or pad manually or with a floor buffer. Wipe clean with mop or cloth. Repeat if floor is extremely dirty.
- Allow the floor to thoroughly dry before applying oil or oil paste. Most floors will dry within two hours with good air circulation, low humidity and warm temperatures.
- Coverage: 2000-3000 sq.ft./liter.

\*If you apply oil or oil paste before the floor is completely dry, the oil/ paste could stay tacky and not cure. If the oil/paste hardens, moisture eventually will try to escape and will be trapped under the hardened oil/paste. You will get mildew under the oil! One person should be able to clean 1,500 sq. ft. within one hour.