

# OSMO HARDWAX OIL

## **The many benefits of a repairable floor finish**

Plastic floor finishes, such as polyurethane, have become so standard in North America that many people are surprised to learn they have an option: **a repairable floor finish**, also known as a penetrating oil or wax finish. Instead of coating the floor with a film, as polyurethane does, this finish penetrates into wood fibers and protects from within. When the finish wears, as all floor finishes eventually do, spot-repair is so easy that homeowners can keep the finish in good shape indefinitely.

Our OSMO Hardwax Oil is far more durable than most oil and wax finishes which need frequent maintenance. Tests in Germany, where it is manufactured, showed it to be just as tough as polyurethane, with the added benefits of it being repairable, natural, low-toxic and pleasant to use.

## **Why plastic is hard to touch up**

Spot repairs on polyurethane are difficult for three reasons:

- These finishes do not bond chemically to previous layers, so touch-ups occur only where the surface has been thoroughly scuffed; but if you attempt to scuff up a spot with sandpaper and then paint fresh finish over the area, you will discover the problem. Inevitably, the dried repair will be noticeable.
- Particularly with oil-based polyurethane, which gives wood a rich amber tint, color matching can be difficult.
- The sheen of a patch differs from that of the surrounding floor, unless the repair is done while the surrounding finish is still relatively new. The problem is that polyurethane loses gloss with heavy wear, and no amount of buffing will restore the sheen to the same level that will show on the patch.

OSMO Hardwax Oil, on the other hand, can be buffed repeatedly to its original luster. Well traveled areas treated with our Liquid Wax Cleaner repair a more deeply worn spot; and when a fresh coat of finish does need to be applied, it is a simple process.

## **More about OSMO Hardwax Oil**

Not to be confused with traditional oil finishes, OSMO Hardwax Oil is an engineered finish made with plant oils and waxes, plus just enough highly refined mineral spirits to allow easy application. This remarkable finish offers excellent durability and renews ability with a unique

lustrous finish. It will never crack, blister or flake off. Instead of forming a plastic film, like polyurethane does, OSMO Hardwax Oil has open pores that "breathe." This allows any moisture that does get through to get back out again without pushing off the finish.

### **Benefits of OSMO Hardwax Oil**

*Practical benefits include:*

- A clear, satin matte floor finish rich in natural vegetable oils and waxes.
- As durable as polyurethane and far easier to fix when it's scratched or worn down.
- Unlike polyurethane, Osmo floors can be spot repaired, saving time and money.
- Preserves the look and feel of real wood- not a plastic coating.
- Easy to apply- just two thin coats.
- Will not raise the grain when applied. Therefore no need to sand between coats.
- Thixotropic- no brush marks in hot weather.
- Penetrates into the wood surface, keeping it elastic but making it water-resistant. Finished wood won't show water stains.
- Easy to clean- just vacuum and damp-mop.

*Environmental benefits include:*

- Made mostly from readily renewable, natural ingredients.
- Extremely durable-keeps existing flooring in good shape for decades.
- When dry, meets European safety standards for use on children's furniture and toys and resistance to perspiration and saliva.
- Contains no biocides or preservatives, only aliphatic low-odor mineral spirits that meet the German standard for purity.

### **Safety**

Low-odor mineral spirits are among the safest solvents of their type. But in sufficient quantities, they can affect the central nervous system and cause serious health problems. Ensure adequate ventilation during application and while this finish dries. For additional protection, wear a well-fitting respirator with organic-vapor cartridges.

### **Ingredients**

Key ingredients in Hardwax Oil include sunflower, soybean and thistle oil, plus two hard, natural waxes - carnauba and candelilla. A Brazilian palm tree, *Copernica cerifera*, produces the carnauba in its leaves,

berries and stalks. Villagers cut down fronds, dry them for several days, and then beat off the wax. The candelilla comes from the outer coating on a desert shrub, *Euphorbia antisyphiliti*, that grows in northern Mexico. Farmers boil the leaves and stems with water and acid to release the wax. This is an oil-based product. Like most finishes - even water-based ones - it needs a solvent to perform properly. OSMO uses the safest one that works with oil-based finishes: benzene-free, low-odor mineral spirits. This is an aliphatic petroleum distillate, which means it is a petroleum product that has its carbon atoms arranged in open chains instead of rings. The more toxic, aromatic or ring hydrocarbons have been removed, resulting in a milder odor.

For any further questions feel free to call us at 250.765.0270

Your friends in the environment, Koeda Forest Products.