

Caring for Your Cork Floor

A simple maintenance guide to keep your floor looking great for years to come.

Cork is a natural, resilient material: soft underfoot, naturally antimicrobial, and surprisingly durable. A little routine care goes a long way toward keeping its warmth and color looking like new.

1 Daily and Weekly Care

- Sweep or vacuum regularly to remove grit and sand; they act like sandpaper underfoot. If vacuuming, turn off the beater bar or rotating brush.
- Damp-mop weekly, or as needed, with a well-wrung mop and a **pH-neutral cleaner** made for sealed floors.
- Wipe up spills right away. Sealed cork resists moisture, but standing liquid can still seep into seams.

2 Protecting the Surface

- Use felt or rubber-free furniture pads under table and chair legs; replace them when they wear down.
- Place a walk-off mat at entrances to catch dirt and grit before it reaches the floor.
- Add a chair mat under rolling office chairs, and lift (never drag) heavy furniture when moving it.
- Trim pets' nails regularly to prevent scratching.

3 Light and Humidity

- Keep indoor humidity around **35 to 65%**. Cork is a natural material and can expand or contract with big swings in moisture.
- Filter strong, direct sunlight with curtains, blinds, or UV window film. Prolonged exposure can fade any wood-look flooring over time, cork included.
- Use a humidifier in dry winter months and a dehumidifier in humid seasons if needed.

4 Keeping Its Finish

- Most cork floors are protected with a polyurethane or wax sealant. That finish is what you are cleaning, not the cork itself.
- Recoat every **3 to 5 years** depending on foot traffic, or sooner if you notice dull patches or water no longer beading on the surface.
- Ask your WECORK contact which recoat product matches your specific finish before reapplying.

What to Avoid

- **Steam cleaners or excess water.** Heat and standing moisture can damage the seal and cause swelling.
- **Wax, oil soap, ammonia, or bleach-based cleaners.** These can dull, discolor, or break down the finish.
- **Abrasive scrub pads or harsh scrubbing.** They can scratch through the protective coating.
- **Rubber-backed mats left down long-term.** They can trap moisture and discolor the finish underneath.

Quick Spill and Spot Tips

- Blot spills with a soft cloth right away. Do not let liquid sit or wipe in a way that spreads it further.
- For sticky spots, use a few drops of pH-neutral cleaner on a damp cloth rather than scrubbing dry.
- Avoid dragging shoes with grit or small stones across the floor. Set out a boot tray in mudrooms and entryways.