



05 English
Instructions

Finishing
and
maintenance

Dinesen

Finishing and caring for Dinesen Floors

May 2007

Dinesen Douglas and Dinesen Oak

Contents

Choice of finishing for Dinesen floors

Sanding	6
Lye finishing	6
Soap finishing	7
Oil finishing	7
Lacquer finishing	7

Finishing of Dinesen floors with lye and soap

Lye finishing	8
Soap finishing	9

Finishing of Dinesen floors with lye and oil or oil only

Lye finishing	10
Oil finishing	11
Oil finishing only	11

Caring for soap finished Dinesen floors

About finishing	12
Preventive floor maintenance	12
Vacuum cleaning	12
Floor washing	12
Stains	13
Dents and scratches	13

Caring for oil finished Dinesen floors

About finishing	14
Preventive floor maintenance	14
Vacuum cleaning	14
Floor washing	14
Stains	15
Dents and scratches	16
Floor washing machines	16
Maintenance oil	16

Instructions	18
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Choice of finishing for Dinesen floors

Dinesen floors are always delivered unfinished, and after installation, the floors need sanding and finishing. The finishing will protect the planks against dirt and impoverishment and creates a wear membrane, which minimizes direct wear of the floor. Sanding and finishing must be performed carefully to reach the desired result. We therefore recommend that a certified floor specialist performs the sanding. The following finishings can be applied on both Dinesen Douglas and Dinesen Oak.

Sanding

Start sanding with a belt sander grain size 60/80 followed by grain size 100 and 120. Then use a rotary sander grain size 100 and 120. We recommend the use of a sanding machine with built-in vacuum cleaner and a fabric bag. If the floor is screwed and plugged from above, start sanding off any superfluous plug with a small belt sander first.

Always sand along the length of the planks. Use appropriate edge sanders along edges, in corners, close to radiators etc. Vacuum floors and adjacent surfaces like window sills after sanding (only vacuum, no other cleaning).

After sanding, the surface must appear clean and smooth and without gaps between the planks. There must be no visible sanding marks in the surface and along edges and in corners. Performed correctly, the sanding process should leave no visible marks at all.

Cover the floor with thick flooring cardboard (500 g/m²) unless the floor is to be sanded and treated immediately after the installation. If other construction activities require extra protection, use e.g. Masonite plates to cover the floor. Tape all joints. If the floor is covered, make sure to cover the entire surface evenly and completely, as light and sun may cause differences in colour. We advise against any use of tape directly on both unfinished as well as finished floors.

Sanding is a noisy and dusty job. Use the statutory breathing mask and hearing protector.

Lye finishing

Lye finishing is an old Scandinavian tradition, which adds a beautiful light colour to the wood. Dinesen Lye is a mild lye, which is specially made for Dinesen Douglas and Dinesen Oak. The lye opens up the grains of the wood, allowing oil or soap to penetrate the wood better.

A lye finished floor of wide planks will, with its bright colour, create harmony and tranquillity and add a special purity to the room.

As the lye finishing itself does not provide any protection for the floor, the floor has to be saturated with oil or soap.

Pay attention to the fact that certain types of lye can discolour the wood.

Soap finishing

Dinesen floor soap was developed to add extra protection to the floor compared to ordinary floor soaps. First of all, the soap protects better against grease and dirt, but just as importantly, it protects the floor against impoverishment. The soap can easily be used in the kitchen area and removes grease spilled from the cooker as well as other food stains. A soap finished floor simply requires washing once in a while and no other regular measures. Most dents will rise easily again. A soap finishing is the easiest way to treat your floor, but it requires an interest in the floor. If your floors are washed by a cleaning company, make sure that they use Dinesen soaps, and that they adhere to frequency and dosage instructions. The soaps are available in white and natural. By changing soap, you can easily change the colour of the floor. We recommend polishing the soap into the floor to obtain the best possible saturation already from the beginning. A floor saturated with Dinesen soap is surprisingly easy to maintain.

Oil finishing

The oil provides a stronger surface and protects better against impoverishment in case of low humidity. Oil finishing is recommended for offices, heated floors and floors exposed to intensive use. The disadvantage of oil finished floors is that walking traces may appear on the floor as the white pigment in the oil wears off. Therefore, you need to add maintenance oil as required. Finishing with maintenance oil needs to be adjusted according to the use of the room, as the oil needs to dry. Floor oils are available in white and natural, and the end results differ widely from each other. If the floor has been given lye, finishing with white oil will more or less be similar to the white soap finishing. Dinesen Oak can be finished with oil without previous lye finishing. Using only white oil will result in a floor, which is a bit darker than with a previous lye finishing. With natural oil the floor will be very dark, and we therefore recommend performing a small test before treating the entire floor. Dinesen Douglas can be finished with natural oil without previous lye finishing. Natural oil brings out the natural red colour of the wood, and in time, the planks will appear reddish to red-brownish depending on the chosen oil.

Lacquer finishing

Dinesen floors can be finished with lacquer. Lacquer provides the best possible protection. However, it is important that the lacquer remains intact and undamaged. If the lacquer membrane is penetrated, the floor will quickly be discoloured. Dents will not rise again. As different types of lacquer result in very different colours, we recommend to make a test before treating the entire floor. Do not lye treat the floor previous to lacquer finishing as the lye may prevent the lacquer from sticking onto the floor. It is important to let qualified professionals perform the lacquering process and that the instructions from the lacquer manufacturer are adhered to. Incorrect lacquer finishing may destroy the floor. Please note that water-based lacquer may "glue" the planks together (lacquer binding) and prevent the planks from moving freely.

We recommend finishing with lye and soap or lye and oil.

Finishing of Dinesen floors with lye and soap

Prior to lye finishing, the surface must appear clean and smooth and without gaps between the planks. Always sand the floor.

It is important to make sure that the floor is clean prior to finishing. Vacuum the floor and clean with wood cleaner if necessary.

Use rubber or plastic gloves. Use eye protectors in case of the risk of splashing.

Lye finishing

1. Shake the container thoroughly.
2. Pour Dinesen lye into a plastic bucket. Stir the lye regularly throughout the finishing. Dinesen lye is especially well suited for finishing of Dinesen Douglas and Dinesen Oak floors, as the mild lye adds a delicate and bright appearance to the floor.
3. Add the lye with a lye mop, brush or roller in the longitudinal direction of the wood. Use plenty of lye and drag excess lye in the longitudinal direction of the wood.
4. Let the floor dry for at least 6 hours at a temperature of 20°C.
5. Sand the floor gently using a rotary sander with sandpaper grain size 100-120.
6. The floor is now very frail as the lye opens up the surface of the wood. It must therefore now be finished with floor soap.

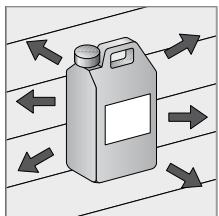


Figure 1: Shake the container

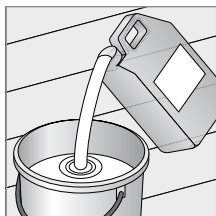


Figure 2: Pour

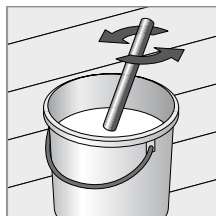


Figure 3: Stir frequently

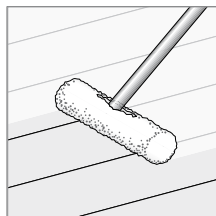


Figure 4: Add

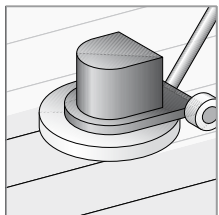


Figure 5: Sand gently

Soap finishing

Now wash the floor twice with Dinesen Floor Soap Natural or Dinesen Floor Soap White. Use the white soap, if you prefer a very bright surface.

1. Shake the container.
2. For the first wash dissolve 2.5 litres of soap in 5 litres of tepid water.
For the second wash dissolve 1.5 litres of soap in 5 litres of tepid water.
3. Wash the floor in the longitudinal direction of the wood.
4. Dry the floor with a wrung floor cloth or mop. It is important not to wring cloth or mop in clean water, as this removes too much soap.
5. The floor must be left to dry for at least 20 minutes between the first and the second soap wash.
After the second wash, leave the floor to dry for 2-4 hours. Afterwards, we recommend polishing the floor with a green polish roundel.

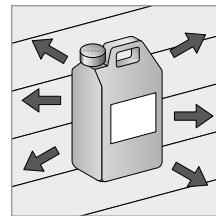


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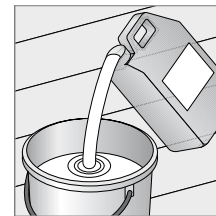


Figure 2: Pour

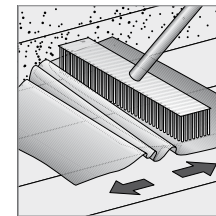


Figure 3: Wash

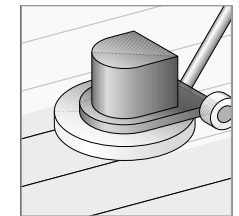


Figure 4: Polish

Finishing of Dinesen floors with lye and oil or oil only

Prior to lye finishing, the surface must appear clean and smooth and without gaps between planks. Always sand the floor.

It is important to make sure that the floor is clean prior to finishing. Vacuum the floor and clean with wood cleaner if necessary.

Use rubber or plastic gloves. Use eye protectors in case of the risk of splashing.

Lye finishing

1. Shake the container thoroughly.
2. Pour Dinesen lye into a plastic bucket. Stir the lye regularly throughout the finishing. Dinesen lye is especially well suited for finishing of Dinesen Douglas and Dinesen Oak floors, as the mild lye adds a delicate and bright appearance to the floor.
3. Add the lye with a lye mop, brush or roller in the longitudinal direction of the wood. Use plenty of lye and drag excess lye in the longitudinal direction of the wood.
4. Let the floor dry for at least 6 hours at a temperature of 20°C.
5. Sand the floor gently using a rotary sander with sandpaper grain size 100-120.
6. The floor is now very frail, as the lye opens up the surface of the wood. It must therefore now be finished with floor oil.

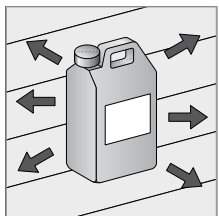


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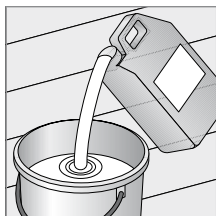


Figure 2: Pour

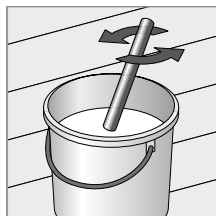


Figure 3: Stir frequently

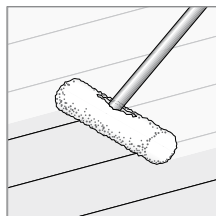


Figure 4: Add

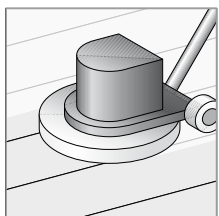


Figure 5: Sand gently

Oil finishing

1. Shake the container thoroughly and frequently during the entire finishing process.
2. Apply an appropriate amount of oil in an even and thin layer on 4-6 planks at time. Use a scrubbing sponge or roller to distribute the oil. Use a rubber scraper to move excess oil to the next section that needs finishing. Continue to add oil as required. Leave the oil shiny and wet on the wood for at least 10 -20 minutes and no more than 30 minutes.
3. Now polish the oil into the wood using a floor scrub with a cotton cloth or a polish pad. Continue until the wood is saturated. Mechanical polishing provides the best possible result.
4. Within the next 4-6 hours excess oil may be observed. Wipe this oil off with cotton cloths.
5. You may cautiously begin to use the floor after 24 hours; however, we recommend a minimum of 48 hours. Do not subject the floor to dirt or washing for the 7 days that it takes for the oil to dry completely.

Oil finishing only

1. Alternatively only oil finishing can be applied leaving out instructions for lye finishing only. The most uniform appearance is first obtained after washing the floor with Dinesen Soap a couple of times. Please note the 7 days drying time of the oil before washing.

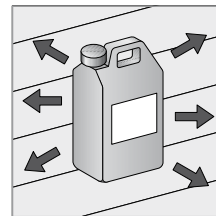


Figure 1: Shake the container

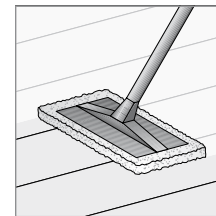


Figure 2: Distribute

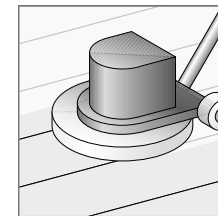
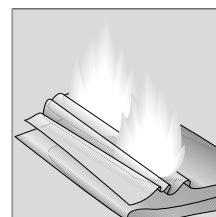


Figure 3: Polish

REMEMBER! Oil saturated cloths may ignite spontaneously



Caring for soap finished Dinesen Floors

About finishing

After the installation, the floor has been finished with Dinesen Lye and Dinesen Soap. The lye adds a bright appearance to the floor and opens up the surface of the floor, allowing the soap to penetrate the wood better. The soap protects the wood against dirt and to a certain extent also against seeping fluids. As long as the soap membrane is intact, the floor remains beautiful and strong. If the membrane is penetrated, the wood is directly susceptible to dirt, which can now affect the grains of the wood. In time, the wood will then appear dry and impoverished. It is therefore important to maintain the soap membrane and continue to renew it.

Preventive floor maintenance

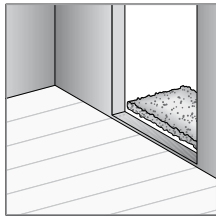


Figure 1: Protect the floor

To protect the floor, the entrance rooms of the house should be equipped with mats, so footwear can be cleaned. The durability of the soap membrane depends largely on the strain on the floor. The most exposed areas are walking areas near doors. Here, it is very important to vacuum the floor frequently to avoid sand on the wooden floor, which would cause extra wear and tear. If you have mats directly on the wooden floor, remember to check for sand around and underneath the mat. Working areas near kitchen worktops and desks will also be subjected to extra wear and tear.

Vacuum cleaning

Vacuum the floor as required to quickly remove sand and dirt. Remember also to vacuum the floor prior to floor washing. Use the soft mode of the vacuum cleaner intended for hard floors.

Floor-washing

Wash the floor as required depending on the use of the room. Floor washing has multiple purposes; the floor is cleaned, and the soap membrane is renewed. This means that floors that are not dirty also need to be washed. A clean floor may very well have lost the soap membrane, and the wood will then be worn and impoverished. This does not happen with an intact soap membrane.

When washing the floor, use the opportunity to check the floor. If there are worn and impoverished spots, you may need to adjust your maintenance routines.

Soap finished floors can be washed with plenty of soap water, however, remember to mop it up. Use Dinesen Floor Soap Natural or Dinesen Floor Soap White. Mix 0.25 litres of Dinesen Floor Soap with 5 litres of tepid water. Shake the container thoroughly before pouring the soap into the water. If the floor is clean, all you need to do is renew the soap membrane. It is therefore sufficient to use a mop or floor cloth. Dip the mop or cloth into the bucket. Wash the floor in the longitudinal direction of the wood. Wash 3-5 m² a time and dry up the water. Use the floor cloth to dry the floor one more time.

Single stains are easily removed with the hand scrub soaked in plenty of soap water. Do not press harder than necessary. Wipe with the floor cloth afterwards.

But if the floor is dirty, it needs to be washed with the large floor scrubbing-brush mounted with the white scrubbing sponge. Use two buckets for this purpose. One with soap water and one with clean rinsing water. Dip the floor scrub in the soap water and wash the planks in the longitudinal direction of the planks. Wash forwards and backwards a few times to clean the planks. Wash 3-5 m² at a time and then dry with a floor cloth. Dip the floor cloth in the rinsing water as required and wring it hard. After extra thorough floor washing, the soap membrane should be renewed as described above.

Be careful when washing around table and chair legs, as they will otherwise in time be coloured by the soap. Carpets underneath furniture should be removed prior to floor washing. Do not put them back in their place before the floor is dry.

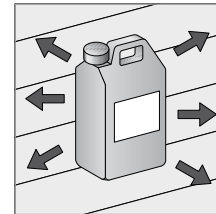


Figure 1: Shake the container

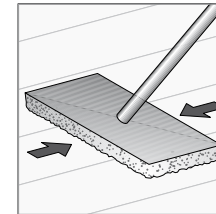


Figure 2: Wash

Alternatively, leave the carpet and wash gently and carefully along the edge of the carpet. Please note that it is possible to change to colour of the floor considerably by choosing either Dinesen Floor Soap White or Dinesen Floor Soap Natural. Both soaps provide the same protection and make the floor very easy to wash and clean.

Stains

A carefully maintained floor endures a lot, and grease, red wine fruit juice and gravy are not a problem. But the sooner you remove the stains, the easier it is. If you just spilled something, use a paper towel or dishcloth to wipe it up immediately. Then remove the stain with a cloth dipped in soap water. If the stain is still visible, use the small hand scrub. If necessary, leave a little soap water on the stain for 30 minutes and repeat the scrub finishing. Do not use excessive force. Use the floor cloth to dry the floor one more time.

Dents and scratches

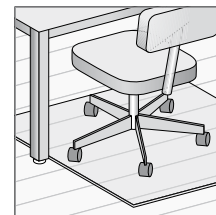


Figure 1: Protect the floor

Dents and scratches can of course not be avoided. But one way to prevent some of the wear is to add glides to chairs etc. It is particularly important to use carpets or plates underneath office chairs. A carpet underneath the dining table may, depending on the house arrangement, be a useful solution. On Douglas, most dents will disappear the next time the floor is washed. In case of larger cuts and marks, pour a little warm water into the holes as quickly as possible. The grains of the wood will soak up the water and rise again. It may be necessary to repeat the finishing a few times over the following days. It is very simple and efficient.

Caring for oil finished Dinesen floors

About finishing

After the installation, the floor is finished with lye and oil. The lye adds a bright appearance to the floor and opens up the surface of the floor, allowing the oil to penetrate the wood better. The oil protects the wood against dirt and seeping fluids. The oil is polished into the wood using a polishing machine to ensure the best possible absorption and to provide the best possible protection. As long as the oil membrane is intact, the floor remains beautiful and strong. If the membrane is penetrated, the wood is directly susceptible to dirt, which can now affect the grains of the wood. In time, the wood will then appear dry and impoverished. It is therefore important to maintain the oil membrane.

Wash the floor with Dinesen Soap 8 days after the oil finishing to create a protective membrane on top of the oil.

Preventive floor maintenance

To protect the floor, the entrance areas of the house should be equipped with mats to clean footwear. The durability of the soap membrane depends largely on the strain on the floor. The most exposed areas are walking areas near doors. It is very important to vacuum the floor to avoid sand on the floors and thus additional wear. If you have mats directly on the wooden floor, remember to check for sand around and underneath the mat. Areas around the kitchen worktops and desks are also subjected to extra wear and tear.

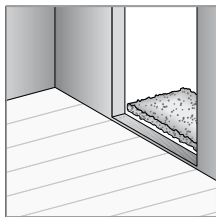


Figure 1: Protect the floor

Vacuum cleaning

Vacuum the floor as required to quickly remove sand and dirt. Remember also to vacuum the floor prior to floor washing. Use the soft mode of the vacuum cleaner intended for hard floors.

Floor-washing

Wash the floor as required depending on the use of the room. Floor washing has multiple purposes; the floor is cleaned, and the soap membrane is renewed. This means that floors that are not dirty also need to be washed. An otherwise clean floor may have lost the soap membrane and walking areas will become visible on the floor.

When washing the floor, use the opportunity to check the floor. If there are worn and impoverished spots, you may need to adjust your maintenance routines.

Wash oil finished floors using as little water as possible. Use Dinesen Floor Soap Natural or Dinesen Floor Soap White. Mix 0.25 litres of Dinesen Floor Soap with 5 litres of tepid water. Shake the container thoroughly before pouring the soap into the water.

If the floor is clean, all you need to do is renew the soap membrane. It is therefore sufficient to use a mop or floor cloth. Dip the mop or cloth into the bucket. Wash the floor in the longitudinal direction of the wood. Wash 3-5 m² at a time and dry up the water using a mop or a firmly wrung floor cloth. Single stains on the floor are easily removed using the hand scrub dipped in plenty of soap water. Do not use excessive force. Use the floor cloth to dry the floor one more time.

If the floor is dirty, however, it needs to be washed with the large floor scrubbing-brush mounted with the white scrubbing sponge. Use two buckets for this purpose. One with soap water and one with clean rinsing water. Dip the floor scrub in the soap water and wash the planks in the longitudinal direction of the planks. Wash forwards and backwards a few times to clean the planks. Wash 3-5 m² at a time and then dry with a floor cloth. Dip the floor cloth in the rinsing water as required and wring it firmly. After extra thorough floor washing, the soap membrane should be renewed as described above.

Be careful when washing around table and chair legs, as they will otherwise in time be coloured by the soap.

Carpets underneath furniture should be removed prior to floor washing. Do not put them back in their place before the floor is dry. Alternatively, leave the carpet and wash gently and carefully along the edge of the carpet.

Please note that it is possible to change to colour of the floor considerably by choosing either Dinesen Floor Soap White or Dinesen Floor Soap Natural. Both soaps provide the same protection and make the floor very easy to wash and clean.

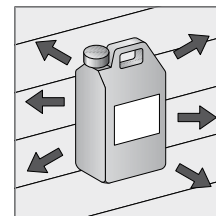


Figure 1: Shake the container

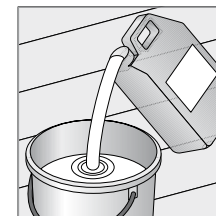


Figure 2: Pour

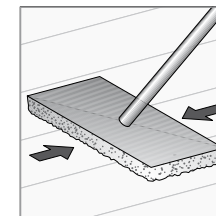


Figure 3: Wash

Stains

A carefully maintained floor endures a lot, and grease, red wine fruit juice and gravy are not a problem. But the sooner you remove the stains, the easier it is. If you just spilled something, use a paper towel or dishcloth to wipe it up immediately. Then remove the stain with a cloth dipped in soap water. If the stain is still visible, use the small hand scrub. If necessary, leave a little soap water on the stain for 30 minutes and repeat the scrub finishing. Do not use excessive force. Use the floor cloth to dry the floor one more time.

Dents and scratches

Dents and scratches can of course not be avoided. But one way to prevent some of the wear is to add glides to chairs etc. It is particularly important to use carpets or plates underneath office chairs. A carpet underneath the dining table may, depending on the house arrangement, be a useful solution. On Douglas most dents will disappear the next time the floor is washed. In case of larger cuts and marks, pour a little warm water into the holes as quickly as possible. The grains of the wood will soak up the water and rise again. It may be necessary to repeat the finishing a few times over the following days. It is very simple and efficient.

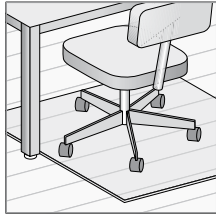


Figure 1: Protect the floor

Floor washing machines

Floor washing machines can be used on a finished Dinesen floor.

To ensure both cleaning and an intact soap membrane, washing with a floor washing machine must be combined with moisturizing the floor.

The floor washing machine must both be able to wash and dry (absorption). It must also have a rotating washing head (disk). e.g. type 451 or 755 from Nilfisk Advance.

Use a white pad and a mixture of 0,25 L Dinesen Floor Soap and 5 L tepid water on the washing head.

Subsequently, to renew the soap membrane, wash the clean floor as required, e.g. after every 3rd to 5th floor wash, with a mop or floor cloth wrung in a mixture of 0,5 L Dinesen Floor Soap and 5 L tepid water.

Wash in the longitudinal direction of the boards and leave the finished floor surface moist but not wet.

Please note that if the soap membrane is not renewed, the floor will become impoverished and the wear increased.

Maintenance oil

If you do not maintain the soap membrane, the oil will be worn. It may therefore become necessary to re-establish the oil membrane using maintenance oil. The finishing is easy to perform, but takes a little time. Adding maintenance oil to the worn spots may be sufficient. Start by washing the floor with Wood Cleaner to remove dirt and soap. This is important to make sure that the oil has the intended effect.

1. Wash the floor thoroughly with 1/8 litres of Wood Cleaner mixed with 5 litres of tepid water. When washing larger areas, mix a new portion. Remove all soap and dirt from the floor and dry the floor using a firmly wrung cloth. Let the floor dry for at least 8 hours until it is completely dry.
2. Shake the Maintenance Oil container thoroughly and add the oil in the longitudinal direction of the floor using a sponge or cotton cloths. For larger areas use a polishing machine with a white polish pad. Dry the floor with clean non-fluffy cotton cloths. Do not leave excessive oil on the floor.
3. During the next couple of hours, you may see a little oil emerging from the gaps in the floor. Dry this oil away with cotton cloths.
4. Let the oil harden for the next 8-24 hours and thus use the floor very carefully. Cover walking aisles and avoid dirt and water.
5. Wash the floor with Dinesen Soap after 24 hours to re-establish the soap membrane.

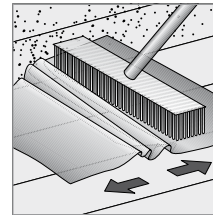


Figure 1: Wash

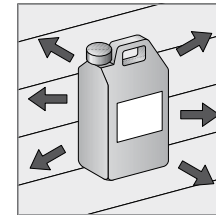


Figure 2: Shake the container

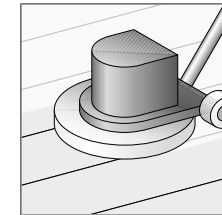


Figure 3: Add

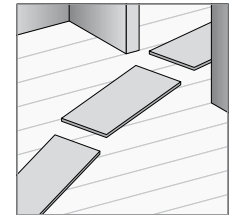


Figure 4: Cover walking aisles

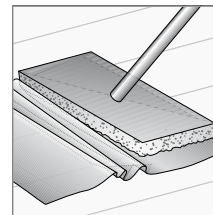
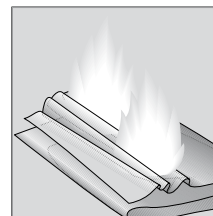


Figure 5: Wash

Please note that oily cloths may ignite spontaneously.



Instructions

If you need further advice, please contact Dinesen Floors at +45 7455 2140, where you can also order and buy the Dinesen range of maintenance products for wooden floors.

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Advice about floors, installation and maintenance.

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		www.uponor.co.uk

Dinesen Instructions

- 01 Dinesen installation instructions for Douglas floors in full lengths
- 02 Dinesen installation instructions for Douglas floors in decreasing lengths
- 03 Dinesen installation instructions for oak floors in decreasing lengths
- 04 Dinesen humidity instructions
- 05 Finishing and caring for Dinesen floors
- 06 Dinesen floors and floor heating

Dinesen's instructions are based on Danish building codes and regulations, reservations are therefore made for national code of practice. Note that guidance besides our own product is beyond our service. Reservations are made for printing errors.