



Issued: October 13, 2011

Technical Newsletter #29 ^{1.0}

Subject: Adding a new wood floor next to an existing one or using new flooring for repairs

This newsletter presents useful tips for people purchasing new wood floors for use next to or in repairing an existing wood floor.

Raw material

Wood is an authentic product that presents natural variations in color. The various sections of the tree, place of origin, and temperature variations are the main factors that can influence the color and pattern found on wood boards. These boards with varied appearances are the raw material used to make a hardwood floor. Considering that the boards used to produce a floor come from different regions and are processed at different times of year, color variations are possible between different batches. Even after finishes and stains are applied, all manufacturers that use wood as their raw material experience these variations.

Manufacturing technologies

The manufacturer of Mirage wood floors uses state-of-the-art manufacturing techniques and equipment. Over the years, new components have been incorporated into the finish to improve its appearance and resistance to wear and tear. Although these modifications are not visible to the eye from one generation of floors to the next, it is possible to see some more noticeable differences when comparing finishes years down the line.

Natural aging of the floor

A floor installed a few years ago may show slight signs of aging. When exposed to ambient light, wood changes color. Over the years, the finish's shine may change as a result of heavy traffic or the use of certain cleaning products. In most cases, the floor will look great until placed next to a new floor. Depending on how long the existing floor has been used and various other factors, differences in the appearance of the old and new sections of floor may be considerable or slight.

Communication

Customers must be informed of all possible outcomes. When planning a renovation, it is important to explain the factors that can influence variations in the gloss and colors of the floor. Feel free to provide customers with a recent sample so they can compare it with their existing floor and make an informed decision.

Responsibility

The owner and installer should have the final say. If either has any misgivings or is uncomfortable, they should not install the floor. Insist on having your customers present when the floor is installed so they can give their final authorization. This will help ensure everyone is satisfied.

As mentioned in our installation, maintenance, and warranty guides, "once installed, a floor is deemed to be accepted by the installer and owner, regardless of whether or not the owner is present when the floor is installed." Mirage [Boa-Franc G.P.] accepts no claims regarding manufacturing batches of floors already installed.

Dino Tremblay, Technical Department Manager 1-800-463-1303