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How To Machine Buff One Coat, Rainforest and Bio Poly into Wood Floors

Earthpaint
because you care



Machine Buffered Finishes

Basic Instructions

- Machine Buffering is typically twice as fast and uses half as much product as mopping on polyurethane. But without isocyanates or n methyl pyrrolidone poisons.
- Sand First up to 220, and clean well.
- Do a test area with the machine, get used to it.
- Check to see if the product has enough slip. If not it needs 16-32 oz / gal of Pure Citrus Solvent to give it more slip.
- Use Floor Machine with 1" x 20" Tan or Red pad.
- Apply material with foam applicator pad, foam floor mop or ultra thin mohair roller.
- Apply very thin coat and let machine spread material.
- Buff into wood so nothing is left on the surface.
- Go back over the floor and catch any spatters if necessary before starting next area.
- Flip pad over or use a new dry pad when catching spatters; it gives more slip
- Erase foot prints as you work your way out the room.
- Flip pad or use new pad as necessary; when you get less slip or the pad gets too soaked or tacky.
- Lightly Sand or Dry Buff Between Coats. Clean well.
- Apply a Coat a day for 2-3 days.
- Open windows, keep warm, dry air circulating.
- **Vegetable Oil soaked rags can self ignite if left piled up. Dry flat in open air or soak in a pail of water.**

Earthpaint Wood Finish Basics

Surface Density: If this is your first time using an Earthpaint Wood Finish please take a few minutes to understand the basic principle of Surface Density that our formulas are based on. This means we seek to achieve fully saturated wood fibers in their driest most absorbent state with high density resin content.

When this is done with a rubbing oil or penetrating stain the wood becomes saturated with high resin content. Future maintenance coats will sure up the surface even more and provide a petrification effect. The surface will be so dense with resin that it hardens much more than if your stripped the coating and applied a new coat. This makes future maintenance less frequent and less labor intensive. This is why its important to make sure the wood fully absorbs the coating. We optimize the coatings for the most common wood but all wood is different. For this reason you should do a test before beginning the job.

Prep

Read: The Wood Flooring Manufacturers Association (www.nofma.org) offers a manual called "Finishing Hardwood Flooring". Consult this guide or similarly appropriate professional instructions if needed for specifics on using Drum Sanders, Floor Machines (approx. 200 rpm) and Floor Polishers (approx. 1800 rpm).

Sand: Remove all previous coatings to insure even absorption, and surface appearance. Sand all wood bare, with the grain, to the desired level of smoothness. Sanding is unavoidable for fine finishing results. Start with coarse grit and move to finer grit sandpaper ending with a final sanding up to 220 grit or higher.

150 to 220 Grit: It may be best to use a 150-180 grit sanding screen on a Floor Machine (200rpm) after drum sanding a floor for a smoother finish or greater sheen. Drum Sanding with the standard 100 grit paper will leave the floor somewhat rough and usually requires more screening or sanding for the most refined floor finishing. If nothing else, a handheld Random Orbital Sander with 220 grit is a very nice touch.

Practice with the Machine: Take 20 minutes or so to test the finish and get used to the machine. Buff a 8 foot square area. This is enough space to see how the machine will buff, like a pendulum, from left to right, back and forth, moving product around and deeply into the wood fibers. Let the machine do the work. It must balance. The handle at your waist height. To go left or right lift LIGHTLY or push down LIGHTLY. Once you get used to it, you may find you can buff open sections with just one hand. Use caution. Go slow. Buffing is typically twice as fast as mopping and usually looks significantly better.

Dilution: If needed to get the machine to spin well and have decent slip add **16 to 32oz** per gallon of Pure Citrus Solvent.

Application

First Coat: Stir thoroughly. Make sure there is no settling on the bottom of the can.

Two Person Operation: **#1** mops an a thin coat in a 3x3' section directly in front of the floor machine. **#2** immediately takes the floor machine over the section that #1 just did. Buffing the coating into the wood with a **red or tan** (relatively smooth, non scratching) pad. Leaving no excess on the surface. Changing pads as needed to keep them from gumming up. **Do not leave any excess on the surface.** All coating is to penetrate into the wood.

Impregnate the wood: This is not a film forming resin. The appearance of a film will come from multiple thin coats and fine sanding. The fibres will get utilized in a type of below the surface, fortified coating that will get hard and be easy to spot maintain.

Leave nothing on the surface: If you forget to buff the material into the wood and the surface gets gummy simply mop a coat of Pure Citrus Solvent Cleaner on thinly and take the floor machine over it with a pad that can remove it. Usually a red or green pad. This will polish it nicely and prepare it for the next coat. Clean and Allow overnight dry.

Dry Time: Keep warm, dry air circulating until floor is dry. Clears are usually ready for recoating the next day. Stains dry 1- 3 days or whenever the pigment sets up. This is dependent on weather, temperature, color selections and type of pigment used. Go easy on the new floor for the first week if possible. Foot traffic after 24-48 hours or whenever dry. Machine buffed finishes are very forgiving but try to give the floor enough time to harden. If it must be walked on a few hours after coating it can be but you may need to wipe on a little material and wipe it off to clean up any footprints or such.

Clean Up: Use Earthpaint Citrus Solvent Cleaner diluted in water for the safest biodegradable clean up. Mineral Spirits is a petrochemical solvent that we stopped using in 1991.

Cautions

Floor Machines: Don't attempt to use floor machines if you are not physically up to the task. Consult your physician. This is a buffing method that usually requires 20 minutes or so for a beginner to learn how to do. Flooring professionals are familiar with this equipment but be careful. **Wet Surfaces can become slippery or tacky and require the use of attention and caution.**

Health Precautions: Use in adequate ventilation. Avoid breathing vapors or spray mist. Can cause skin, eye and lung sensitivities or irritation. Use NIOSH approved respirator. Wear protective clothing, gloves, and goggles. Flash point above 115 F. Do not ingest. If irritation occurs contact physician. Contact **Nationwide Poison Center Hotline: 1.800.222.1222**

Machine Buffed or Mopped? Many people love the natural glow of our Machine Buffed Finishes buffed into a floor and want the ability to spot maintain the floor. These customers don't want to wait to strip their entire wood floor in order to give the floor a freshen up coat and are willing to give up the abrasion, water and chemical resistance that Mountain provides.

Mountain is the worlds only 100% natural urethane which looks stunningly beautiful on wood floors. It gets mopped on. It forms a hard film on the surface of the wood whereas Machine buffed finishes get buffed into the wood surface. Mountain is very water, chemical and abrasion resistant. It is not spot maintainable like a machine buffed finish. It's fine to buff in a couple coats, see if you like and then mop on some Mountain if you want more sheen or protection.

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION WARNING: Linseed oil damp or soaked rags or paper stored in dry containers or in piles can self ignite. Soak in water in metal containers, rinse well, dry flat in open air and then compost. It is against the law to dispose of liquid paint or paint products into sewers or land fill.

LIMITED WARRANTY

Earthpaint Inc. warrants that this product meets Earthpaint Inc.'s manufacturing specifications. If this product does not meet these specifications, Earthpaint Inc. will, at its option and upon proof of purchase, either furnish an equivalent amount of new product to you or refund the purchase price of this product. In no event will Earthpaint Inc. be responsible for (1) labor or the cost of labor for removal or application of any product; or (2) any incidental or consequential damages, whether based on breach of express or implied warranty, negligence, strict liability or any other legal theory. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights, which vary from state to state.

Terms of Use:

Instructions are to be used at the users best discretion. These instructions are intended as an aid to finishing floors with natural materials. The entire scope of finishing floors cannot be covered here. The techniques described should be practiced before implementing professionally. It is up to the user to insure that safe practices are followed.

Earthpaint Incorporated can in no way be held liable for the implementation of the described techniques. Consequential damages due to application of the products listed herein are in no way the responsibility of Earthpaint Incorporated. It is up to the user to insure that the methods outlined herein are practiced and understood before application.



Floor Buffing Pads:

White Polishing - Light dry polishing or light water spray for high gloss.

Tan Polishing/Buffering - For polishing or light buffing. Removes scuff marks and soil, produces gloss.

Red Buffing - For spray buffing, cleaning and polishing.

Blue Scrubbing - For scrubbing or heavy-duty spray cleaning. Removes soiled top layers of finish.

Green Scrubbing - Ideal for heavy-duty scrubbing or light stripping.

Brown Stripping - For heavy-duty stripping, wet or dry.

Black Stripping - For heavy-duty stripping.

Sand Screens:

Vary in Grit and Size. 150-180 can be a good final sand after using a drum sander with 100 grit. This leaves the floor a bit more polished. May be used after first coat is applied to smooth surface out and increase shine.

