

# How to apply OSMO Polyx®-Oil by MACHINE

## **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROFESSIONALS:**

OSMO Hardwax Oil Dries to a satin-matte sheen. No shiny surface film. Preserves the look and feel of natural wood. Because it's not a plastic coating, the finish doesn't fill wood pores. Suitable for all interior rooms and woodwork-even where spills may occur.

Water-repellent, so it protects against watermarks. Suitable for kitchens and bathrooms. Micro porous, so any moisture within the wood can escape.

Resists stains from wine, beer, cola, coffee, tea, fruit juices and milk.

Can be easily spot-repaired and refreshed indefinitely. No need to move out all the furniture or create clouds of sanding dust.

A very low-toxic, low-solvent formula. Exceeds U.S. air-quality laws, even though it is an oil-based formula. When dry, meets European safety standards for use on children's toys.

Pleasant to use. No strong chemical smell.

We sell sample sizes to make it easy for you to test this finish in your home.

OSMO Hardwax Oil is a penetrating oil finish bolstered by natural waxes.

- It works by fortifying wood fibers, not walling them off.
- Treat it more like a stain than a paint.
- Apply a very thin layer.
- Scrub it in. Do not paint it on.
- Never let the finish puddle or build.
- If in doubt, put on less.
- Use two coats.

### PREPARATION:

- OSMO Hardwax Oil must be applied to clean, sanded wood or over itself. Sand off other coatings and vacuum thoroughly.
- On most floors, sand to 120 grit. Finer grit hinders absorption. Stop at 100 grit on exceptionally dense wood (reclaimed old-growth, dense tropicals, bamboo).
- If you use a filler, chose one listed as "stainable." Latex- and solvent-based fillers are compatible with OSMO Hardwax Oil. We recommend latex for environmental reasons. Because OSMO Hardwax Oil does not fill wood pores, consider using a trowel filler on open-pore woods such as red oak.

- Certain tropical hardwoods (like Brazilian Maple) are so dense or laden with oils and resins that they may not be compatible with OSMO Hardwax Oil. Test the finish on a few boards or call for advice.

NOTE: Because it contains wax, Hardwax Oil must not get on surfaces that will later be painted. Mask baseboards and other paintable surfaces when applying finish by machine. (Clean splatter with TSP or equivalent, then wipe with solvent.)

- Apply in two coats. On each coat, 1 liter of OSMO Hardwax Oil covers 200 -250 square feet depending on wood density and final grit.
- For ideal application, apply when the room is 60 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit. Relative humidity should be below 50 percent. A lower temperature or a higher relative humidity may slow drying.

#### TOOLS and MATERIALS:

- Floor buffer- Low Speed
- Natural-fiber brush head (such as Union Mix Brush)
- Red abrasive pad.
- OSMO Hardwax Oil. ( 1L/100 sq ft)
- **OSMO Brush Cleaner** (odor-free mineral spirits) or regular white spirits
- Lint-free rags.
- Dry water bottle with holes in cap
- Vacuum.
- **OSMO floor brush** (a stubby, 9-inch wide brush horse hair brush designed especially for this finish).
- Pole to fit brush.
- Small pad of red or tan Scotch-Brite.
- Half-face respirator with organic-vapor cartridges, if needed. (The solvent in OS Hardwax Oil is a petroleum distillate. Although the concentration is very low, a respirator is advisable where ventilation is poor.)
- Nitrile gloves. (Not latex.)
- Dull paint scraper or putty knife to remove drips.



For small areas inaccessible to the buffer, if desired:

- Random-orbit sander with hook & loop sanding pad or terry cloth cut to fit.
- White polishing pad, cut to fit sander.

Hand application is useful for small areas, tight inside corners and places where the buffing machine can't reach.



## MACHINE APPLICATION:

### FIRST COAT

Machine application is ideal for large areas.

Stir OSMO Hardwax Oil and pour a small amount into a dry water bottle with a few holes in the lid for pouring.

Use full strength for machine application.

By hand or with the random-orbit sander, first treat inside corners, stairways and other areas inaccessible with the buffer. To use the hook & loop random-orbit sander, attach the white polishing pad and squirt a small amount of finish directly onto the pad. Avoid splattering finish onto the wall or trim by turning on the sander several inches out into the floor. Work in just enough finish to darken the wood. When the pad runs dry, apply more finish to it.

Fit the Union Mix brush head onto the buffer. Mount the floor brush onto the pole.

Dribble a modest amount of finish onto a section of floor.

Be conservative until you get a sense of how far the material will cover. Absorption rates vary with different kinds of wood.

Work the buffer over the finish to distribute it evenly and completely. There should be no obvious wet spots. If there are, use the buffer to "move" excess finish into drier areas.

Immediately look over the area just covered. Swirl marks generally indicate that you have used too much finish. Depending on the severity, either use the buffer to move excess to a dry area or lightly brush the boards in the direction of the grain with the pole-mounted floor brush (without adding finish). Sometimes swirl marks can mean that you have used too little finish; parts of the wood are still dry. When the finish is applied at the proper rate, the sheen across the worked area should be consistent.

Gage the spread rate of 200 sq ft per liter on a measured portion of flooring to be sure you are not over applying or under applying. The most common mistake is to under apply.

Continue this process over the whole floor. Overlap with the buffer to ensure even, consistent distribution. Hardwax Oil usually becomes tacky in 10 to 15 minutes. If this occurs before you have brushed out excess material, allow the finish to dry and then sand these areas before the second coat is applied.

Store the brush head in an enclosed tub with a quarter-inch of **OSMO Brush Cleaner**. Or clean thoroughly in Brush Cleaner. An automotive oil catch container works great and even comes with a lid.

### SECOND COAT:

The second coat of Hardwax Oil can be applied as soon as the first coat is dry. In normal conditions, this takes 8 to 24 hours. When the finish is dry, rubbing a small area with steel wool or other abrasive will produce white powder, not gummy residue. Use lights to illuminate the job from floor level to check the first coat. Flick off grit and hairs with the paint scraper or putty knife.



Generally, there is no need to sand before the second coat. However, you can never go wrong by lightly abrading the floor between coats. And there are two conditions when sanding is required:

When there are glossy areas or swirl marks because of excess finish or inadequate buffing.

When there is a long delay between the first and second coats. This is often the case on construction projects, where the first coat is applied to protect a new wood floor and then left for weeks or months while construction continues.

If you sand, use a red or tan abrasive pad that matches the size of the buffer head. Just set the pad on the floor and the buffer on the pad and buff. It does not take more than a quick pass. Consider using a second buffer for this process. That allows you to keep the applicator-buffer clear of dirt and debris.

To hand-sand areas inaccessible to the buffer, use the square of red or tan Scotch-Brite.

Vacuum thoroughly. Apply the second coat, using the same techniques and approximately the same amount of finish as before.

#### LIVING WITH YOUR FINISH:

Properly maintained, a Hardwax Oil finish will last indefinitely. As with any floor finish, vacuum regularly. Wipe away sticky spills and dirt with a cloth or mop dampened with **OSMO Wash & Care** diluted in water. Be sure to wipe the floor dry, and don't slosh water onto the floor.

Over time, high-traffic areas such as kitchen, main entries and stairways will show wear. Timely attention restores the original finish. First clean thoroughly. Allow to dry. Then moisten fine steel wool or a white Scotch-Brite pad with a small amount of **OSMO Liquid Wax Cleaner**. Rub this onto the surface. When the material dries to a haze, buff lightly with a soft cotton cloth.

If damage has been done to a specific area of the floor, or if high-traffic areas are not maintained as above, it is possible to recoat the floor with OSMO Hardwax Oil. Clean and sand the area, then apply the finish by hand. Use a white Scotch-Brite pad dipped into the finish and scrub it in with a vigorous circular stroke. Wipe up immediately so that no material is left on the floor.

If you need to sand damaged areas before applying a fresh coat of Hardwax Oil, this flooring may at first appear lighter than surrounding wood. The repaired area will probably darken and "catch up" with the rest of the floor in 30 to 90 days.

Be aware that you can refinish an area that has been damaged by deep scoring, but Hardwax Oil will not fill in the damaged wood.

#### REFINISHING:

When the floor becomes badly scratched or damaged and can't be maintained anymore using the Liquid Wax Cleaner, It is time to refinish.

Screen the floor with 100 grit sandpaper on heavier damage, or using a Blue or Burgundy Scotchbrite pad for removing light scratches.

#### REFINISHING OSMO UV CURED FINISHES: (Factory Applied Finish)

In order to achieve a better adhesion, buff the whole area using a red/brown pad and the **OSMO Liquid wax Cleaner**. This will open up the UV-Hardwax Oil a bit as it is slightly harder than the 3054 Hardwax Oil field finish.

Follow the application steps above and properly gage the spread rate of 250 sq ft per liter. 2 new coats are recommended.

#### MOVING BACK IN:

It's OK to walk on the floor in stocking feet once the second coat has dried (usually 8 to 24 hours).

But move heavy furniture cautiously, and do not unroll carpets for at least a week. The finish cures over several weeks, and it must have contact with fresh air during this time. If possible, leave the floor uncovered for two or three weeks.

At first, the finish may look blotchy. It should even out in a day or two. If it does not, please call for help in evaluating the cause.

#### TROUBLE SHOOTING:

Q. The transitions from my drum sander to the edger are visible under the first coat of Hardwax Oil. This never happens with the poly I use. What is wrong?

A. Because Hardwax Oil does not bury the wood under a coat of poly, it's important that craftsmanship at the sanding stage be of the highest order. The tradeoff is that when it comes time to apply the finish, Hardwax Oil is more forgiving than polyurethane.

Q. I can see swirl marks from the buffer. What is wrong?

A. Swirl marks generally indicate that too much finish was applied or that it was not spread out sufficiently. If the finish is still wet, work it out with another pass of the buffer. If it is already tacky or dry, sand or scrape the dry finish to uniform dullness before applying the second coat.

Q. Dust and bristles are trapped in my first coat. Should I sand?

A. Maybe. If the debris is stuck to a finish that was applied at the proper rate, buffing with a red or tan Scotch-Brite pad will easily clean the finish. Just be sure to vacuum thoroughly before applying the second coat. If far too much finish was applied, the pad will become gummy and you'll have to go back to the beginning. Sand off the finish and reapply at the correct rate.

Q. After the first coat, some areas are still not dry after 24 hours. They are shinier than the rest of the floor, too. Now what?

A. The answer is the same: Too much finish was applied or it was not spread out sufficiently.

Q. After the second coat, I see just a small glossy area where I must have applied too much finish. Do I need to resand the entire floor and start over?

A. Areas with far too much finish will not dry, even on floors with radiant heat. You might try removing the gummy finish with a dull paint scraper or putty knife. If the first

coat dried properly, it may still be intact underneath the gummy layer. Smooth the boundary of the cured area with a purple Scotch-Brite pad, either by hand or attached to a hook & loop random-orbit sander.

Q. I found that the finish did not spread the same way when going from the white oak in the dining room to the fir in the bedroom and halls. Is this a problem and how do I compensate for the difference in appearance after the first coat?

A. This is normal because softer woods absorb more finish than harder species. Just be sure to spread the finish as far as it will spread.

Q. My spread rate on antique heart pine seems really different. Is this a problem? Should I have done any special preparation?

A. Antique heart pine can be very resinous. Two techniques can help prepare the wood so that it absorbs enough Hardwax Oil. Sand only to 100 grit, rather than the usual 120. After sanding, try wiping the wood with a solvent to remove some of the resin. **OSMO Brush Cleaner** works well. Lacquer thinner is even more efficient.

Q. My second coat is really shiny and full of cloudy areas. What now?

A. Far too much finish was applied. Remove it by sanding and start over. Follow the directions!

#### SAFETY TIPS, PLEASE READ BEFORE USING!

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.

**WARNING: Spontaneous Combustion Danger!**

Oil-soaked materials (rags, steel wool, sanding dust, etc.) may spontaneously combust. Immerse oil-soaked materials in water and store in an airtight container OR hang rags so they can air dry until they are hard before discarding. Natural plant oils are exothermic and release heat when drying. A pile of oil soaked rags can catch fire if not properly discarded.

**WARNING: Contains Flammable Solvents!**

Use only in areas with no open flames or other sources of ignition. No smoking. Provide good ventilation.

Observe all local and federal laws that pertain to the handling and storage of these types of products.

