



MERIDIAN
ELEVATED ESSENTIALS

MERIDIAN HARDWOOD PRODUCTS WARRANTY

HARDWOOD FLOOR CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Like any floor covering, our factory finished wood floors will show signs of wear over time, depending on the size and lifestyle of your family. By observing a few precautions and setting up a regular cleaning routine and maintenance program, you can expect years of beauty from your Meridian floor. The following are examples of the reasonable and necessary maintenance you are expected to perform.

They are not intended to be an exclusive list.

1. Sweep or vacuum regularly since built-up grit can damage the surface of the wood. The vacuum head must be a brush or felt type. Be certain the wheels of the vacuum are clean and do not damage the finish. Do not use a vacuum with a beater bar head.
2. Remove spills promptly using a soft cloth.
3. Never wet-mop, damp-mop, or clean your floor with water or other products. This can severely damage the flooring, and damage resulting from these actions may not be covered under warranty. Do not use hardwood floor cleaning machines or steam cleaners.
4. Always use a Hard Surfaces Flooring cleaner, apply with a terry cloth mop. Always vacuum the floors prior to using cleaner. Do not allow excess cleaner to remain on the floor's surface as this may permanently damage the wood fiber.
5. Important: Do not use oil soaps, liquid or paste wax products, or other household cleaners that contain citrus oils, lemon oil, tung oil, silicon, or ammonia since these warranties do not cover damage caused by non-recommended products. Use of these and other such products will harm the long-term performance of your floor and may also affect its re-coat ability.
6. Do not use 2-in-1 cleaners with polish that may contain acrylics or urethane polish to restore gloss — damage resulting from the use of these products may not be covered under warranty and may produce unsatisfactory results when not applied properly.
7. Keep pets' nails trimmed and paws clean and free of dirt, gravel, grease, oil, and stains.
8. Place protective felt pads beneath furniture legs and feet to reduce scratches and dents. Replace pads as needed.
9. Use a dolly and protective sheets of plywood when moving heavy objects, furniture, or appliances.

10. Make certain furniture casters are clean and operate properly (a minimum 1"-wide vinyl surface where it comes in contact with wood is recommended). Clean wheels periodically to remove dirt and debris.
11. Remove shoes with spiked or damaged heels before walking on floor.
12. Exposure to the sun and its UV rays accelerates the oxidation and aging of wood. This can cause the wood stain and/or wood to fade and/or to change color. We recommend that you rearrange rugs and furniture periodically so the floor ages evenly. Exotic species such as Brazilian Cherry are more susceptible to color change during the aging process. These warranties do not cover damage from the sun and its UV rays.
13. Use area rugs in high-traffic areas and pivot points (e.g., stair landings, room entries, etc.), especially if you have a large family or indoor pets.
14. Maintain the proper relative humidity in your home between 35% – 55%.

RADIANT HEAT GUIDELINES

Selected Meridian engineered hardwood products are approved over radiant-heated subfloors provided that the floors are installed in strict accordance with the Meridian installation guidelines pertaining to radiant-heated subfloors. The products approved for use over radiant heat **MUST** be designated as radiant-heat approved with the radiant heat logo on the actual Meridian sample board. Products without this logo are **NOT** recommended for use over radiant heat and are **NOT** warranted for this application.

The following guidelines must be applied throughout the life of the floor in order to reduce the affects of radiant heat on engineered wood floors. Even when these guidelines are followed it is still possible that your flooring may experience some cracks (seasonal checking) on the surface, gapping between boards, or delamination of boards. The approved engineered products can only be installed over radiant-heated subfloors using the installation methods approved by Meridian. The temperature and humidity levels described below must be maintained; otherwise, any damage resulting from such failure to maintain may not be covered under warranty. After the flooring is installed, slowly raise the temperature to the preferred comfort level (over at least a 5-day time frame), beginning two days after installation or at the onset of colder weather conditions.

- The radiant heat system must be controlled and the surface temperature of the flooring must never be allowed to exceed 82°F.
- The proper humidity level (35% – 55%) must be maintained within your home at all times during the year. Use of a humidification system may be required to maintain proper humidity levels to avoid excessive drying of the wood flooring.
- Seasonal gapping should be expected.
- Surface checking can be expected if the humidity level is not properly maintained between 35 – 55% R. H. or if the floor's surface temperature exceeds 82°.

HARDWOOD LIMITED RESIDENTIAL WARRANTIES

These warranties, which begin from the date of purchase, apply to products used in dry residential applications.

Lifetime warranties apply for as long as the original purchaser owns and resides in the home where the product was installed.

Limited lifetime structural warranty

Meridian warrants all first-quality engineered hardwood floors, in their manufactured condition, to be free from defect in material and workmanship including milling, assembly, dimension, and grading. Meridian additionally warrants that these engineered hardwood floors will not delaminate when properly installed and maintained according to Meridian's installation and maintenance procedures.

What Meridian will do

In the event that the plies should delaminate due to glue bond failure, Meridian will, at our option, either: (1) repair the defective plank(s), (2) replace the defective plank(s). This warranty is a limited lifetime warranty for all first-quality Meridian engineered products. Solid products are excluded.

Limited warranty for residential finish wear

Our factory-applied finishes make hardwood floor installations fast and easy. Every plank is ready to install right out of the carton. There is no need for sanding or staining. With our UV-cured finish you gain the assurance of superior durability and wear resistance. Meridian will warrant, under normal residential conditions and uses, and providing that Meridian's maintenance guidelines are strictly followed, that the finish will not wear through or peel off of the hardwood flooring during the length of the warranty (i.e., 3 years, 25 years, lifetime, etc.) of the product you purchase. Consult your retail sales person if you have questions about the length of your warranty.

What Meridian will do

In the event that the finish wears through or peels off of the hardwood flooring, Meridian will, at our option, either: (1) replace the affected plank(s), (2) recoat the affected area.

NOTE: This limited warranty extends only for defects that cover at least 10% of the surface area of the installed flooring. Gloss reduction, scratches, and dents in the finish are not considered surface wear and are not covered under this warranty. Please note that maple, pine, and birch floors require extra care. Maple and birch are inherently smooth wood and will show scratches and dents more readily than oak or pecan. You should consider these factors when making your flooring selection.

SPECIAL NOTE: WARRANTY LIMITATIONS (APPLIES TO ALL WARRANTIES UNDER WHICH MERIDIAN IS OR MAY BE OBLIGATED). *Meridian products are not warranted against squeaking, popping, or crackling. Some squeaking, popping, or crackling is possible when using staple-down or nail-down installation methods. In addition, Meridian floors are not warranted against staple or nail pullout from the subfloor.*

Who is covered under these limited warranties

These limited warranties apply to you only if you: (1) are the original consumer purchaser of any Meridian hardwood floor, (2) have paid in full for your hardwood floor, and (3) have purchased the hardwood floor for your own personal residential use and not for resale. These warranties ARE NOT transferable or assignable and they DO NOT apply to nonresidential, rental, or commercial purchases/installations.

Warranty Process

Product determined to have any possible defect by the person doing the installation should be returned to your dealer for inspection and possible replacement PRIOR TO INSTALLATION. All questions of product quality are to be addressed prior to installation.

What you should do if any of the above listed problems occur and you need warranty service:

During the warranty period, should you have any problems with your Meridian floor, please contact the authorized Meridian dealer who sold the product within 30 days from the date the problem occurs. NOTE that these dealers are not authorized to make any decisions regarding warranty coverage or any remedies thereunder; they are merely the means through which you should report any problems to Meridian. NOTE ALSO that Meridian must be given a reasonable opportunity to inspect the floor prior to the determination of any coverage or remedy issue, which should be no less than thirty (30) days after you report the problem.

Labor charges

If your floor was professionally installed, Meridian will pay the reasonable labor costs to perform the replacement or repair during the first five (5) years from the date of the original purchase.

Replacement option

In the event that the style installed in the home is no longer available, Meridian will authorize your dealer to replace the affected floor with another style of equal value. The above described remedy is the purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy for claim under this limited warranty.

Meridian's Curative Actions/Remedies

THE ABOVE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EACH LIMITED WARRANTY ARE THE SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDIES AVAILABLE FOR THESE WARRANTIES. IF YOU ARE FOUND TO BE ENTITLED TO COVERAGE UNDER ANY WARRANTY, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, IN ADDITION TO THOSE SPECIFICALLY LISTED ABOVE, AND YOU CAN PROVE THAT MERIDIAN BREACHED SUCH WARRANTY, THEN YOUR SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDY FOR ANY PROVEN BREACH IS EITHER (AT THE OPTION OF MERIDIAN): (1) REPAIR THE DEFECTIVE PLANK(S), (2) REPLACEMENT OF THE DEFECTIVE PLANK(S). IF THE REMEDY MERIDIAN INITIALLY SELECTS IS FOUND TO FAIL IN ITS ESSENTIAL PURPOSE, THEN ANY FURTHER REMEDY TO WHICH YOU MAY BE ENTITLED IS SOLELY AND EXCLUSIVELY LIMITED TO ONE OF THE REMAINING REMEDIES (OF THE TWO OPTIONS, DESCRIBED ABOVE IN THE LIMITED WARRANTIES), WHICH SHALL BE CHOSEN BY MERIDIAN.

Warranty Exclusions

Natural variations: Wood is a natural product containing natural variations in color, tone, and graining. Meridian cannot warrant against natural variations in color or any other variations, such as mineral streaks, small knots, and grain variations from plank to plank. Nor can we warrant against natural variations or gloss level between samples/models and installed flooring. Any sample or model shown or used by your seller is for demonstrative purposes only, and such sample or model DOES NOT create a warranty of any kind that the goods you purchased shall conform thereto. Any warranties based on any such sample or models are specifically disclaimed.

Improper installation: The floor must be installed according to Meridian's installation guidelines. Detailed installation instructions are available on our website www.floorcodistributors.com. Damage caused by improper storage, handling, or installation methods is not covered by these warranties. Improper preparation of, or deficiencies in, the subfloor/floor joist assembly, including but not limited to excessive floor deflection, uneven or irregular subfloor surface (particularly at joints) or voids in the subfloor, are not covered under these warranties. Check to be certain that the subfloor is within structural and manufacturing requirements. Defects or failures of other manufacturers' products at the subfloor assembly, including but not limited to subfloor material, fasteners, patching compound, adhesives, and other floor coverings are not covered by these limited warranties. In no event shall Meridian be held responsible for any damage caused to your hardwood flooring by other manufacturers' products. Other items not covered under the limited warranties include construction traffic abuse to the surface of the flooring; use of non-recommended nailers, staplers, or adhesives; end gapping due to mastic memory or improper seating of planks during installation; squeaking, popping, or crackling by any cause. (Popping sounds caused by depressions in the subfloor ARE NOT covered under these limited warranties.) Cabinets and other built-in appliances should be installed PRIOR to the installation of the hardwood flooring. They should NOT be installed on top of the hardwood flooring. Pre-finished hardwood floors should be installed at the same time as carpets and AFTER finishing the walls to prevent damage from paint, drywall dust, wallpaper adhesives, and other materials.

Improper maintenance: Floor maintenance must follow the recommendations outlined in this guide. Damage to the flooring such as dents, scratches, or dulling of the finish is NOT covered. Wet or damp mopping your floor with water or other substances is not covered by these limited warranties. In addition, the following are NOT covered under these limited warranties: use of hard floor cleaning machines; use of non-recommended maintenance and floor-care products, including but not limited to oil soaps, liquid, or paste wax products, other household cleaners that contain lemon, orange, or tung oils; neglect or abuse of the hardwood floor, including but not limited to not taking proper precautions to protect furniture legs and feet with protective pads to reduce scratches and dents; not using dollies and protective plywood when moving heavy objects; furniture or appliances having dirty or improperly operating casters; spiked and/or damaged heels; pet claws and scratches; falling or dropped objects which can dent or fracture the flooring and finish; and dents or scratches in the flooring caused by furniture, appliances, casters, or normal foot traffic.

Improper environment: Meridian floors are not warranted against damage caused by man-made or natural disasters, including but not limited to leaking or broken plumbing, landscape watering/irrigation, fire, flood, earthquake, insect infestation, or standing water during or after construction. Meridian also does not warrant against: (1) moisture infiltration from side walls, through the subfloor, or from any source; (2) normal wearing of the finish in high-traffic areas, pivot points,

and seating areas; or (3) other extraordinary circumstances such as extreme low humidity (below 35% for an extended period of time). In extreme low humidity conditions (below 35%), planks may shrink and/or exhibit surface checking until the humidity returns to a normal level.

Seasonal Checking: Cracks or checks in the surface of planks due to low humidity, excessively high humidity, or dramatic fluctuations in humidity are inherent in all wood products and may affect your floor's finish. Checking is not covered under these limited warranties. The use of a humidifier/dehumidifier may be necessary to maintain the proper humidity level between 35%-55%. Industry research and experience show that some species such as hickory or pecan are more susceptible to this phenomenon than others and are not recommended in certain regions without the use of a humidification system.

Recoating and finish alterations: Alterations to the finish or non- factory- applied finishes (finishes applied by the owner or installer), including but not limited to refinishing or recoating, are NOT part of the limited warranty for residential finish wear stated above and therefore are NOT warranted by Meridian.

Natural Sunlight: The sun and its UV rays cause the aging of wood and therefore can cause the wood stain and/or wood to fade and/or change color. This includes any showroom sample/models; therefore, fading or discoloration due to exposure to sunlight and its UV rays are not covered by these warranties. Use draperies or shades to help block out most of the sun's harmful rays. Samples or models in the showroom may also fade, making an exact match to new flooring impossible. Custom finishing and staining of interior millwork and/ or cabinets should be done from the actual floor to be installed, not a showroom sample, if a color and/or gloss match is desired.

Special series, cabin grade, and non-standard items: These products carry a one-year limited warranty for residential finish wear only, and engineered products carry a one-year limited structural warranty when installed in a residential installation only. NOTE: All warranty exclusions, disclaimers, and limitations, including the available remedies, stated throughout this booklet apply to special series, cabin grade, or non-standard items.

Warranty Disclaimers

ANY WARRANTIES ARISING OUT OF THIS SALE IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE LIMITED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, ARE LIMITED IN DURATION TO THE LIMITED WARRANTY FOR RESIDENTIAL FINISH WEAR DESCRIBED ABOVE. MERIDIAN SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR LOSS OF USE OR ANY OTHER INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL COSTS, EXPENSES OR DAMAGES INCURRED BY THE PURCHASER OR BY ANY OTHER PERSON. THE REMEDIES AS DESCRIBED IN THESE WARRANTIES ARE THE SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE REMEDIES AVAILABLE TO YOU FOR ANY BREACH BY MERIDIAN OF THE EXPRESSED AND IMPLIED WARRANTIES ARISING FROM THIS SALE. THESE WARRANTIES EXCLUDE CONSEQUENTIAL AND INCIDENTAL DAMAGES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO REMOVAL OR DAMAGE TO MOLDINGS, CABINETS, BUILT-IN APPLIANCES, CARPETING, DRYWALL, WALLPAPER, PAINT, AND ALL RELOCATION COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH ANY REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF THE FLOORING. YOU UNDERSTAND AND AGREE THAT ALL INCIDENTAL AND CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES ARE SOLELY YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AND ARE EXCLUDED AS A POTENTIAL REMEDY FOR ANY BREACH BY MERIDIAN OF THE EXPRESSED AND IMPLIED WARRANTIES ARISING FROM THIS SALE. SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW LIMITATIONS ON THE AVAILABLE REMEDIES, OR THE LENGTH OF AN IMPLIED WARRANTY OR THE EXCLUSION OR

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