

Hardwood, Stone & Tile Floors: Project Checklist

- Remove all paintings or other decorative items from walls and shelves and empty closets so personnel or equipment does not accidentally damage your belongings.
- Even with our best efforts and modern dust-containment systems, construction projects create dust and debris. The only way to guarantee an item will remain “dust-free” is to remove it. Otherwise, cover items that you want to protect. (Including draperies and items in adjacent rooms.)
- Remove all furniture (*including appliances*) from the room we will be working in. Flooring professionals do not carry insurance to protect your items during movement. You may want to hire professional (*and insured!*) movers for before and after your project. (*If you need a referral, please contact our office.*)
- If your project area requires the movement of appliances, such as stoves, dishwashers or refrigerators*, you should contact the gas company or plumber to disconnect any gas or water lines and reconnect them when the job is complete. (**Don't forget about your icemaker.*) If the movement of plumbing fixtures (*toilets, sinks, shower pans, etc.*) is required, contact a plumber for their services both before and after the project too.
- Once the room has been emptied of furniture and appliances, remove any old floor coverings (*if applicable and not included in your contract*) and sweep the surface free from debris. This will save you from any unnecessary area prep charges.
- Be certain you have sufficient electrical current (*220V, 30AMP*) available to operate our equipment. (*A stove or laundry dryer plug will typically work.*)
- We can only work in areas where all doors and windows are in place. Additionally, it is preferred if other trades have completed their work prior to our project commencement. Foot traffic is usually very limited during the project.
- Inventory the furniture that will be placed on the finished floors. Any items that are “movable” and will be placed on hardwood should be outfitted with “protective pads”. These pads are available in many sizes and can be purchased through our office.
- In the case of sanding and finishing/refinishing of hardwood, HVAC systems (*heating, ventilation and air conditioning*) should be operating. The temperature and relative humidity should be maintained at normal living conditions. We recommend that you have HVAC system serviced upon completion of the project.
- Prepare for noise and disruption. You are about to commence a “construction” project in your home and **this is not a quiet task.**
- Discuss your access and availability to the site while work is being performed and during the drying/curing phase with your Bast contact. You will have limited or NO access to the areas during this timeframe. Remember to make arrangements for your pets too!
- If you are having hardwood installed, it is important to allow the wood to acclimate to the conditions of the home. The time required for this step can vary from two days to three weeks, depending on the type of wood, the living conditions of the home, the temperature and the relative humidity. (*Be sure to talk with your Bast contact regarding your job specific acclimation requirements.*)
- Although finishes and grout can appear dry, they will not support heavy foot traffic for 24-36 hours and furniture for 36-48 hours after the job is complete. Area rugs should have natural backing and should not be replaced (*on hardwood*) for at least 30 days.
- If your floors are site-finished, DO NOT damp mop your floors for at least 30 days.**
- Remember that variations in wood and natural stone are normal and will occur from piece to piece and sample to sample. These items are a product of nature and their individual character lends to their beauty and appeal.