

The PARQUET FLOORING 1 x 1

1. What does one need to do before sanding down old parquet or wooden flooring?

First of all one should clear all the furniture, carpets, rugs and curtains out of the room that needs to be renovated. Next dismantle the skirting boards. Any protruding nail heads should be carefully countersunk using a hammer and countersunk pin. Very dirty flooring should be treated first with IRSA Basic Cleaner. Doing this will remove any wax or polymer layers, oil coatings and any other types of dirt. Subsequently the floor should be cleaned again with clear water until there is no longer any Basic Cleaner left on the surface. Any small pieces of wood that have come loose can be stuck back down again using IRSA Wood Glue for parquet flooring. As final preparation for sanding one should clean the floor with a vacuum cleaner.

TIP: Before you start sanding, please pay close attention to the instruction manual provided by the machine manufacturer. Never turn the machine on with the disc lowered and only use when the sand paper is fitted. (Make sure that the running direction of the roller and the sanding paper match each other!)

All drying times given on the IRSA-products are based on the ideal conditions of 20 °C and 55 % rel. humidity.

2. How does one sand parquet flooring, wooden boards and stairs?

Sanding is an absolute must for old and new parquet flooring. It is important that the surfaces are smooth and clean. The sanding stages using the different sanding grits must be adhered to.

Sanding stages:

| | Sanding cycle | newly laid floor | old floor |
|-----|---------------------------------|--|---|
| 1a) | Sanding cycle | Grit 36 | Grit 24 *) or Grit 40 |
| 1b) | Edge sanding and corner sanding | Grit 40, afterwards joints e.g. with Grit 80 | |
| 2a) | Sanding cycle | Grit 60 | Grit 60 |
| 2b) | Edge sanding and corner sanding | Grit 80, afterwards – if necessary – again joints with Grit 80 | |
| 3) | Sanding cycle | Grit 100 | Grit 100 |
| 4) | Sanding cycle | Grit 120 | Grit 120 (here we recommend using a one-disc machine) |

After every sanding cycle vacuum the sawdust from the floor!

*) = for severe imperfections (i.e. very badly damaged or uneven flooring) use a coarser grit, e.g., grit 24 and then possibly carry out several sanding cycles until the surface is even.

Any open joints should be filled with IRSA Platinum Aqua Filler. This is blended with 10% of the wood sanding dust e.g. the grit 80 (sawdust e.g. supplied by the specialist or use it from the 2nd edge sanding) and then mixed to a mass that can be applied with a palette knife. Then the mass is drawn, with pressure, fully over the joints with the IRSA flat palette knife (rust free). Larger dents should be puttied over again. If the mass becomes too thick during the process, then add a little IRSA Platinum Aqua Filler and mix well again. After 20 to 30 minutes the floor is ready for sanding.

3. How does one sand old wooden floorboards?

Before one newly seals or impregnates an old wooden floor there should be no dust, glue, varnish, oil or wax remains. After the first sanding cycle with rough grit the floor must be absolutely free of any residue.

The sanding direction depends on the condition of the flooring. For even, wooden floorboards the roller grinding machine is run in a direction parallel to the course of the wooden floorboards. Uneven floorboards are evened out by sanding them in a diagonal direction to the course of the floorboards. This can be repeated for as long as it takes until the floor is even. Your specialist consultant can advise you individually in any areas of doubt regarding your wooden flooring.

4. How does one sand wooden stairs?

Stairs can be worked on using an edge and stair sanding machine. Here the rule is also never to leave a running machine standing in one spot or tilting!

With old stairs the dirt, varnish or water layers can be removed with rough sanding using rough grit and the stair treads can be evened out again. Thick layers of wax should be removed beforehand using a draw blade. The surface must be completely free of any residue.

The subsequent sanding cycles are carried out with grit 60 and then grit 80. For the fine sanding grit 100 is used. Rounded-off or profiled stair treads must be worked by hand. Corner sanding machines, draw blades or grinding machines are useful for corners and angles.

5. How does one seal parquet flooring, wooden flooring and stairs?

The first stage is to clean and vacuum the flooring in the same manner. It must be absolutely free of any dirt or dust before it can be sealed.

For the sealing process you require an IRSA brush, the IRSA AQUA Roller for the IRSA Platinum Plus roll-on primer, or the IRSA turbo roller for the IRSA Water-based varnish and a swing sander with fine sanding paper. Your salesman will advise you as to the quantity of roll-on primer and water-based varnish you require for your particular object.

When priming and sealing it is recommendable to apply the material in bands of approx. 1.5m width and to distribute it quickly and equally with the corresponding roller. Protect the flooring from strong sunlight or draughts when working as these can lead to blisters forming in the varnish.

Priming:

For the priming one can either use IRSA Platinum Plus or IRSA Water based varnish. With oak wood flooring use IRSA Platinum Plus Roll-on as a primer.

The primer is applied generously with the IRSA brush at the edge of the floor. Then pour IRSA Platinum Plus Roll-on primer or alternatively IRSA Water-based varnish onto the roller so that it is soaked. This is then spread efficiently and quickly in approx. 1,5 m wide bands. The amount of primer needed is 100 to 200g/m².

Sealing

After approx. 2 hours drying time for the primer and without an interim sanding, the floor is sealed with IRSA Water-based varnish. Apply at least 2 coating layers with the IRSA Aqua Roller fully soaked with the product. (Proceed as with the primer).

It is only necessary to carry out an interim sanding just before the final top coat layer so as to sand down any upright wood fibres or possible trapped dust particles (by hand or with the swinging block or one disc machine with sanding paper and/or sanding grid, grit 120 or 150).

The drying time between the coating layers is 2 – 4 hours each time (only continue seal ing, if the previous coat is glue-free). For each varnish coat to be applied approx. 120 g/m² IRSA Water-based varnish is required.

Important when sealing: before every sealing cycle pay attention that the surfaces are free from any dust or other remains!

You can walk carefully on the sealed flooring approx 8 hours after the last sealing process. It is better to wait for 10 days before putting furniture and carpets back in the room again.

Further information can be found in our IRSA care instructions.

6. How does one oil and wax parquet flooring, wooden flooring and stairs?

The same thing is valid here. The floor must also be cleaned and vacuumed. It must be absolutely free of any dirt and dust before oiling or waxing.

For impregnating with IRSA HP Oil you will need the IRSA wide brush or the IRSA Aqua Roller, a one disc machine with beige and white pads as well as IRSA HP Oil. Your parquet flooring specialist will advise you what quantity of HP Oil and HP Wax you will need for your particular

Oil Application:

IRSA HP Oil is applied evenly with the IRSA wide brush or IRSA Mohair Roller onto the wood. The edge of the floor is soaked with oil using the brush.

According to the absorptive capacity of the wood apply 1 – 2 thin coats (about 60g/m²) of IRSA HP Oil until the wood is completely saturated. (Interim drying time 12hrs). Polish away any excess HP Oil so that the surface is residue free. Curing time is approx. 6 days. If desired then a waxing can be carried out using IRSA Hard Wax. By doing so one achieves a silky shine. If the polishing process is to be avoided on subsequent waxing, then the oiled surface offers sufficient protection.

Wax Application:

The wax application should not take place before the IRSA HP Oil has dried (approx. 2 – 3 days).

Thinly apply approx. 30 g/m² IRSA Hard Wax manually (IRSA wide brush or IRSA Blitzboy/fluff free cloth) or with the machine (one disc machine/white pad).

Immediately after drying (approx 2 to 5 hours) the hard wax layer is polished up with the one disc machine (white pad) or manually with the IRSA Blitzboy (white pad) or with the rubbing block (white pad). Should the surface still have matt areas after polishing, then it is better to let the IRSA Hard Wax dry and then polish again.

When oiling on very absorptive wood types (e.g. steamed beech) and/or very absorptive types of laying (wood block paving, upright segment parquet flooring), then one must calculate with larger quantities of IRSAFIX Hard Oil. With up to 4 work cycles the relative oil application should dry over night.

Oiled and/or waxed floors can be fully used after approx 6 days.

7. What does one need to know about caring for sealed parquet flooring, wooden flooring and stairs?

So that the beauty of your parquet flooring is maintained long-term and any damages are avoided you should maintain and clean the surfaces regularly and professionally using IRSA Aqua Star (self glossing) or Aqua Star R9 (matt effect) Parquet Flooring Care and Cleaning. For your own health pay attention to maintaining a humidity of approx 55 %. With sufficient air humidity one can avoid opening of joints in the parquet flooring.

For care and cleaning we recommend IRSA BLITZBOY with suitable mopping cloth. The first mopping maintenance should take place at the earliest 10 days after the sealing.

According to the degree of dirt, mix approx. 50 to 100 ml of the relevant IRSA Parquet Flooring Care and Cleaning product in 10 litres of clean mop water and mop over the surface with a moist, exceedingly well wrung out mop cloth and the IRSA Blitzboy. When dry do not polish!

If the surface has an irregular shine then repeat the maintenance cycle. Do not step on the floor as long as the film of IRSA care product still has a damp shine.

8. What does one need to know about the maintenance of oiled/waxed parquet flooring, wooden flooring, floor boards and stairs?

Important for oiled and waxed surfaces is regular and professional maintenance and cleaning. IRSA Soap Cleaner removes the dirt and protects the surface with an oil replenishing, silk matt film.

In the first 6 days the freshly treated surfaces should only be cleaned using a dry procedure e.g. vacuum cleaner (brush side). Only afterwards can a moist mopping treatment be carried out using the universal maintenance equipment IRSA Blitzboy with IRSA Soap Cleaner. The treatment for only oiled and oiled and waxed floors differs slightly.

Maintenance and cleaning for oiled surfaces:

For this mix approx. 250 ml IRSA Soap Cleaner in 10 litres of clean mop water and mop the floor with the IRSA Blitzboy and a very well wrung out cloth. After a short time to let it work in, dry the floor with a cloth. Never mop over afterwards with clean water! According to requirement treat the floor afterwards using IRSA Blitzboy and oil cloths (then, when the oil is taken up on the wooden surface through the mopping treatment).

Maintenance and cleaning on oiled and waxed surfaces:

Here you only mix approx. 35 ml IRSA Soap Cleaner in 10 litres of clean mop water and mop with the IRSA BLITZBOY and an exceedingly well wrung out cloth. After a short time to let it work in, dry the floor with a cloth. Never mop over afterwards with clear water!

The floor is only re-waxed in the places where it is partially worn away (e.g. walk-ways) or where it shows matt areas.

Further information can be found in our IRSA technical data sheets and labels.

Additionally please pay attention to the relevant IRSA maintenance instructions.