Technical Tips and Tricks



Water popping of wooden floors and coloring with LOBADUR® ProColor

The basics of a optically appealing coloration is depending on the final cut, therefore please regard our TTT "Sanding Instruction: Staining of wooden floors".

Not all wood types can be colored without any problems.

On fine-pored wood, conifer wood and many redwood types sanding marks will appear and the stains might also appear uneven on these surfaces. In order to achieve a optically appealing coloration the area has to be water popped prior to the ProColor application.

What's the effect of water-popping?

The water-popping leads to a rising of the wood fibers, opening of the wood pores and a roughening of the surface. The fibers in the uppermost wood layers swell due to the exposure to water and increase in volume, after re-drying small voids remain between the fibers on the surface. Due to this effect a much more intense color is achieved, regard that the total stain consumption is twice as high as usual. By water-popping fine-pored woods such as beech and maple slight sanding marks can be mostly compensated and the usual uneven stain absorbance is prevented.



Water-popping before coloration



Coloration without water-popping

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Know demands and prevent problems

- **ATTENTION!** After water-popping, surfaces are highly sensitive to mechanical stress. Through hard shoes, hard-shell knee pads, heavy machinery, etc., the swollen / raised wood fibers on water-popped areas can be flattened very easily. On these spots the stain is less effective and the color appears brighter.
- The partially swellings on spots with compressed wood fibers (pressure marks on the wood surface) are more intense than on the surrounding area. This effect can lead to visible peaks on the surface.
- Due to the increased consumption rate of ProColor the material has to be applied by wiping on the material with a roller instead of using a trowel.
- Longer total waiting time due to additional drying phase.
- On watered surfaces you need to apply ProColor faster than usual or work with multiple installers. Larger areas must be colored by multiple installers and machines.
- Overlapping areas need to be overworked quick with sufficient material.

Water-popping of the surface

Wiping with a roller

- Perform water-popping with a Microfibre roller 60-80 by wiping min 50g/m². Use a LOBATOOL bucket.
- Let dry for at least 1 hour

With spray applicator

- Guide spray nozzle at constant distance and angle to the surface.
- Spray on water evenly track by track and equalize the surface with a LOBATOOL Wischwiesel.
- Let dry for at least 1 hour





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Information on Use:

- Stir well.
- If more than one container of stain will be required for larger surfaces the entire quantity of stain required should be mixed in a large container prior to commencing work.
- Apply ProColor using a LOBATOOL Roller 'Microfaser 60-80', for wiping.
- regard safety regulations
- Regard climatic conditions*
- Ventilate working area *
 *)Regard General Information on the use of strongly solvent based LOBADUR[®] products

ProColor Application on watered parquet and hardwood floors

- 1. Sand floors carefully (following the guidelines given in the LOBA pamphlet "Sanding Instruction: Staining of wooden floors".
- 2. Apply ProColor with a microfiber 60-80 roller approx. 100g/m². Use a sealing bucket
- 3. Another installer immediately distributes excessive material by using a floor machine fitted with a LOBA Special Pad beige until the surface has a uniform appearance.
 Caution: On watered surfaces do not move machine onto raw wood during the equalization process. Do not move machine into already distributed areas with new and dry pad.
- 4. Drying 12 h.
- 5. Apply three coats of waterborne LOBADUR® sealer using a roller.



