

Technical Tips and Tricks

Sanding Instruction: Staining of wooden floors

A homogeneous final cut is generally important for wooden floors. It is even more important for wooden floors that should be stained or treated by colored oil.


Sanding marks or sanding mistakes which are not noticeable after sealing with a finish will become clearly visible with coloring. Be aware of this when calculating your costs for sanding: Before coloring, the area has to be prepared with more efforts.

Pigments are always the largest particle in the product. They will always stick to the pore of the wood or the sanding structure of the surface.

Because of the wide variety of wood floors it's not possible to give one standard sanding recommendation. On wood with large pores, like oak or ash, a final cut with the grid cloth P100 is sufficient. Using this on wood like pear or maple, sanding marks will occur.


According to our experience the best results are achieved with the following sanding procedure.


Coarse sanding

1.  Sand the floor with a Belt Sander and a LOBASAND sanding belt P40. Depending on the type and pattern of the floor sand at a light angle or diagonal.


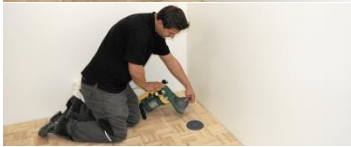

2.  Grind the edges with a edge sander and LOBASAND sanding discs P40.

Medium sanding



3.  Perform the medium sanding with a Belt sander and a LOBASAND sanding belt grit size P60/P80

4.  Fill joints and minor defects with wood putty. Attention some fillers are not resistant to LOBADUR ProColor! To make sure the filler is not causing problems use LOBADUR Fugenkittlösung or WS EasyFill Pro

Final cut

5.  Use an edge sander with LOBASAND P 80 to remove the cured filler from the surface of the wood on the edges. It is important to do that before you start the fine sanding with the belt sander.
6.  Equalize the sanding marks with an edger and LOBASAND discs P 100. Change the discs in every corner where the transition between aggressive new disc and worn out old disc are less visible.
7.  Perform the final cut with the belt sander and LOBASAND sanding belts P 120 into the direction of the wood. Drive as close as possible to the walls.

Equalize buffing marks of the edges and the rest of the surface

8.  Use a single disc machine with a LOBASAND Perforated Pad P 100 alternatively a LOBASAND sanding net P100 and sand along the walls as close as possible to equalize the transition from edge sander to belt sander.
9.  Finally sand the surface with the single disc machine and the LOBASAND Perforated Pad P 100 or LOBASAND Sanding Net P 100. Drive from wall to wall in a criss-cross pattern. First against the grain, finally with the grain. Avoid changing the abrasives in the middle of the room. If needed start with the new abrasive on the opposite site of the room.

LOBATOOL PerforatedPad - Advantages

- + Increases sanding performance and reduces time required for sanding
- + Reduces exposure of sanding dust during sanding process
- + Effective contribution of reducing the risk of activities hazardous to health
- + Extended lifetime due to constant removal of sanding dust
- + Less capital expenditure compared to regular sanding systems
- + Decreased inventory costs due to a large range of use and long durability
- + Better sanding results



Frequent mistakes

- Damaged sanding paper will leave sanding marks, that cannot be equalized with a single disc machine instead they might seem more intense. In order to avoid this the area has to be vacuumed before trowel filling to clean the floor from loose sanding granulates or dirt which could damage the sanding paper.
- Don't skip more than one grit size during sanding. When using the single-disc machine it is reasonable to use a coarser grain, since PerforatedPads and sanding nets always sand smoother than sanding belts.
- The final sanding with the single disc machine has to be done thoroughly and in a criss-cross pattern to get a good result and to even out all sanding and transition marks of the different sanding machines.
- Don't change the sanding paper too late.
- Don't use angle grinders with high r.p.m. for the edge sanding. They polish the surface which will have an effect on the stain.

Before coloring, the sanded area has to be checked. Only the person who was sanding the will be able to notice mistakes at this stage since he operated the machines. Especially the transitions between edger and belt sander and the turning areas of the belt sander have to be checked. If necessary – test stain the area.