

## LAMINATE FLOOR CARE AND MAINTENANCE

### Routine Maintenance

1. Use a damp cloth to blot up spills as soon as they happen. Never allow liquids to stand on your floor.
2. For tough spots, such as oil, paint, markers, lipstick, ink, or tar, use acetone/nail polish remover on a clean white cloth, then wipe the area with a damp cloth to remove any remaining residue.
3. Sweep, dust, or vacuum the floor regularly with the hard floor attachment (not the beater bar) to prevent accumulation of dirt and grit that can scratch or dull the floor finish.
4. Periodically clean the floor with cleaning products made specifically for laminate floor care, such as Shaw's **R2X® Hard Surface Cleaner**.
5. Do not wash or wet mop the floor with soap, water, oil-soap detergent, or any other liquid cleaning material. This could cause swelling, warping, delamination, joint-line separation, or other damage that may not be covered by your warranty.
6. Do not use steel wool, abrasive cleaners, or strong ammoniated or chlorinated type cleaners.
7. Do not use any type of buffing or polishing machine.
8. For spots such as candle wax or chewing gum, apply a gel solvent or isopropyl alcohol and let dwell for a few minutes. Gently scrape with a plastic scraper, such as a credit card. Be careful not to scratch the flooring surface. Always clean with neutral cleaner or rinse with water to remove residue.
9. A more frequent dust-mopping or vacuuming schedule may be required in very sandy areas such as a beach home.

### Environmental Protection

1. Entry mats will help collect the dirt, sand, grit, and other substances such as oil, asphalt, or driveway sealer that might otherwise be tracked onto your floor.
2. To prevent slippage of area rugs, use an approved vinyl rug underlayment.

3. Use floor protectors and wide-load bearing leg bases/rollers to minimize the chance of indentations and scratches from heavy objects. As a rule, the heavier the object, the wider the floor protector.
4. Maintain a normal indoor relative humidity level between 35% and 65% throughout the year to minimize the natural expansion and contraction of the wood.
  - a. **Heating season (Dry):** A humidifier is recommended to prevent excess shrinkage due to low humidity levels. Wood stove and electric heat tend to create very dry conditions.
  - b. **Non-Heating Season (Wet):** An air conditioner, dehumidifier, or periodically turning on your heating will help to maintain humidity levels during summer months.
5. Avoid excessive exposure to water during periods of inclement weather.
6. Keep your pet's nails trimmed to prevent them from scratching your floor.
7. Never try to slide heavy objects across the floor.
8. A protective mat should be used for furniture or chairs with castors.

### Minor Repair Instructions:

In the event that accidental damage occurs to one of the planks, minor scratches or dents can be repaired using a Flooring Touchup or Color-fill Kit. This special touchup kit is a filler material, color-coordinated to the color of your floor that, when used properly, makes repaired area often invisible. The repaired area will hold up to foot traffic and wear just like the rest of your laminate flooring.

### Glueless Laminate Board Replacement Repairs

1. Shaw glueless laminate may be assembled and disassembled several times.
2. Carefully disassembled glueless joints will retain their original locking integrity during re-assembly. New replacement plank(s) should be acclimated in the replacement area for at least 72 hours, to allow them to equalize to the conditions of the flooring in the room where the replacement(s) will take place.

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3. Remove baseboard, wall base, or quarter-round as needed to replace the damaged board(s). Take the flooring apart, 1 row at a time, by lifting the rows to detach them, then separating the individual boards.
4. Be sure to stack the individual planks in the proper order for re-installation. This usually eliminates the need to cut planks for start or end of the row lengths.
5. Replace the damaged board with a piece from the edge of the original installation.
6. Insert the properly acclimated new plank(s) along the outer edge of the original flooring installation during re-assembly. This minimizes the chance that a newer plank might stand out from the wear condition of the original installation.
7. Re-install the baseboard, wall base, or quarter round, and the replacement-repair is complete.

## **VERSALOCK® LAMINATE LIMITED RESIDENTIAL WARRANTIES, Inc.**

What this Residential Limited Warranty covers:

Shaw warrants that from the date of the original purchase throughout the length of the warranty (i.e. 20 years, 25 years, or 30 years\*) of the product you purchase, your VersaLock Floor:

- Will not stain
- Will not wear through
- Will not fade as a result of direct sunlight or artificial light
- Will resist water damage under normal use conditions

## **Lifetime Structural Integrity Warranty:**

Shaw warrants to the original purchaser that this laminate product, in its manufactured condition, will be free from defects in material or workmanship including milling, assembly, and dimension. Shaw additionally warrants that this laminate product will not warp, cup, buckle, or delaminate when properly installed and maintained according to Shaw's installation instruction procedures and care guide. This warranty includes installation over a radiant-heated concrete subfloor for approved floating installation methods.

Consult your retail salesperson or the Shaw Information Center 800-441-7429 if you have questions about the length of your warranty.

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

You (the original purchaser) should notify the authorized flooring dealer from which the original purchase was made of any defect no later than 30 days after discovering the defect but within the time period of this limited warranty. You (the original purchaser) must present to that authorized flooring dealer the following items for a warranty claim to be considered:

- A valid proof of purchase in the form of a sales receipt or other documents which establish proof of purchase.
- A detailed description of the problem and/or a photograph/sample that clearly shows the warranty problem.

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## **What Shaw will do should you need warranty service:**

If Shaw honors a claim under this limited warranty, it will repair or replace, at its option, the cost of the affected flooring material. If professionally installed, Shaw will pay the reasonable labor costs to perform the replacement or repair during the first two (2) years from the date of the original purchase. In the event that the color installed is no longer available, Shaw will authorize your dealer to replace the affected floor with another Shaw product of equal value. The above described remedy is the purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy for claims under this limited warranty.

## **This Residential Limited Warranty is subject to the following conditions:**

This limited warranty is valid only in North America. The warranty is not transferable and extends only to the original purchaser. This limited warranty applies only where the affected area is visible and covers an area greater than one square inch. The flooring must be installed in accordance with Shaw's recommended installation instructions. This limited warranty shall not apply to damage arising from any of the following:

- Accidents, abuse or misuse
- Exposure to extreme heat
- Scratch, impact, or cutting
- Improper installation
- Improper care and maintenance

- Freight
- Modification, alterations, repair, or service by a non-authorized floor covering dealer
- Water damage resulting from improper installation or flooding caused by natural disaster, plumbing failures, etc.
- Damage due to failure to use appropriate chair pads under caster desk chairs (Use only seamless plastic caster wheels to help prevent scratches)
- Damage resulting from or in connection with subfloor conditions

Please Note: Shaw does not grant to any person or entity the authority to create for it any obligation or liability in connection with this product. Shaw shall not be liable to the consumer or any other person or entity for any incidental, special, or consequential damages, arising out of breach of this limited warranty or any implied limited warranty (excluding merchantability). All implied warranties are hereby limited to the duration of this limited warranty. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of implied warranties or the limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitations or exclusions may not apply to the purchaser. This warranty gives the purchaser specific legal rights, such rights may vary from state to state.

# ENHANCE YOUR WARRANTY WITH SHAW UNDERLAYMENT

## UNDERLAYMENTS

Shaw offers a number of excellent underlayments that extend the wear warranties for its hard surface products. These underlayments provide sound absorption and smooth out minor irregularities in the subfloor.

**SELITAC®:** SELITAC is a thermally insulating underlayment that is used for a variety of floating floor installations, including laminate and engineered hardwood. This fine-celled, extruded polystyrene foam offers excellent thermal and sound insulation. It is simple to install with its fanfold panel design and is 100% recyclable.

Installing SELITAC with any Shaw engineered hardwood or laminate will extend that product's wear warranty an extra 10 years.

**SilentStep™ Ultra 3-in-1:** For use with laminate and hardwood floating flooring, SilentStep is a high-density, 100% closed-cell polyolefin foam core. An attached 4-mil polyethylene moisture barrier provides excellent subfloor moisture resistance. SilentStep is non-allergenic and mold and mildew resistant; it may be installed over concrete or wood substrates on all grades of approved subflooring.

Installing SilentStep Ultra 3-in-1 with any Shaw laminate will extend that product's wear warranty an extra 10 years.

**SofSound II:** SofSound is a synthetic fiber blend pad with a laminated polyethylene film moisture retardant barrier. Environmentally responsible, SofSound is made from 100% post-industrial fiber waste. It is approved for use over radiant heat and can be installed over wood or concrete and with all floating floors.

Installing SofSound II with any Shaw laminate will extend that product's wear warranty an extra 10 years.

## **WARRANTY SERVICE**

The Shaw Information Center provides information about proper installation and maintenance of your Shaw hard surface product.

Much of this information is included in this booklet. If you have other questions, please feel free to write or call us.

If you think that there is a defect in your hard surface product that is covered by one of the Shaw warranties, you must notify the Shaw retailer who sold you the product. Your retailer will be able to file the claim with Shaw for you. If you are unable to contact your retailer or do not receive satisfaction, write:

Shaw Industries  
Financial Services  
P.O. Box 40  
Mail Drop 026-04  
Dalton, GA 30722-0040

Be sure to include a full description of the problem, photos if available, and proof of purchase showing the price paid for the product.

### **How to contact the Shaw Information Center**

1.800.441.7429 or [shawfloors.com/customer-care/contact-us](http://shawfloors.com/customer-care/contact-us)