

KITCHEN

planning & buying guide

SPECIAL ISSUE JULY 2015

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Keeping it clean

Most flooring comes with some specifics on maintenance do's and don'ts (don't use ammonia-based cleaners on wood, for example). But how do you remove chewing gum, wax, and other messes without damaging the finish? Here are some tips from our experts:

Minor scratches and chips

Some hardwood flooring manufacturers offer color-blended filler that you can use to hide small scratches and dings. If a small area of hardwood flooring is worn, try sanding and refinishing it. But heavily damaged pieces might need to be replaced, especially plastic laminate, which can't be sanded or refinished (the damaged piece has to be chiseled out and a new one inserted). On all types of flooring, try a color-matched felt marker to camouflage small scratches and surface imperfections.

Gum and wax

On wood, cover the stain with a sealed ice pack to make it brittle enough to break off in pieces. Do the same on plastic laminate, vinyl, or linoleum, but be especially careful when scraping it off (try a plastic scraper or credit card). And on any flooring, finish the job by wiping the area clean with a damp cloth to remove any remaining residue.

Oil, paint, marker, lipstick, ink, and tar

On vinyl, use a clean cloth dampened with warm water and detergent; on wood and plastic laminates, use nail-polish remover. Avoid using abrasive cleaners, steel wool, and heavy-duty scouring pads.

Steps to savings

Retailers' losses can be your gain. Discounters such as Lumber Liquidators (lumberliquidators.com) and iFloor (ifloor.com) buy directly from manufacturers and sometimes offer deals on overstocked flooring. You also can often save on opened or damaged boxes and flooring with minor surface flaws.

Buy only what you need. Determine the room's square footage by multiplying length by width. Then buy 10 percent additional to allow for the unexpected.

See the real thing. Paying for samples costs far less than buying flooring that looks great in a catalog or online—and all wrong once it's installed in your kitchen.

Do your own prep work. Even if you hire a pro for installation, you can save hundreds by tearing out old flooring, leveling the subfloor, and removing any baseboard that's in the way yourself.



FIX THE FLOOR YOU HAVE IN 3 EASY STEPS

Minor damage may even enhance the rustic look of distressed or handscraped floors by blending in with other patina, but you'll probably want to fix other flaws like deeper nicks, scratches, and grooves. Check the manufacturer's manual for any special instructions, then try these simple remedies for unwanted imperfections.

- 1 Mark it.** A color-matched felt marker can hide small scratches in any floor. Some hardwood manufacturers even offer color-blended filler for chips and grooves, available at home centers and flooring stores.
- 2 Sand it.** Badly worn or damaged wood floors must be refinished. But you can do spot repairs of wear or damage with light buffing or sanding, followed by staining. Be especially careful with thin veneers on engineered-wood floors.
- 3 Replace only what's damaged.** Heavy damage or a cracked stone tile usually requires chiseling out the damaged section and gluing in a new piece. But that's still easier than removing an entire row of tiles or planks if you've floated the floor.

5 SURPRISING KITCHEN FIXES

- p. 8, LDa Architecture & Interiors, lda-architects.com
- p. 9, Amie Corley Interiors, amiecorley.com
- p. 10, Bondi blue glass tile backsplash by Oceanside Glasstile, glasstile.com
- p. 11, top, LDa Architecture & Interiors, lda-architects.com; bottom, MichelleFries/BeDe Design, bededesign.com

BRIGHT EFFECTS

- p. 12, Zero Energy Design, zeroenergy.com;
- p. 14, Olympic Paints Ivory Tower, olympic.com
- p. 15, Jeff Troyer, JWT Associates, jefftroyer.com

THE 7 BEST DESIGN DECISIONS

- p. 16, 17 & 18, Cheryl Kees Clendenon indetailinteriors.com
- p. 20, Brooke Jones Design, modern-sophisticate.blogspot.com
- p. 21 top, Dalia Kitchen Design, porcelanosa-usa.com; bottom, Robert Zebrowski CKD, Extraordinary Works, ewkitchens.com/robert-zebrowski.html

FANTASY ISLANDS

- p. 24 top left, Ron Brenner Architects, ronbrennerarchitects.com; top right, Abigail Campbell-King Architect, abbyarch.com;
- bottom left, Douglas Larson, Larson and Paul Architects, larsonandpaul.com; interior by Selina van der Geest, nlgb.com;
- bottom right, Noel Dempsey Design, noeldempsey.com
- p. 25 top, Round House Design, roundhousedesign.com; center, Kitchen Cove Cabinetry, kitchencovecabinetry.com;
- bottom, Urban Grace Interiors, urbangrace.com; Geoff Chick & Associates Architecture, geoffchick.com
- p. 26 left, LDa Architecture & Interiors, lda-architects.com; lower right, Bear Hill Interiors, bearhillinteriors.com
- p. 27 top left, Christopher Hall Architects, challarchitect.com; top right, Chelsea Atelier Architect, chelseaatelier.com; bottom right, LDa Architecture & Interiors, lda-architects.com; Kristen Rivoli Interior Design, rivoliinteriordesign.com

FAST LIVING

- p. 29 lower right, GE induction cooktop, geappliances.com

SAME SPACE, NEW FACE

- p. 32-37, Christina Cabinetry via Design Manifest, designmanifest.com; faucets: Delta Trinsic; deltafaucet.com; appliances: GE Monogram Electric Cooktop, geappliances.com; KitchenAid Architect Series II Convection Wall Oven and Warming drawer, 72-in. French-door refrigerator, and built-in trash compactor, kitchenaid.com; Bosch 300 Series dishwasher, bosch-home.com; AccuCold by Summit Appliance 24-in. refrigerator,

summitappliance.com; Futuro tapered hood, futurofuturo.com; lighting: Boston functional library wall lights in hand-rubbed antique brass, circalighting.com; French Market ceiling lantern, frenchmarketlanterns.com; Petite Paris flea market chandelier in antique brass/seeded glass beads, circalighting.com

STORAGE EVERYWHERE

- p. 38-43, Lara McGraw Interior Design, laramcgraw.com

BUYING GUIDE**CABINETS**

- p. 46 & 47, Jane Lockhart Interior Design, janelockhart.com
- p. 49 top, Ikea Grimslov Cabinets, ikea.com; center, Taylor Borsari, taylorborsair.com, and Joe Lucas, lucasstudioinc.com; bottom, Debbie Nasetta/Roomscapes of Newport Beach, roomscapes.net
- p. 50 top & center, Metropolitan Cabinet and Countertops, metcabinet.com; bottom right, Cheryl Kees Clendenon, indetailinteriors.com; bottom left, Sarah Gallop Design, sarahgallop.com; bottom center, Waypoint Living Spaces, waypointlivingspaces.com
- p. 51 bottom, TerraCotta Properties, terraccottaproperties.com

COUNTERTOPS

- p. 52, Prideaux Design, prideauxdesign.net, and Repp McLain Architecture, reppmclain.com
- p. 53, Saroki Architecture, sarokiarchitecture.com
- p. 54, Tanya Capaldo Designs, tanyacapaldodesigns.com

FLOORING

- p. 58, Pergo Handscraped Richland Hickory, pergo.com
- p. 60, bottom, Apex Hardwood Floors, Live Sawn White Oak in Chestnut stain, apexwoodfloors.com

INTERIOR PAINT

- p. 64, Benjamin Moore Lakeville Living, benjaminmoore.com
- p. 65, Heide Hendricks Interior Design, heidehendricks.com, and Rafe Churchill Architecture, rafechurchill.com
- p. 67, Valspar Reserve Crystal Aqua, valsparpaint.com

RANGES

- p. 84, Olivia O'Bryan Interior Design, oliviaobryan.com

MICROWAVE OVENS

- p. 111, Jeff Troyer, JWT Associates, jefftroyer.com
- p. 112 top, Jessica DeKler/Deakins Design Group, deakinsdesigngroup.com; bottom left, Leslie Ann Abbott, Interior Design; linkedin.com/in/lesliannabbott, bottom right, Blake Shaw Homes, blakeshawhomes.com

MAJOR APPLIANCES

- Amana, amana.com
- Bertazzoni, bertazzoni.com
- Big Chill, bigchill.com
- Blomberg, blombergappliances.com
- Bosch, bosch-home.com
- Dacor, dacor.com
- DCS, dcsappliances.com
- Electrolux, electroluxappliances.com
- Fisher & Paykel, fisherpaykel.com
- Frigidaire, frigidaire.com
- GE, geappliances.com
- Haier, haier.com
- Hotpoint, hotpoint.com
- Ikea, ikea.com
- Jenn-Air, jennair.com
- Kenmore, kenmore.com
- KitchenAid, kitchenaid.com
- LG, lg.com
- Liebherr, liebherr-appliances.com
- Maytag, maytag.com
- Miele, mieleusa.com
- Panasonic, panasonic.com
- Samsung, samsung.com
- Sanyo, us.sanyo.com
- Sub-Zero, subzero-wolf.com
- Thermador, thermador.com
- Viking, vikingrange.com
- Whirlpool, whirlpool.com
- Wolf, subzero-wolf.com
- Zephyr, zephyronline.com

UNRATED PRODUCTS*SINKS**

- p. 127 top, Rohl Waterside Apron-front Fireclay sink, rohlhome.com; bottom Blanco Precision Microedge, blanco-germany.com
- p. 128 top left, Kohler Trough, kohler.com; top right, American Standard Orchard, americanstandard.com; bottom left, Kohler Overmount, kohler.com; bottom right, Franke Oceania, franke.com
- p. 129 top, Blanco Wave Single Bowl, bottom, Blanco Ronis, blanco-germany.com;

FAUCETS

- p. 130, Lucy Earl/Jones Keena Interiors, jones-keena.com

COVER & BUYING GUIDE OPENER

Photographer: David Patterson; Lisa Egger, Architect, lisaegger.com

