

Notes on building up oil/waterbased lacquer combination with euku oil 1FS / euku color oil and strato waterbased lacquers

1 GENERAL

The oil/waterbased lacquer combination is a high quality, but also a technically sophisticated system and should be carried out by someone with the necessary experience. The products themselves function well and easily if the stipulations of the respective product information are observed. So that you don't have any problems, here again is the consolidated special information.

Please also pay attention to the Product Information Sheets of the mentioned products!

2 OIL DRYING

The oil/waterbased lacquer combination can only function if the oil primer has dried sufficiently! Here it is particularly important to take into account that the drying of the oil is heavily dependent on atmospheric conditions. Low temperatures, increased humidity and low air movement slow down drying. The drying of oils is also described as "oxidative drying". This means that the oil hardens as a reaction with oxygen. This oxygen is taken from the air. If not enough air gets to the oiled surface, then the drying of the oil will be slowed down. Hence the movement of air helps the oil in its reaction with oxygen in the air. Before applying a strato lacquer, therefore, the person laying the wood floor must carry out a drying check of his own responsibility. In particular this must be done in critical areas of the room, with regard to the parameters mentioned above. Unfortunately, there are no 100% certain methods, which is why experience in carrying out and evaluating the process is necessary. In the case of coloured oiled surfaces, an assessment is helped by rubbing with a paper tissue. A minimal amount of colour is acceptable, but if a lot of colour is rubbed off, then this means you should wait! Alternatively, it is possible to use adhesive tape to assess the floor. If the adhesive tape sticks well to the oiled floor, then the oil has dried sufficiently and the lacquer will subsequently also adhere well. If the lacquer should peel off, this is proof that the oil had not dried sufficiently and means that the person laying the wood floor is responsible.

We emphasize explicitly that haste during the oil/waterbased lacquer combination can lead to having to basically sand the floor and build up the surface from scratch. If you wish to work during the drying times according to the product information, then we recommend influencing the room air parameters: by deploying an electrical fan-heater the air is moved around (oxygen!), the room is warmed and the relative humidity is reduced. If necessary, even in summer it can be useful to switch on the heating.

For **euku oil 1 FS** and **euku color oil** the rule is: there is no such thing as too long a drying time. Therefore it is no problem, in case of doubt, to wait one more day in order to be sure that drying is completed.

3 PRE-WATERING THE WOOD

Using the oil/waterbased lacquer combination, with the first layer of lacquer plenty of water will be poured onto the floor. If the oil has not sufficiently dried out, then this water can cause the wood under the oil to swell up and after re-drying it gradually loses its grain enhancement, because the wood shows lighter patches like clouds. This is particularly true for transparent oil primer. Water the floor before you oil! Then the wood is pre-swollen and will be better impregnated by the oil, which will also lead to a richer grain enhancement. The later swelling of the wood with the waterbased lacquer is also greatly reduced.

Further advantages of pre-watering: in the case of coloured oil the result is a visibly richer and more even coloration. If the coloration is too rich with **euku color oil**, then we recommend thinning the oil with **euku oil 1 FS**. See also Technical Information "Why water before oiling?"

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4 EXOTIC WOOD SPECIES

Some exotic woods can contain substances which inhibit drying and is actually not suitable for oil impregnation. The most common Australian species of timbers have been tested and are mostly not critical. Please use our technical advice. One phone call is often enough.

5 SQUEEZED JOINTS

This is a term to describe what happens when unhardened oil in the joints can be squeezed up and out of the gaps when waterbased lacquer is applied. How is the oil supposed to dry in the joints without oxygen anyway? So this is a normal characteristic which must be accepted. Squeezed joints can be reduced by pre-watering the wood, because the joints themselves are squeezed and thus cannot absorb so much oil. If this happens despite pre-watering, it helps to rub down the surface with a green pad before the interim sanding. So that you do not rub too deep and sand away the impregnation/coloration, the first layer of waterbased lacquer should be applied especially thickly. Give the wood enough time to allow the absorbed water to evaporate again. Otherwise the second layer will squeeze out waterbased lacquer again.

6 ADHESIVE INTERACTION

Silane adhesives commonly used today slow down, or even prevent the oxidative drying of oils on contact (CTA-Information). This can lead to difficulties in adhesion in the jointed areas when combined with waterbased lacquer. Please check back with your adhesive manufacturer that no silane-based hardening mechanism exists.

7 OIL HARDENER

As described above, because the process depends heavily on the drying of the oil primer, it is an advantage to use the optional 2K-Hardener euku master in addition.

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