



*Performance Superiority*  
**Engineered Wooden Flooring With  
UV Lacquer Over PU Lacquer**



## LACQUER VS POLYURETHANE Which One Should You Use?

### UV Lacquer VS PU Lacquer

When it comes to wooden floors, their longevity depends on various factors. One such critical factor is the 'Surface Finishing'. This decides the life and performance of the floors. A proper finishing system reduces the risk of micro-scratches that appear on the surface if any furniture is dragged across the floor.

To prevent from these micro-scratches, Surface Finishing makes it easier to maintain the floors as it reduces the surface tension.

Typically, wooden floors come with various finishing systems such as Oils or Lacquers. Oils are a passé now. Lacquers are being extensively used when it comes to prefinished floors. Within Lacquers as a finishing solution, the modern-day solutions are UV hardened water-based lacquering systems.

So, together with our wood flooring experts, we've created this handy guide for you to see how these UV Hardened Lacquer Systems perform much better than PU Lacquer Systems?

Let's see how...

## UV LACQUERS VS PU LACQUER



### Solvent based / Water based PU Lacquer

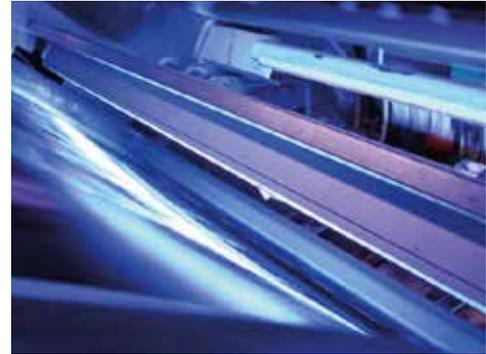
Polyurethane-based lacquering systems are still a popular choice. Though they are considered flexible, they have several drawbacks. Because it is such a thick compound, it must be applied in very thin layers to avoid non-uniform thickness and lumping. In addition, because a Polyurethane floor finish must be applied in a thin layer, it will not cover imperfections in the underlying.

#### Pros

- As this is a widely produced and relatively older system hence it's cheap.
- Can be used to apply at the site for floor refurbishment.

#### Cons

- Old technology and does not address surface protection needs.
- PU surface coating can turn yellowish over time.
- On-site application causes dust pollution and also results in poor finishing.
- Higher workmanship required at the site for multiple coatings.
- Requires 8-10 hrs. to set and harden.
- Thickness might vary due to roller or brush application.
- Strong emissions and non-environment friendly, due to high VOCs.
- PU coating can crack or peel off at flooring edges when the floor expands or contracts due to the nature of PU which is hard and brittle.



### Ultra Violet (UV) Lacquers

Multi-layered coating with UV hardened lacquer system protects the floor by forming surface protection against abrasion, dirt and micro-scratches. UV lacquer is a hard-wearing layer that sits on top of the wood surface cured by high-energy UV rays. It binds the surface of the wood and forms a layer on top.

#### Pros

- New technology and getting fast popularity.
- An elastic coating system that prevents cracking or peeling if the floor expands or contracts.
- Superior surface clarity and finish.
- Extremely durable with Aluminum Oxide (AO) coating. AO is 2<sup>nd</sup> hardest after diamond.
- Prefinished floor from the factory. No additional coating is required at the site.
- No on-site coating sanding that creates dust pollution.
- Using machine application that maintains the coating film thickness at a right amount per m<sup>2</sup>.
- Environment friendly due to low or non-VOC. Also, low emission levels or none.

#### Cons

- On-site application is not possible unless using a hand-held UV curing machine which can be expensive.
- Difficult to apply.



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