

## How To Mop Mountain onto Wood Floors



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### General Instructions Overview

- **Do a sample** with 3 or 4 THIN coats before starting. Test for sensitivities, color, sheen and the personal preference of the customer before doing project. Wear protective clothing.
- Professionally sand and screen up to 220, remove dust.
- Open some windows before starting a room. Turn on fans to aid drying. On the final coat be sure you don't blow any dust around and into the film.
- **Mop on 3-4 thin, even coats.** Wear respirator & gloves or keep off skin since some individuals are sensitive to the cashew and citrus component.
- Start at the far end, follow the grain of the wood, work a mops width from end to end. Work your way out the door. Apply evenly and thin.
- **Time saving tip:** The first two coats can be machine buffed to reduce sanding and make application easier, faster. Follow "Machine Buffing Floors" instructions. This is usually best for those familiar with a floor buffing machine.
- Always sand between coats. Sand extra well between 2nd & 3rd Coats.
- Coat a day for 2-4 days with optimal drying conditions. Expect delays if the weather or wood is cold, wet or if a lot of colorant is added.
- Keep warm, dry air circulating. RH <50%, 75F and wood moisture content <12% is ideal. Use ceiling fans and open windows to allow citrus aroma to exit.
- **Foam Applicator** Pads tend to apply a thinner film which is best for Mountain. Lambswool tends to leave some grit and fiber and should be avoided.
- For blonde or lighter toned woods do a sample of the following: 2 coats of Bio Poly Machine Buffed with 1-2 coats of Mountain. This retains the lighter colors better than 3-4 coats of Mountain would.
- Do not pour back into can and contaminate product. Strain with a fine Strainer if needed.
- **Put rags in water. Vegetable Oil soaked rags can self ignite if left piled up.** Dry flat in open air or soak in a pail of water and then dry and compost.

### Cashew Resin Background

Mountain is based on a patented, super green, renewable technology. This technology is not an alkyd chemistry. It is the first hard polyurethane type finish that is derived from 100% natural sources. No food sources are used meaning it's a non farmland depleting, renewable resource. **No mineral spirits! No Petrochemicals. No Isocyanates. No n methyl pyrrolidone (water based poly). No polyurethane.** We don't use water based polyurethane because it's made with isocyanates and n methyl pyrrolidone both of which are poisons that are hard to identify by the user. This leads to overexposure because the user doesn't realize there is a toxin near them. This is due to the fact that the NMP odor is low and the isocyanates are boiled off during manufacture and released into the communities nearby. **You do want to keep Mountain off your skin however since some people can get a rash from it.**

## Surface preparation

**Read:** The Wood Flooring Manufacturers Association ([www.nofma.org](http://www.nofma.org)) offers a manual called "Finishing Hardwood Flooring". Consult this guide or similarly appropriate professional instructions if needed for specifics on using Drum Sanders, Floor Machines (approx. 200 rpm) and Floor Polishers (approx. 1800 rpm). Make sure you are healthy enough to do this type of physical labor. Check with your physician to make sure.

**Sand:** Remove all previous coatings to insure even absorption, and surface appearance. Sand all wood bare, with the grain, to the desired level of smoothness. Sanding is unavoidable for fine finishing results. Start with coarse grit and move to finer grit sandpaper ending with a final sanding up to 220 grit or higher. 3-5 sandings are the norm. Clean with Pure Citrus Solvent. Some woods are softer and show scratch marks from 100 grit. If so, use the appropriate grit paper to leave the floor without scratches.

**Screen:** It may be best to use a 150-180 grit sanding screen on a Floor Machine (200rpm) after drum sanding a floor for a smoother finish or greater sheen. Don't leave any swirls. Use the finest grit necessary to avoid swirls. Drum Sanding with the standard 100 grit paper will leave the floor somewhat rough and usually requires more screening or sanding for the most refined floor finishing. If nothing else, a handheld Random Orbital Sander with 220 grit is a nice touch.

**Protect Everyone's Health:** Wear approved [NIOSH](#) respirator, safety goggles, gloves and protective clothing and show this to your workers.

**Clean:** Eliminate all dust and potential dust sources. Make sure corners are clean so the applicator doesn't grab dirt and spread onto floor.

**Dilute (optional) :** 4:1 or up to 2:1. Use Pure Citrus Solvent

**4:1**= 4 qts Mountain and 1 quart Solvent.

**2:1**= 2qt Mountain and 1qt Solvent.

It is usually not necessary to dilute Mountain but if you do, stir in slowly. Avoid bubbles. Diluting helps to apply thin coats but increases odor and VOC, so please use responsibly.

## Application

**Apply:** Stir thoroughly. Open windows before starting. Turn on fans. Use a Foam Floor Applicator Pad or equivalent. Avoid anything that will put lint or hairs in the surface. Apply to floor in very thin even coats. First coat will usually soak in completely overnight. Work small areas at a time. Keep a wet edge. Make sure to spread evenly and keep the coats thin.

**Between Coat Prep:** Always Sand in between coats with 180 to 220 grit sandpaper. **Sand well between second and third coats.** It is common to see grit on the surface at this stage unless doing the first two coats by the Machine Buffing method. Sand lightly after third coat and apply another thin coat using the same method outlined above. Failure to sand between coats may result in loss of adhesion and a rough surface.

**2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> Coats:** Apply multiple thin coats. Multiple thin coats will be harder than thick coats.

**Drying:** Allow overnight dry. Keep temperatures around 70F-80F. With warm dry air circulating. In cold temps, let the building air out for 6 hours and then close the windows enough to warm it for 8-24 hours. In hot, humid areas use a dehumidifier and fans. Let the building air out and then keep warm dry air

circulating. Walk lightly with socks next day.

**Draft and Fans:** Some contractors find that creating a forced draft can assist greatly with dust, drying and odor. Put a fan in a window on one end of the house facing out and another fan in a window at the opposite end of the house facing in with all other windows shut. Choose the window by determining where the natural draft is and then exploit that draft with the fans. Depending on the building layout, this can be very effective at sucking dust and odor out and bringing fresh air in. Fresh air is essential to drying.

**Cure:** Hardness will rapidly increase over 7 days. Full cure will occur in 3-4 weeks.

**Clean Up:** Use Earthpaints 100% natural **Citrus Solvent Cleaner** diluted in water for the safest biodegradable clean up. Mineral Spirits is a petrochemical solvent that we stopped using in 1991 for health concerns and ground water contamination concerns.

**Compost or Recycle:** Containers are a leading contributor to landfill mass. Recycle containers whenever possible. Earthpaint tin cans biodegrade in 10 years in a landfill. Plastic takes 450 year or longer. Please reuse plastic cans as much as possible or recycle. Once dried flat, the rags from our wood finishes can be composted. Mountain itself is biodegradable. If spilled on the ground or if a floor coated with it eventually winds up in the ground, it will biodegrade and become soil worthy of growing food in.

## **Cautions**

**Health Precautions:** Use in adequate ventilation. Avoid breathing vapors or spray mist. Can cause skin, eye and lung sensitivities or irritation. Use NIOSH approved respirator. Wear protective clothing, gloves, and goggles. Flash point above 115 F. Do not ingest. If irritation occurs contact physician. Cashew resin can cause rash in certain individuals. Avoid skin contact but definitely do not leave coating on skin overnight.

Contact **Nationwide Poison Center Hotline: 1.800.222.1222**

**Contact Dermatitis:** Cashew has some similarities to poison ivy in its molecular structure. Poison ivy contains urushiol oil. Mountain does not contain any urushiol oil. It can however produce a rash similar to poison ivy in people who are sensitive to nuts or poison ivy. This is because a very small amount (approx. 0.03%) of cardol is present. Cardol is similar enough to urushiol oil that it can produce a rash when skin is coated with it. Simply wear gloves or wash off with soap and water. There has never been any issues reported with the dry film of Mountain. Wet exposure does have the rash potential for those who are sensitive. Please, use caution. This is the toughest, most durable flooring product we can make without using the ordinary poisons like Polyurethane, NMP, Toluene, Naphtha, Mineral Spirits, etc. Mountain is natural and renewable and safe to use but protect your skin, especially if you are sensitive.

## **SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION WARNING:**

Linseed oil damp or soaked rags or paper stored in dry containers or in piles can self ignite. Soak in water in metal containers, rinse well, dry flat in open air and then compost. It is against the law to dispose of liquid paint or paint products into sewers or land fill.

## **Terms of Use:**

**Instructions are to be used at the users best discretion.**

These instructions are intended as an aid to finishing floors with natural materials. The entire scope of finishing floors cannot be covered here. The techniques described should be practiced before implementing professionally. It is up to the user to insure that safe practices are followed. Earthpaint Incorporated can in no way be held liable for the implementation of the described techniques. Consequential damages due to application of the products listed herein are in no way the responsibility of Earthpaint Incorporated. It is up to the user to insure that the methods outlined herein are practiced and understood before application.

### **LIMITED WARRANTY**

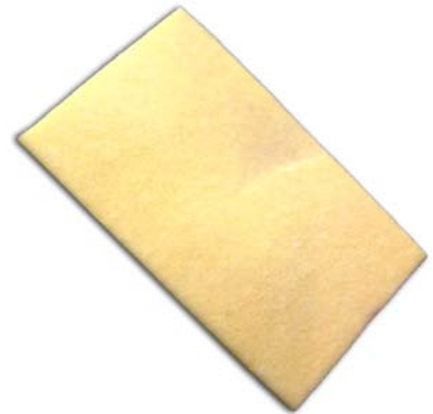
Earthpaint Inc. warrants that this product meets Earthpaint Inc.'s manufacturing specifications. If this product does not meet these specifications, Earthpaint Inc. will, at its option and upon proof of purchase, either furnish an equivalent amount of new product to you or refund the purchase price of this product. In no event will Earthpaint Inc. be responsible for (1) labor or the cost of labor for removal or application of any product; or (2) any incidental or consequential damages, whether based on breach of express or implied warranty, negligence, strict liability or any other legal theory. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights, which vary from state to state.

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Below: Foam Applicator Replacement Pad Gets wrapped around wooden mop as shown on left.



**12" Foam Applicator Pad on wood block , above. Replacement, right. Open windows, turn on fans, Mop on thin from end to end.**

**Close windows when possible and keep warm, dry air circulating until dry. Sand, clean and repeat 3-4 times.**