



# What are Hardwaxes?

Hardwaxes are highly effective coatings that consist of natural plant oils and waxes that have been used for the protection and enhancement of timber for centuries. The active ingredients are distributed in a carrier medium that evaporates upon application, leaving the waxes to form a protective surface on the timber.

Hardwaxes do not form a plastic skin on the timber, forming a hard protective film that is non-static, water-repellent and therefore easily cleaned. As there is no water in the product, they do not grain raise on application. Hardwaxes are micro-porous, allowing the timber to breathe, which means climatic changes are accommodated.

## Key properties of hardwaxes:

- They are non-yellowing, as the coating doesn't degrade with exposure to UV light
- They will not fade, become hazy or look milky
- They will not crack flake or peel when correctly applied

Hardwaxes are predominantly manufactured in Europe, and therefore comply with the EU standards for VOC emissions, Environment and Sustainability. Traditional formulations are being constantly optimised, representing state-of-the-art manufacturing and usage characteristics. Nano-technology is already used in specialist wax coatings such as Water blockers and will play a prominent role in the continuing development of hardwaxes.

Treatex is virtually unique in that there is no buffing required to remove excess, as the product will dry regardless. It is available in matt, satin and gloss, as well as a range of pigment-based stains. Pigments are light-fast, will not fade or change colour, are easily applied and are guaranteed not to overlap or leave a patchy look as long as the sanding is uniform. Application of many waxes is through a saturation of the timber, followed by removal of excess with a slow-speed buffing machine. This group of products require intermittent maintenance, however the floor is repairable and will never need sanding again to refurbish the coating. Buffed waxes are guaranteed free of any contaminants at application, are usually one-coat and give a beautiful lustrous finish. Hardwaxes are fantastic in commercial applications as they are maintainable, meaning that the floor has an indefinite life span with simple regular maintenance. They are economical in application, often in excess of 20m<sup>2</sup>/L.

Wax-based exterior products are supple, micro porous and replenish-able, they allow the timber to expand and contract with climatic conditions, yet will not crack, flake or peel. Maintenance is often nothing more than a clean and the application of a maintenance coat.