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LOOK MA – NO VINEGAR!

Vinegar has its uses. It's an essential ingredient for pickled eggs, salad dressings, and fluffy egg whites and rice. It can also be used for giving windows a sparkle, and deodorizing kid's lunch boxes. The use of vinegar as a cleaning agent for wood flooring is **not** recommended by today's wood flooring manufacturers.

Today many people are looking for '*natural*' alternatives to what they perceive to be '*harsh chemical*' cleaners. Baking soda, vinegar, lemon juice, and alum (cream of tartar) have been touted as effective substitutes for manufactured cleaning products. In most cases, such as window cleaning, or lunch box deodorizing, these '*natural*' options do work. However, Alberta Hardwood Flooring cautions you that when it comes to wood flooring, substituting a product such as vinegar for the manufacturer's suggested cleaner could damage the urethane finish on your beautiful wood flooring.

How? The acid in the vinegar will, over time, etch the chemical finish on the floor. Once the finish is compromised, the vinegar will seep into the wood and cause discolouration and dullness, particularly in high traffic areas. And that discolouration and dullness will be irreversible! Think of it this way: when you're cleaning your factory finished wood flooring, you're not really cleaning the wood, but rather you're cleaning the urethane surface. So you need a '*neutral*' cleaning product that won't damage or break down the surface, which is what could happen if you use a cleaning mixture that is too acidic or too alkaline.

Alberta Hardwood Flooring has a complete selection of classic and engineered *wood flooring*, *cork*, and *laminated flooring*, and maintenance products that have been specifically designed to clean and preserve your new floor. When it comes to floor maintenance, trust the experts at Alberta Hardwood Flooring, Edmonton and Calgary.