Application Guide for Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC)
Satin & Semi-Gloss Products

WHERE TO USE

Beautiful. Natural. Durable. That's a Waterlox finish. A unique blend of Tung oil and resin, Waterlox showcases the natural beauty of wood, providing lasting, durable protection. This elegant, one-of-a-kind finish has been made by the Hawkins family since 1910, and is still made by hand according to the original family formula. Waterlox delivers spectacular results, and to make sure you achieve just that, this guide will take you step-by-step through the proper application of a Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finish.

In order to meet the lowest VOC regulations in the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) of California, Waterlox has reformulated our two most popular products into our Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC). Although these products are designed to mimic our two most popular products, Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) products are higher in solids and viscosity than our traditional and 350 VOC products and therefore require different application methods, and are recommended for use by professionals only.

As with any finish, special care and attention should be used when applying the Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes. Waterlox delivers spectacular results, and to make sure you achieve just that, this guide will take you step-by-step through the proper application of a Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finish. This is the only guide that should be used with these products, if you have any further questions, please contact us via the methods indicated in the Product Information Hotline section of this guide.

PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS

Features	Benefits
Tung oil-based	Penetrates surface Easy to maintain Enhances beauty of wood
Flexible	Moves with the wood Does not chip or crack Tolerates wide temperature ranges
Water resistant[1]	Excellent water resistance Great for use in water-related areas Condensation on glassware will not leave rings
Protective	Protects against common household spills Heat and Cold
Easy to Maintain	Easier to maintain than surface finishes and/or oils

Unlike common surface finishes such as polyurethanes (solvent or water-based) that conceal the wood's grain and beauty under a layer of plastic, Waterlox Original Tung oil finishes offer a unique handmade blend of Tung oil and resin that penetrates the wood, yielding a rich, hand-rubbed look that's durable and easy to maintain.

CHOOSING YOUR FINISH

There is no right or wrong choice in terms of performance between each of our Green Label (275 VOC) products. Both Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes offer a durable protective finish that enhances the natural character of wood. Each:

- Formulated to meet the most stringent VOC regulations in the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD).
- Like all of our Tung oil finishes, 90% of the resin portion of the formula is from renewable, natural resources.
- Penetrates, is water resistant and forms a protective yet elastic finish against foot traffic, common household spills, moisture and daily use.
- Non-toxic and food-safe when cured.[2]
- Unlike our traditional and 350 VOC products, application is done with a professional/contractor-grade roller.
- Easier to maintain than raw oil and wax oil finishes that require time-consuming cleaning and reapplication; or surface finishes that require sanding to bare wood to repair and often block out the natural beauty and color of the wood.
- Recommended for professional use only and for use in the SCAQMD of California.

Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) Satin Finish

- Produces a satin sheen appearance (35° gloss level when finished; fades to a 20°-25° gloss level in 3-6 months).
- Our lowest gloss level offered.
- Unlike our traditional and 350 VOC products, you will use the same product throughout the finishing project.

Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) Semi-Gloss Finish

- Produces a semi-gloss sheen appearance (65° gloss level when finished; fades to a 50-55° gloss level in 3-6 months).
- Unlike our traditional and 350 VOC products, you will use the same product throughout the finishing project.

COVERAGE/THINNING

One gallon covers 500 square feet per coat. One quart covers 125 square feet per coat. The number of coats depends upon the porosity of the wood being finished (check the Wood hardness FAQ (Janka chart)). No thinning necessary.

DRY TIME

A minimum of 24 hours between coats. Poor ventilation, high humidity or cool temperatures may increase dry times.

VENTILATION

Proper ventilation and adequate air circulation must be provided when using any wood finishing materials. Most oil-based varnishes dry upon exposure to oxygen, which is also known as “oxidative cure.” A lack of cross-ventilation (air exchange) provides less free oxygen, slowing the drying process. Cross-ventilation is the biggest factor affecting dry times. It is not recommended that any solvents or solvent-based materials be used in a non-ventilated area.

It is the oxygen molecules in the air that interact with the varnish, creating a chemical reaction and causing the film to dry. Therefore, the better the ventilation (during and after all coats) the quicker the film obtains its final hardness and other chemical resistance properties.

ASHRAE (The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers) states that the typical air exchange in a residence using only mechanical HVAC can be as low as 0.35 air exchanges/hour. In most cases 0.35 air exchanges/hour will not be adequate to dry Waterlox in 24 hours. We therefore strongly suggest achieving a gentle flow of air by cross-ventilation. This can be achieved by the use of a box fan running at low-speed in a window or door exhausting to the outside air as well as an open window in some other part of the room or house to achieve 3 - 4 air exchanges/hour. Not only will this aide the drying process by pulling in fresh air loaded with oxygen, but it will also exhaust the solvent odor.

Read the directions on the label completely before using, including information related to the use of a respirator while applying the finish. Lingering odor indicates inadequate ventilation, high humidity or both. If you cannot ventilate the area choose another product.

Be sure to use proper ventilation:

- While applying the coating,
- During the curing process (first 24 hours after each coating is applied), and
- Continue to ventilate the area for 7 days after the final coat is applied.

Examples of poor ventilation:

- Ceiling fans do not bring in fresh air from an outside source, even if windows are opened. They circulate stale air around the room. In fact, ceiling fans have a tendency to direct too much air downward on the surface of the freshly applied coating and can potentially "skin" over the fresh coat. This slows down the drying time because the solvent is trapped beneath the skin, causing a longer or improper cure.
- Heating and air conditioning do not provide enough ventilation. Opened windows with air being exchanged, replenishes the room with fresh oxygen and vents the evaporating solvents.
- Closed doors cut off airflow in a room even if a window fan is in place. If the window fan is working properly, solvent odors should be exhausted and will not enter connected rooms.
- Closets are typically the most difficult areas to ventilate – leave closet doors fully open.

TIP
Always read the Waterlox label instructions closely before using, including information related to the use of a respirator while applying the finish.

APPLICATION TOOLS
For safety: rubber gloves, goggles and a respirator fitted with an organic cartridge.
9" X 3/16" or ¼" or 3/8" nap roller, such as Wooster pro-doo-z®
Small foam edging roller (2-4")
Bargain-priced, low-density foam or nap rollers are not recommended.
A paint roller pan. Be sure to use a pan or pail that allows your applicator to become immersed in the finish.
Mineral spirits, turpentine or paint thinner.
A vacuum.
Tack mop.

WHY DO WE RECOMMEND USING A ROLLER TO APPLY THESE FINISHES?
Because roller application reduces the likelihood of streaks, stop marks, and lap lines:

What causes these problems?

1. Streaking is caused by the dragging and subsequent poor dispersion of the pigment in the finish. These areas of varying concentrations of pigment can cause areas of high and low gloss.
2. Stop marks are a result of the pigment being deposited on the surface after lifting an applicator.
3. Lap lines occur when the finish does not properly flow and blend into a smooth film. This can be a result of too much finish on the surface from a roller that is too thick, or the loss of wet edge from the finish drying too quickly.
4. All of the above listed problems will be accentuated by dark floors and low windows.

What's the answer?
Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes should be applied with the recommended contractor-grade roller. Rollers provide a consistent film thickness that conventional lamb's wool applicators sometimes lack. Because the finish is applied consistently over the surface of the floor, thick and thin spots, lap and brush marks are eliminated. The high level of shear induced by the roller application will reduce the viscosity of the finish. This reduction in viscosity improves the leveling characteristics of the finish providing a smooth surface.

Choose the Proper Roller.
Choose a good quality and/or contractor grade 3/16" or 1/4" or 1/8" nap mohair roller made for all types of paints. This size nap roller will apply finish at approximately 500 square feet/gallon/coat (5-6 mil wet film thickness). Be sure to remove excess fibers from the roller before using.

TIP
Before using a new roller, be sure that any loose fibers are removed or cleaned from the roller. This can be achieved by any of the following methods:

- Wrap the roller with masking or painter's tape and then remove the tape completely, or
- Put new and unused roller in the dryer for a spin, or
- Use a lint roller on the roller until the lint-roller paper does not pick up any further fibers or remains sticky.

Use the Proper Rolling Technique.
Using even pressure, roll the finish in a back and forth motion with the grain of the wood in a 4' x 4' section, wetting the surface evenly. Finish off the 4' x 4' area with a "no pressure" stroke or pass, feathering the beginning and end of each stroke before moving to the next section. Start and stop marks can be eliminated by keeping a good "wet edge" and working a small area. Rollers will induce air into the finish through friction; however, Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) has been formulated to allow the air bubbles to dissipate quickly.

Cold and Wet Conditions.
Always ensure that the temperature of the floor, the ambient temperature and the temperature of the finish are above 60° F. If the finish, ambient temperature or floor is cold, the viscosity of the finish will increase dramatically which can impair the drying and flow and leveling of the finish. Avoid applying cold finish by warming the finish for at least 24 hours before applying to an ideal temperature of 70 - 80°F (i.e.: let product warm up inside or in a heated area before application, do NOT artificially heat Waterlox products). Pay special attention to the temperature of the floor, as un-insulated floors can be much colder than expected.

Hot and Dry Conditions.
Moderately warm temperatures (75 - 80°F) will improve the drying and flow and leveling. Excessive heat (above 85°F) will speed the evaporation of solvents during application and cause poor flow and leveling. In these conditions, control the temperature and eliminate airflow during application. Sunlight through windows

can sometimes cause hot spots on the floor. When finishing over a hot spot, the solvents will flash off very quickly and will not allow the finish to flow out properly. If a hot spot is noticed, cover the window and allow the floor to cool down to room temperature before applying finish.

TIPS

- To clean your roller, there are two basic methods to follow:
  1. Allow the roller to dry and dispose of it in a proper trash receptacle. Once the roller has dried it is inert and non-toxic. Use a new roller for each subsequent coat, or
  2. Clean the roller completely:
     - Using mineral spirits or paint thinner. This may not be practical, as it will require quite a bit of thinner to completely rinse out all of the coating.
     - Rinse the roller with paint thinner, squeezing out as much of the thinner as possible between rinses (probably 2 or 3 times) and then wrap in it a plastic bag or tin foil. Wrapping it in this manner will prevent it from being exposed to oxygen.

- There are two basic methods to follow to properly clean paintbrushes.
  1. Cleaning method:
     - Have two containers ready. One for the brush and one for the "used" paint thinner.
     - Pour about 1 inch of paint thinner (mineral spirits) into one of the containers.
     - Insert the brush into this container and press out the bristles into the thinner. Varnish will be released into the thinner.
     - Pour the contaminated varnish/thinner mixture into the other can.
     - Repeat steps 1, 2 and 3 several times until the thinner remains clear (no varnish).
     - The brush is now cleaned and ready for the next coat or job.
  2. The other option is to allow the brush to dry and dispose of it in a proper trash receptacle. Once the brush has dried it is inert and non-toxic. Use a new brush for each subsequent coat.

- NEVER just soak the applicator or brush in paint thinner, the Waterlox will gel and you will be applying what looks like little seeds on your next coat.

CLEAN UP AND STORAGE

CLEAN UP

Clean application tools immediately with paint thinner (mineral spirits) or turpentine. Properly dispose of rags, applicators and waste.

STORAGE TIPS

Keep containers of Waterlox closed when not in use and keep in a cool, dry place. If stored properly, an unopened can of Waterlox has an almost indefinite shelf life. Cold temperatures will not negatively affect the product, but if Waterlox has been chilled or exposed to freezing temperatures, allow the product to stand for at least 6 hours in temperatures above 60° F before using. DO NOT artificially heat Waterlox products.

Partially filled containers may gel since Waterlox dries through oxidation. When a container is opened, it is exposed to oxygen and the remaining unused portion may begin to oxidize. This leads to skinning and eventually gelling of the product.

For the best results, pour the Waterlox you need to complete your job into another container and promptly reseal the container and replace the lid on the round can(s). DO NOT return any unused portion to the can.

For proper storage, oxygen inside the Waterlox can must be displaced, by one or more of the following methods:

- Decant the product into a smaller airtight glass or metal container. DO NOT use plastic. If using a previously vacuum-sealed jar (e.g. pickles or baby food) use plastic wrap inside the lid to create an adequate seal.
- Use clean marbles or stones to raise the level of the finish and thereby displace the oxygen.
- "Float" the product with an inert gas, such as carbon dioxide or argon, or Bloxygen that is heavier than air.

Read carefully all cautions on the product label(s).

STAINS AND FILLERS

In today's ever changing world, more and more products are available due to market forces and general reformulation. Therefore, we are not aware of every type of colorization and filling process available.

STAINS

Generally speaking, Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes can be used over any type of stain (water-based, solvent-based, alcohol based dyes, fast set types, etc.) provided it is completely dry (follow manufacturer's recommendations for dry time or wait 72 hours, whichever is longer) and does not contain any waxes or silicones. We also recommend that you steer away from any type of stain that forms a film over the wood, for example a stain containing urethane or some thicker gel type stains.

TIPS

- If staining a wood project, do not skip any of the recommended coats of Waterlox as described in this project guide.
- An unstained surface finished with Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes produces an old-fashioned, hand-rubbed natural looking surface. Our special formula based in Tung oil brings out the natural patina of wood. With some species of wood this will dramatically change the look and staining may not be necessary, we suggest testing an inconspicuous area of your project or a scrap piece of wood from your project first before assuming you will need a stain coat. Regardless if stain is used or not, you will want to test all coats of the finishing system before making your decision.
- Also keep in mind that not all pieces or boards of a single species of wood will stain the same; some will not match your sample board. And your stain/topcoat system may not transfer from one species of wood to another with the same effect.
- If stain is desired, be sure to follow the manufacturer's directions for cure time or wait 72 hours, whichever is longer, before applying coats of Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes. NEVER apply Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes over a stain coat that is not dry. Applying finish over top of it will only elongate the dry time because oxygen will not be able to get to the stain coat.
- NEVER sand a surface that has been stained, as this process will change the color.

FILLERS

Most fillers are compatible with Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes other than those containing any wax or silicone. We also recommend using fillers that are marketed as being paintable and stainable, as this is an indication that they can be coated.

For a working surface such as a floor, which is subject to expansion and contraction, you may want to reconsider using a filler as the expansion and contraction over time will work out the filler from in between

the boards. Keep in mind that since Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes are penetrating oil finishes, they will penetrate and seal between the boards and into knots, etc.

Follow proper application and spread rate procedures.

PREVIOUSLY FINISHED WOOD APPLICATION

Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes perform best over bare wood and are not designed to be used as a topcoat over previously finished surfaces (does not refer to the stain coat(s) if used). For best results, strip previously finished surfaces to bare wood, and then apply as described under "New Wood Application".

NEW WOOD APPLICATION

1. Waterlox may alter the appearance of the wood. Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes are based in Tung oil, which brings out the natural patina of wood. With some species of wood this will dramatically change the appearance and staining may not be necessary. Test an inconspicuous area of your project or a scrap piece of wood from your project before assuming the need for a stain coat. Even if stain is not a consideration, test all intended coats in a test area before beginning the entire project.

2. Preparation of the surface is the most important step in the finishing process. In order to achieve the desired results, the floor must be properly sanded prior to finishing. Because of the importance of this step, hiring a professional to do the sanding could be money well spent. To maximize penetration of a Waterlox finish, final sanding should be done with 100 - 150 grit sandpaper.

3. When sanding is completed, vacuum the floor thoroughly. Vacuum with and across the grain. Follow up by vacuuming every surface in the room that could potentially hold dust, including doors, walls, mantles, windowsills and lights.

4. After vacuuming the surface with and across the grain, we recommend tacking it. This can be accomplished by using a mop, lint-free rag or micro-fiber mop dampened with mineral spirits (paint thinner), which will attract and remove any residual dust and dirt. Mineral spirits (paint thinner) is recommended because the Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes are based in this solvent and are therefore compatible with it if any residual is left on the surface. Mineral spirits (paint thinner) also evaporates slower than other more intense solvents such as lacquer thinner.

TIP

- When the mineral spirits is wet, it will provide a preview of what your finished floor will look like and allow you to address any sanding or substrate imperfections.
- As you're preparing the surface, take a moment to plan where you'll begin and where you'll exit the room.

5. The number of coats applied will vary based on the type of wood being finished. As a general rule, most hardwoods will require two coats of finish. Softer woods like pine, fir or American cherry will require three. Use the wood hardness FAQ (Janka Chart) to help determine the hardness of your wood species. Below is a breakdown of the number of coats to apply to a larger surface such as a floor.

HARDWOODS

red/white oak, walnut, Brazilian cherry, etc.

- Satin sheen appearance = 2 coats of Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) Satin Finish applied @ 500 square feet per gallon per coat.

- Semi-gloss sheen appearance = 2 coats of Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) Semi-Gloss Finish applied @ 500 square feet per gallon per coat.

SOFTWOODS
white/red pine, fir, spruce, American cherry, etc.

- Satin sheen appearance = 3 coats of Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) Satin Finish applied @ 500 square feet per gallon per coat.
- Semi-gloss sheen appearance = 3 coats of Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) Semi-Gloss Finish applied @ 500 square feet per gallon per coat.

To determine the amount of finish needed (in gallons), simply multiply the square footage of the hardwood floor times the amount of coats needed and divide by 500. We have made it easy for you with our materials calculator on the website. Examples are shown below:

Example: 1,500 square feet of oak: 1,500 square feet x 2 coats= 3,000 total square feet ÷ 500 square feet per gallon per coat = 6 gallons of Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finish.

Example: 1,500 square feet of Pine: 1,500 square feet x 3 coats = 4,500 total square feet ÷ 500 square feet per gallon per coat = 9 gallons of Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finish.

TIPS

- Both products should be stirred thoroughly before use.
- BATCHING. If more than one container of finish is needed to complete a coat, the containers should be batched together before starting the coat.
- The application instructions listed in this guide differ from our traditional and 350 VOC finishing instructions. These instructions are only for the products mentioned.

6. Unlike our traditional and 350 VOC products where application of the coating is from one end of the wall to the other, work in approximate 4' x 4' sections, overlapping each section as the floor is completed.

7. Use a small foam edging roller (2 - 4"). Only cut in areas of the 4' x 4' section that are against a wall. Overlap the non-wall edges as you move from section to section. .

8. Pour the Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) Satin or Semi-Gloss finish into a paint tray. The roller should be no wider than the pan you're using to hold the finish to allow for complete immersion.

9. Place the roller into the paint tray and completely saturate it by rolling it back and forth in the finish. DO NOT pour finish on the floor and/or use the floor in place of your paint tray; this will result in uneven saturation of the roller and uneven application.

10. Before removing the roller from the paint tray, remove excess finish to avoid dripping by rolling it in the tray. Do not scrape it along the edge of the tray, as this will cause bubbles due to friction.

11. Before rolling the finish on the floor, remove excess finish from the ends of the roller by placing the roller on the floor in the section you are about to finish and tipping one end of the roller at a 45-degree angle; press out the excess finish. Repeat these steps with the other end of the roller before starting to roll the floor. This step will minimize the appearance of roller edge marks due to excess finish on roller edges.

12. Saturate the roller and spread the finish evenly. Start in a corner of the room and plan an exit out of the door or opening. Apply the finish each 4' x 4' section working the roller back and forth over the area 2 – 3 times to ensure complete coverage. Remember that in order to get the proper film build and allow Waterlox's self-leveling properties to work; Waterlox should always be applied at 500 square feet per gallon per coat.

13. Using even and constant pressure, roll the finish in a back and forth motion with the grain of the wood, wetting the surface evenly using a 9" X 3/16" or ¼" or 3/8" nap roller, such as Wooster pro-doo-z®. Bargain-priced, low-density foam or nap rollers are not recommended.

TIP
We recommend the use of a 9" X 3/16" or 3/8" nap roller, such as Wooster pro-doo-z® and a Small foam edging roller (2-4") over a bargain priced roller, foam roller, lamb's wool applicator, or T-bar because product testing indicates that these rollers are best suited for the viscosity of the product(s).

14. Finish off the area with a "no pressure" stroke or pass, feathering the beginning and end of each stroke before moving to the next section. Start and stop marks can be eliminated by keeping a good "wet edge" and working a small area at a time.

ROLLER APPLICATION TIPS AND TRICKS

- Do not roll excessively. Roll just enough to wet the entire area with an even coat.
- Do not apply excessive pressure when rolling. Only do so to release more varnish into the area when the roller becomes dry.
- Bubbles may appear when rolling, do not try to "roll" these bubbles out; Waterlox Green Label finishes have been formulated to allow the air bubbles to dissipate quickly.
- To avoid lap marks, maintain a wet edge by overlapping sections you previously finished by a few inches. Be sure to feather the finish every time you start or stop.
- Also, be sure to apply only light pressure to the roller while finishing. Waterlox's penetrating action does the work for you. Too much pressure can result in bubbles in the finish or an uneven coating.
- Your floor may look uneven in appearance after the first coat of Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC). This is completely normal. Waterlox penetrates deep into the wood and will build up to an even film when applied with the suggested number of coats and coverage.

TIP
If you notice any mistakes or drip marks, simply sand the area lightly and apply more finish.

15. Allow each and every coat to dry for a minimum of 24 hours.

16. If needed, lightly sand or buff the floor using 180 - 320 grit sand paper, a maroon buffing pad, or a Norton® sand dollar light or dark green pad.

ABRASION TECHNIQUES FOR AESTHETIC REASONS FOR FLOORS

- Heavy debris or roller fuzz can be removed from the film with 0000 steel wool, 320 grit sandpaper, or a Scotch-Brite® pad (as shown in the Waterlox application video on our website at waterlox.com).
- A light sanding or buffing can be done between coats for aesthetic reasons only. Depending on the size of the project you may choose to use a new or used maroon pad or a 3M® white pad with a low-rpm buffing machine. For smaller rooms, try a drywall pole sander or an orbital sander with 320 or finer grit paper.

- Keep in mind if you can visually see any sand or swirl marks in the finish before the final coat, these need to be sanded or removed with a finer grit paper or pad before proceeding with the final coat as they WILL be visible. To check for sand or swirl marks, wipe a thin coat of mineral spirits over an area. While still wet it will give you an accurate visualization of what the final coat will look like.
- Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes should never be abraded with a coarser grit than 150.

17. When sanding is completed (if needed), vacuum the floor thoroughly. Vacuum with and across the grain. Follow up by vacuuming every surface in the room that could potentially hold dust, including doors, walls, mantles, windowsills and lights.

18. After vacuuming the surface with and across the grain, we recommend tacking it. This can be accomplished by using a mop, lint-free rag or micro-fiber mop dampened with mineral spirits (paint thinner), which will attract and remove any residual dust and dirt. Mineral spirits (paint thinner) is recommended because the Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes are based in this solvent and are therefore compatible with it if any residual is left on the surface. Mineral spirits (paint thinner) also evaporates slower than other more intense solvents such as lacquer thinner.

TIP

- When the mineral spirits is wet, it will provide a preview of what your finished floor will look like and allow you to address any sanding or substrate imperfections.
- As you're preparing the surface, take a moment to plan where you'll begin and where you'll exit the room.

19. Follow the steps above for your second and third (if needed) coat of either Waterlox Green Label Satin or Semi-Gloss. Allow each and all coats to dry for a minimum of 24 hours.

CURING

Even though the recommended dry time is 24 hours, Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes completely cure in 30 - 90 days.

There are two basic steps to the drying and curing of a Waterlox Green Label Tung oil finish:

1. The first step is the evaporation of the solvent "carrier" system. The evaporation of solvent usually occurs in the first 2 - 4 hours with proper cross-ventilation techniques.
2. The second step is the curing of the solids system, which is comprised of the oil and resin. The solids system completes 95% - 98% of its cure cycle in 7 – 14 days with proper ventilation; full cure, film hardness and chemical resistance properties are achieved in 30 - 90 days with continued adequate ventilation.

As discussed above, the solvent portion of our formula is gone within 2 - 4 hours of application with proper cross-ventilation techniques. After that, any odor that remains is likely from the Tung oil itself. Tung oil is pressed from the nut of the Tung tree and is not petroleum based. Although some may notice a Tung oil odor, it is not toxic[2]. To help determine the source of the odor, compare the odor you're noticing to any denomination of US paper currency. Tung oil-based inks are used to print US paper currency and the odor will resemble the odor of the solids portion of our finishes.

Care after the final coat is applied.

The first 7 days are the most critical after applying Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes. Please adhere to the following practices:

- After the last coat is applied, we advise staying off the floor for at least 24 hours. After this time, the floor may be used for sock traffic only. No shoes or bare feet (oils from the skin may dull the surface).
- During the first 7 days keep room/ambient temperature above 70° F if possible. Continue to cross-ventilate the room to help replenish the required oxygen needed to cure the finish.
- Avoid common household spills in newly finished rooms for the first 7 days (cleaning spills with cleaners may damage or dull the finish as the film has not obtained its full chemical resistance properties).
- Red rosin paper or non-abrasive throw rugs can be used in high traffic areas after 48 hours but should be removed each night, as the finish needs direct oxygen exposure to cure.
- After 7 days, (depending on drying conditions) replace furniture and throw rugs. Be sure to use felt pads on the bottom of all furniture to help prevent scratching of the finish. Some woods, such as American cherry and pine, oxidize on their own and will naturally darken during the first month. To achieve a consistent color across the entire floor, you may not want to place area rugs on the floor during this period. We recommend that you consult the wood manufacturer.
- Since the final cure of the finish occurs after 30 - 90 days, we recommend using caution for this period of time.

SUGGESTED CARE DURING CONSTRUCTION

Allow the surface to dry for 48+ hours with adequate cross-ventilation. Cover the floors with red rosin paper. For extra security and to prevent dents, use ¼" Masonite® (smooth side facing downward toward the floor) to cover the heavy traffic/work areas (ladders, tools, scaffolds, etc.). Once all the trades have completed their projects, pull up the Masonite® and paper.

TIP

Some customers choose to finish the floor with all but the last coat of finish. After the trades have completed their projects, pull up the Masonite® and paper. Clean the floors with TSP and water; perform a clear water rinse and let dry for 24 hours in a well-ventilated area; apply the last and final coat(s) as per this finishing guide.

CLEANING AND CARE

After the Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finish has dried and cured for at least 7 days, cleaning may be performed. For floors, we recommend using a broom, damp mop or microfiber mop on the surface as needed.

When a heavier cleaning is required for floors we suggest any of the following methods:

- Waterlox Original Cleaner Concentrate (following the directions on the label). We do NOT recommend the use of other wood coating manufacturer's cleaners as these have been proven to damage all types of wood finishes including Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes; or
- A damp mop with a maximum mixture of 1 - 2 oz. of white vinegar to 2 gallons of warm water; or
- Non-abrasive diluted household cleaner (stay away from ammonia and/or bleach products); or
- Murphy's Oil Soap® can be used, but will tend to reduce the gloss by leaving a film on the surface.[4]

TIP

After cleaning any surface finished with Waterlox Green Label (275 VOC) finishes, rinse with clear water.

Avoid ammonia-based cleaners and products containing wax or acrylics, and try to prevent water from pooling or standing on the surface for long periods of time. We believe wax creates time-consuming maintenance issues, scuffs easily, leaves water spots and attracts dirt. Wax also makes it difficult to recoat

your wood surface with Waterlox when necessary. Even though waxes are compatible with Waterlox finishes, we don't recommend using them for the aforementioned reasons.

PRODUCT INFORMATION HOTLINE To answer any wood finish questions or for more information visit our website at www.waterlox.com or call 800.321.0377, Monday – Friday, 9 am – 4 pm EST (excluding holidays).

CAUTIONS

- For MSDS information, visit the technical download page within the product section of our website at waterlox.com.
- DANGER! CONTAINS ORGANIC SOLVENTS. COMBUSTIBLE LIQUID AND VAPOR. HARMFUL OR FATAL IF SWALLOWED. USE WITH ADEQUATE VENTILATION. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.

FOOTNOTES

[1] Waterlox Original Tung oil finishes are water resistant when applied at the proper spread rate and number of coats.

[2]Tung oil is non-toxic and food-safe, although, Tung oil is pressed from the nut of the Tung tree, which would therefore be considered tree nut oil. If you or someone who will be living with the finish has a tree nut allergy, consider whether or not this is a factor in finishing your wood project.

[3]This is the most important reason to obtain the recommended spread rate of 500 square feet per gallon per coat.

[4] Residue of any type including Murphy's Oil Soap® should be removed by a mixture of TSP (trisodium phosphate) and water, followed by a clear water rinse before re-coating.