



Tech Tip: The Benefits of Tacking

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There are many different reasons why tacking a floor would prove beneficial. Whether to dry tack or wet tack (*and what to wet-tack with*) depends on the type of wood and finish being used, as well as contractor preference. Reasons to tack (wipe) a floor range from picking up the remaining dust particles the vacuum left behind, to ensuring good adhesion of finish over oily woods such as Jatoba, Pine, Cypress and Teak, to name a few.

Tacking Over Bare, Oily Woods

Exotic and oily woods on the market today are presenting a challenge for contractors. To lessen the chances for adhesion problems, it is a good idea to make it a standard practice of tacking oily woods with lacquer thinner before applying finish. Dampen the Glitsa Tack Mop, using the courser, wet-tack pad with lacquer thinner and mop the floor, reapplying more lacquer thinner as needed. After the lacquer thinner has fully flashed off, apply your first coat of sealer. This cleans the oils off the surface of the wood and suppresses the oils in the wood, allowing the coating to film-over before the oils have a chance to get back to the surface and affect the coat and/or subsequent coats.

Picking Up the Dust Between Coats

When abrading between coats of finish, vacuum thoroughly. A great way to pick up fine particles left over from vacuuming is by using Glitsa's Tack Mop with the dry-tack mop pad. The dry-tack pad has thicker and longer microfiber than traditional homeowner microfiber mops. The mop head is also larger than homeowner cleaning mops, making picking up residual dust faster and easier.

You can dry tack, or wet tack with lacquer thinner, denatured alcohol or water. All of these methods will work on Glitsa's Swedish system; however, **do not use lacquer thinner or denatured alcohol in-between coats when using waterbase finish.** Inter-coat tacking on waterbase finish can be accomplished by dry-tacking or wet-tacking with water only.

Refer to the *NWFA Technical Manual* for further info on which tacking methods are recommended for different types of finish. ♦

