

Quick and Easy: Repairing Buckled Hardwood Flooring

Hardwood floors require intensive [wood maintenance](#) due to moisture. If spilled water stays on the floor for too long or moisture from the subfloor seeps into the wood, it can eventually cause the wood floor to sag. Depending on how swollen the wood is, the wooden boards can even come loose from their tongue and groove connection.

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Amidst the wood problems, hardwood floors are one of the most high-class & beautiful flooring options. Thus, they require some serious upkeep. It is possible to repair damaged [hardwood](#), but you must fix the moisture problem first. Only proceed with the project once the subfloor is completely dry. If you do it otherwise, you will have to repair it all again.

How To Repair Buckled Hardwood Flooring

It's easier than it sounds to fix buckling hardwood floors, but completing the following steps is crucial.

Step 1: Mark the Damaged Area

- Draw markings like a box around the damaged area using chalk or a grease pencil along with a ruler or straight edge to maintain straight uniform lines.
- Cut along the square you drew using the circular saw set to the board depth.

Important Tips:

- Make two parallel cuts that are half an inch from the longboard edges along the length of the damaged board.
- Crosscut the center at an angle.
- For every board you replace, repeat these steps.

Step 2: Pry The Board Up

- Remove the old board using a hammer and a flat bar. Ensure to remove every piece; otherwise, the new board will not stick when glued.
- Remove every nail & glue from the floor, or the board might not be flat. In the worst case, it might even crack if something keeps it holding up.

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Step 3: Install The New Board & Stain it

- Installing the new boards using a few hardwood floor nails.
- Make sure not to damage or shatter the new board during installation.
- Stain the new board with the same color.

Tips To Avoid Buckled Hardwood Flooring

Here's what you need to know! Buckled hardwood flooring prevention is relatively easy. We have suggestions below that will help to protect the wooden floor from damage due to moisture buildup.

- Clean up water spills right away. The [wood will swiftly absorb spilled water](#), and instead of drying out, the moisture will be held and accumulate over time. Excessive moisture also encourages the [growth of mold](#) between your floors and subfloor.
- Install a [dehumidifier to keep the crawl space areas dry](#).
- Check for leaks that moisten the floorboards. These leaks could be found in the sinks, dishwashers, and washing machines.
- Certain footwear, such as high heels or cleated shoes, can seriously damage a hardwood floor. When [walking on solid hardwood flooring](#), avoid wearing these styles of footwear.
- Consider adding a protective felt cushion or area rugs in heavy traffic areas.
- When cleaning hardwood floors, use a small amount of water and don't do it too frequently. After mopping the floor, be sure to completely dry the entire surface.
- There are various [deep-cleaning products for hardwood floors](#), but ensure you're using the right one by consulting the manufacturer's instructions. Otherwise, you risk damaging the finish or scratching it.
- Use a soft, dry buffing pad for quick and simple moisture-free buffing. Ensure that it is suitable for wood flooring and fully non-abrasive. Hardwood floors will beautifully shine when rubbed with the dry pad over them in a circular motion without using water or cleaner.

Elements that Cause Hardwood Floors to Buckle

It might be easy to fix buckled hardwood floors, but as long as one does not recognize and eradicate the elements that cause the hardwood floors to buckle, the problem will not stop. The following points below enlist the root cause of floor bucklings.

1. Water

Because it is naturally porous, hardwood may quickly absorb moisture, resulting in damage. Thus, water does not go well with hardwood floors. Hardwood expands when it is in contact with water to accommodate the extra moisture. Warping and buckling of the hardwood might result from the floor's expansion and subsequent contraction as the moisture evaporates.

2. Humidity

Water in the air is known as "[humidity](#)," and it can affect hardwood in the same way that water does. This may be subject to the weather's capacity to change the environment within a house due to open doors and windows. Hardwood floors are prone to buckling in areas where residences are close to the ocean or where geography makes it common for high humidity in the air.

3. Temperature Variations

Where there is a cyclical pattern of hot and cool weather, the wood will expand in the heat and compress in the cold, resulting in buckled and [warped wood](#).

4. Issues with the Installation

A poorly built hardwood floor will have gaps and fractures that let moisture or water from accidental spills or routine mopping seep into the wood and cause buckling or warping. If you choose an installation with experience and a reputation for high-quality work, this might not happen.

Conclusion

There's no secret that hardwood flooring gives your home a unique and awesome look, turning it into a spectacular place. There are virtually no downsides to owning hardwood flooring – it comes with great benefits and gorgeous looks. However, as with other flooring, it requires maintenance and sometimes repairs.

Thankfully, you have just learned how to fix wood floor buckling and keep it shiny for a long time! Of course, you can use this learning to keep your room or house up-to-date, looking classy and top-notch. Isn't it great how you can do amazing things all alone?!

Further Readings

[Wood Types 101: Three Main Types & How To Identify](#)

[Help is Here: Inspecting Wood Infestation and Applying Best Solutions](#)

[Increase Your Knowledge: Facts About Wood](#)