

OXIDATIVE OIL FINISHING

The oiling process is the oldest and most 'noble' form of finishing wooden floors.

"It is only from the mid-19th century that we find some references to the production, mostly by artisans, of products similar to the varnishes used to finish wooden floors. In particular, we find evidence of the preparation of varnishes based on lacquer, while it is very likely that oil and wax had already been used in previous centuries, even though their use on floors is difficult to date (Belluomini G., 1887)"

Initially, it was used as a finish to nourish the wooden floor (usually left untreated in the distant past). A veil of beeswax was then spread over the oil-treated boards as protection, since the oil penetrating into the pores of the wood, let the raw material come directly into contact with the environment, thus subjecting it to wear from footsteps.

Today, the oiling process keeps its function of nourishing the wood boards, but it has also acquired an ornamental function, since we are able to rely on 'oil-colour' solutions that are transmitted through impregnation to the entire surface.

This finishing method requires greater attention to the periodical maintenance and cleaning.

Oiling also allows renovation of surface damage on a single board or on several adjacent boards.



The history of parquet is intertwined with the history of living, because the use of wood inevitably merges with the evolution of building technologies and techniques.