

Wood flooring final inspection checklist

Wood flooring final inspection is where the punch list is either short or expensive. This checklist walks the finished work the way an owner or AHJ will see it: devices on, systems running, everything labeled. Each item gets the photo that closes it instead of reopening it. Work is commonly verified against manufacturer's published instructions. Confirm the edition your authority having jurisdiction has adopted.

Who runs it: The GC's superintendent with the flooring lead, walking the finished floor before it's protected and turned over.
When: After the floor is installed, sanded and the finish coats are down and cured, before protection goes over it and before turnover walks.

Fastening and layout

- ☐ **Fastening or adhesive coverage sound**
Nailed or stapled floors fastened at the required spacing, glue-down floors solid underfoot with full trowel coverage, no hollow-sounding areas. 2 photos required
- ☐ **Board gaps and alignment consistent**
Boards tight with consistent seams, rows straight, no lippage between boards, end joints staggered per the layout. 2 photos required
- ☐ **Expansion gaps maintained at walls**
Perimeter expansion gap intact behind base and trim, floor not pinched tight at walls, thresholds or reducers allowing movement. 1 photo required

Sanding and finish

- ☐ **Sanded flat and clean before finish**
Surface sanded smooth and even with no drum marks, chatter or swirl, dust pulled before the coats go on. 1 photo required
- ☐ **Finish coats complete and even**
Specified number of finish coats applied evenly with no skips, holidays, bubbles or debris in the film, sheen consistent across the field. 2 photos required
- ☐ **No cupping or hollow spots**
Floor flat with no cupping, crowning or springy hollow areas, checked across the room under raking light. 1 photo required