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Pros & Cons of Water and Oil-based Polyurethanes

Both oil and water-based polyurethanes are good options and we use only the highest grade and quality available on the market.

	PROs	CONs
WATER-BASED POLYURETHANES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very little VOCs off-gassing• Quicker turnaround time – you get your house back faster• Much less odor than oil-based• Safety: homes with young children and women in pregnancy should avoid the fumes from VOCs – water-based polyurethanes have lower VOCs and are more eco-friendly	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Durability is less than oil-based polyurethane• Costs more than oil-based polyurethane• Not recommended for homes with dogs.
OIL-BASED POLYURETHANES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Durability - lasts longer than any water base• Gives a deeper luster look to hardwood floors	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Takes longer to dry and cure hard• Odor is difficult for some people with sensitivity to smell or allergies• Off gasses VOCs for up to 8 weeks• Safety: homes with young children and women in pregnancy should avoid the fumes from VOCs

Off-gassing refers to the release of airborne particulates (VOCs) from polyurethanes and common household products.

VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds) are organic chemicals that have a high vapor pressure at ordinary temperatures.



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