

Maintains the light colour of wood floors

Excellent wear resistance



Odourless



One-component ready to use



Easy application



Fireproofed D<sup>f</sup>S1



Very high build and fast-drying



Slip resistant



Suitable for all wood species



# Athen<sup>®</sup>

## Floor Varnish for all wooden floors



### PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

- Blanchon **Athen**<sup>®</sup> is a PU water-based, odourless wood floor varnish. Its technical performance and formulation meet the most stringent ecological criteria.
- **Athen**<sup>®</sup> is easy and quick: its ready-to-use formula means it does not require mixing with a separate hardener. Quick drying (ready to be sanded and recoated within 2-3 hours) and a fast curing time means a rapid return to use of the premises following completion.
- Its high-build resins give a perfect finish (using 3 coats alone, or 2 coats over a Blanchon primer).
- Blanchon **Athen**<sup>®</sup> is ideal for all properly prepared interior wood floors (see Surface Preparation): living rooms, bedrooms, lounges, stairs, etc. It can be applied on all species commonly used (for beech, walnut or rare species please consult us) and highlights light-coloured woods whilst preserving their original (i.e. unfinished) colour.
- Blanchon **Athen**<sup>®</sup> is available in three finishes: clear gloss, clear satin, clear matt. For interior use only.

### SURFACE PREPARATION

- Sand down new or existing wood floors to obtain a smooth, even surface: the wood should first be sanded down to bare wood (using strippers or de-waxing agents is not advisable).
- Make sure the floor is free of any traces of wax, detergents, polish or linseed oils (or other oils).
- Vacuum the floor thoroughly after sanding, removing all traces of dust.
- The wood floor must be perfectly dry and sound, with a moisture content below 10%, before applying **Athen**<sup>®</sup> (avoid using detergents, bleach or cleaning products).
- For glued down wood flooring, it is recommended to use Blanchon Pro Filler (water-based filler) or Blanchon Resin Filler for colour-matched filling. You can also use the Blanchon Odourless Wood Filler (consult Technical Data Sheets of these products for more details).

### Insecticide treatment

- Only use products recommended by Blanchon (TraitPlus<sup>®</sup>).

### Wood staining

- Sanded floors (to bare wood) can be stained using Blanchon Waterborne Dye (wood colours, colours, pastel colours) or Blanchon Wood Ageing Agent.

Note: after using Wood Ageing-Agent, the colour should be fixed using Blanchon S.O Primer.

- In all instances, do not sand the stain. A light sanding is only recommended before applying the final coat of **Athen**<sup>®</sup> after the previous ones are fully dry.
- Vacuum the floor thoroughly before applying the final coat of **Athen**<sup>®</sup>.
- Do not use other woodstains.

### Use of primers

- If using a Blanchon Primer as a base coat, then 2 coats of **Athen**<sup>®</sup> can be applied on top. The quick-drying time of primers speeds up process.
- The water-based primer allows fast completion of the varnishing with ease of application and no fumes as all products will be water-based.
- The use of water-based primers and **Athen**<sup>®</sup> keeps the natural colour of the wood.
- In all cases, the wood floor must be perfectly dry and clean. Vacuum carefully before applying any finishing product.

### DIRECTIONS FOR USE

- **Athen**<sup>®</sup> is ready to use. No mixing required.
- Shake well before use.
- Do not apply to the wood floor if the temperature is lower than 12°C or if the relative humidity is higher than 85%. Never use on wood where the moisture content is higher than 10%. Use only in well ventilated areas. Keep any aquariums and plants away from the environment where the product is being applied.
- Application should be carried out evenly in generous coats using a short pile roller for wood floor lacquers. The product can also be applied with a spatula (multi-layered application).

NB: the slightly "milky" appearance of the liquid disappears within a few minutes as it dries.

- 2 coats of **Athen**<sup>®</sup> (applied "generously" covers 8 to 10 m<sup>2</sup>/litre) giving good results on hard woods, for normal use, however, 3 coats are recommended on soft, porous or absorbent wood (4 or more on certain species of beech or conifers).
- After the first coat has dried, it is recommended to carry out a light sanding with a single brush (abrasive fine grit) then vacuum to remove all dust. Do not use steel wool.

Note: a light sanding is essential if the time between coats exceeds 24 hours.

### Cleaning of tools

- Clean tools immediately after use with water. Do not reuse containers.
- Protecting the environment:
  - Wring out cloths and wipe tools thoroughly after application.
  - Rinse with a little water in a container and allow the water to evaporate.
  - The dry residue can normally be discarded in the waste bin.
  - Seal the container properly after use.
  - Dispose of empty containers thoughtfully.
  - Do not discharge into drains.

### DRYING TIMES

- Dust-free time: 45 minutes.
- Drying time between coats: 3 hours under normal conditions.
- Never leave more than 24 hours between coats.
- Fully cured: 8 to 10 days.
- Light traffic use: 24 hours.
- Normal use of the area: precautions should be taken in the first few days of use. Do not cover (use protective sheets) or lay rugs onto the area during the 10 days following application.

**Blanchon**

- Subsequently, appropriate protective measures (i.e. felt pads) should be taken for table and chair legs or other objects which could mark the floor. If applicable, a quality doormat at the entrance will be of benefit. Immediately wipe up any water or other liquid spillages and take particular care with flower pots.

## COVERAGE

- Around 10 m<sup>2</sup> per litre per coat.

## STORAGE

- Protect from frost (take care when storing in vehicles).
- Seal containers properly after use.

## MAINTENANCE

- Athen®** facilitates the maintenance of all types of wooden floors.
- For everyday maintenance.
- Remove dust regularly, using a vacuum cleaner or dustpan and broom.
- Mop the surface occasionally using a damp mop, never a soaking wet one. Stains and marks can be removed with Blanchon Lagoon™, or Blanchon Daily Cleaner or a neutral detergent (follow manufacturer's recommendations for concentrations). Regular use gives anti fouling properties which limits the black marks and other marks embedded on the surface appearance of the floor varnish.

Important: allow 10 days before carrying out any cleaning or maintenance, to give **Athen®** time to cure properly.

- Areas subjected to heavy traffic should be appropriately maintained with Blanchon Protector, Blanchon Daily Cleaner, or Blanchon Metamat® or Blanchon Maintenance.
- Never use buffing machines, dust mops, silicone polishes, ammonia-based products or abrasive detergents, etc. Generally speaking, avoid any product or equipment designed to add gloss or shine.
- On matt use only Blanchon Métamat® or Blanchon Maintenance in order to keep its original look.

## TECHNICAL DATA

PURPOSE	Floor varnish for all wooden floors
RESIN TYPE	Water-based polyurethanes
AFNOR CLASSIFICATION	Family 1, class 7b2
DENSITY	1.05 (at 20°C, as per NF T 30020)
VISCOSITY	140 centipoises (BROOKFIELD T3)
STATUTORY INFORMATION	Please refer to the corresponding material safety data sheet (available at <a href="http://www.blanchon.com">www.blanchon.com</a> or <a href="http://www.quickfds.com">www.quickfds.com</a> )
NO MIXING	Ready to use
RE-SANDABLE / RE-COATABLE	3 hours according to the temperature and the hygrometric state
RESISTANCE TO TABER ABRASION	Loss in weight: 45 mg (CS 10 grinding wheels, 1000 revs, 1 kg)
RESISTANCE TO SHOCK	50 cm (400 gm chuck) (as per NF T 30039)
RESISTANCE TO SCRATCHING	7H pencil
RESISTANCE TO HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS	Vegetable oil, mustard, ketchup, vinegar, water, coffee, tea, common household detergents, alcohol 40°, ink, diluted bleach: RAS (after 20 days of drying, according to NF T 30053). Outlawing products with ammonia

### \*APPENDIX: SANDING A WOOD FLOOR USING A MACHINE

- This is done using a special floor sander, with an edge sander for the edges and a scraper for the corners.
- The floor sander should be used in the direction of the light, or better still, in the direction of the wood grain.
- Work in even, regular "sweeps" to ensure that the entire surface is done in an identical manner.
- 1st pass: coarse grit (24, 30 or 36) to expose the bare wood and level it.
- 2nd pass: medium grit (50 or 60) to get a smooth, even surface.
- 3rd pass: fine grit (100 or 120) to obtain a good finish.
- Do all the edges of the room with the edge sander and scraper.
- Polishing with a buffing machine fitted with an abrasive mesh (80 or 120) ensures that the surface is perfectly prepared, especially in the case of flooring that has alternating lines (mosaics, chevrons, herringbone pattern, basket weave pattern, etc.).
- Remove all dust carefully, using a powerful vacuum cleaner, from the area to be lacquered, including any skirting boards, window ledges and radiators.

Technical Data Sheet issued on the 10.05.2012.

The information provided in this Technical Data Sheet is given in good faith for information purposes only. In no case whatsoever can this information be considered as a guarantee given by us nor engage our responsibility when our products are used. Since we are constantly striving to improve our products, the information given here may be subject to modification without prior notice.

This Technical Data Sheet cancels and supersedes all previous versions.

Respect  
for people and  
the environment



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