



Bona Chroma[®]

WATERBORNE WOOD FLOOR COLORATION

Bona.com

Bona[®]



ENDLESS COLOR POSSIBILITIES

Bona Chroma® Waterborne Wood Floor Coloration is an eco-friendly wood floor coloring method that results in a vibrant, intense wood color – with an application and drying procedure that is safer, quicker and healthier than other processes. Bona Chroma is water-based, which minimizes odors, eliminates the need for water popping and makes it non-flammable. This customizable color blending system offers nine options for endless color possibilities!

FEATURES AND BENEFITS

- Easy to use – forgiving water-based application
- No water popping required
- Fast dry time – complete jobs faster
- Non-flammable/non-combustible – no stain rag fires
- Low to no odor
- Non-yellowing formula
- Available in nine colors + Clear
- Colors can be mixed for custom blends



WINTER



CARAMEL



SPILT WINE



WHEAT



COCOA BEAN



BARNWOOD



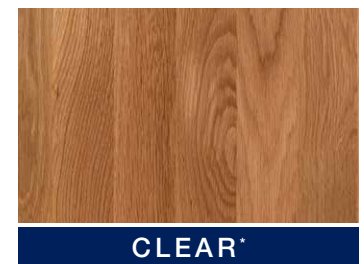
SMOKEY GREY



BEACHWOOD



AMERICANO



CLEAR*

Color swatches are for visual representation only and can vary based on computer display settings, species of wood and type of finish applied.

*CLEAR CONTAINS NO PIGMENT and is intended to be used for blending custom colors.

APPLICATION BEST PRACTICES

PREP:

- Acclimate Bona Chroma® to job site conditions for optimal performance. The application process may experience diminished open time, flow, level and defoaming properties if the product reaches excessively hot or cold temperatures.
- Always fill the floor to minimize excess stain in the board seams. Bona Pacific Filler® will accept Bona Chroma evenly for a uniform appearance.
- For best results, final sand the floor to 120 grit.
- A Tampico brush is an excellent tool for cleaning residual dust – on any job and with any finishing system – to provide cleaner grain clarity, reduce the grain raise and allow the best application performance of Bona Finishes.

MIXING:

- Ensure uniform floor color on larger jobs by batching multiple containers together.
- Periodic mixing of Bona Chroma may be necessary during the application process when using colors with heavier pigmentation like Winter, Smokey Grey, or Beachwood.
- Avoid excess foam created from shaking during the mixing process by pouring Bona Chroma into a separate mix bucket and stirring thoroughly. Extra foam can lead to inconsistent coloration during the application process by applying colored foam versus the proper flood application of Bona Chroma.



COVERAGE RATE

Apply Bona Chroma at a **coverage rate of approximately 600-700 sq. ft. per gallon** to avoid uneven coloration.

APPLICATION:

STEP 1

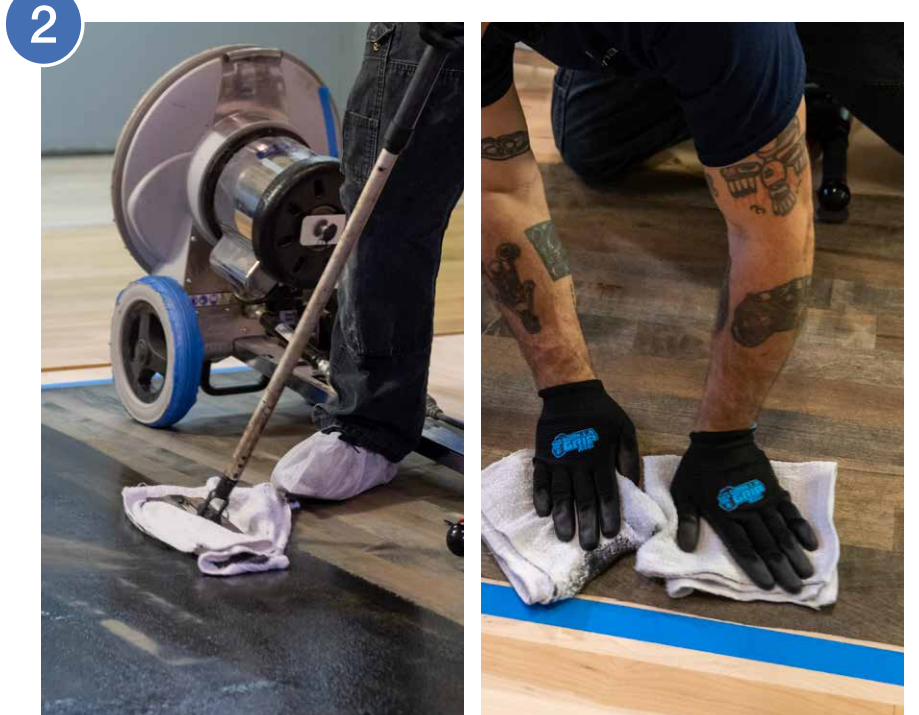
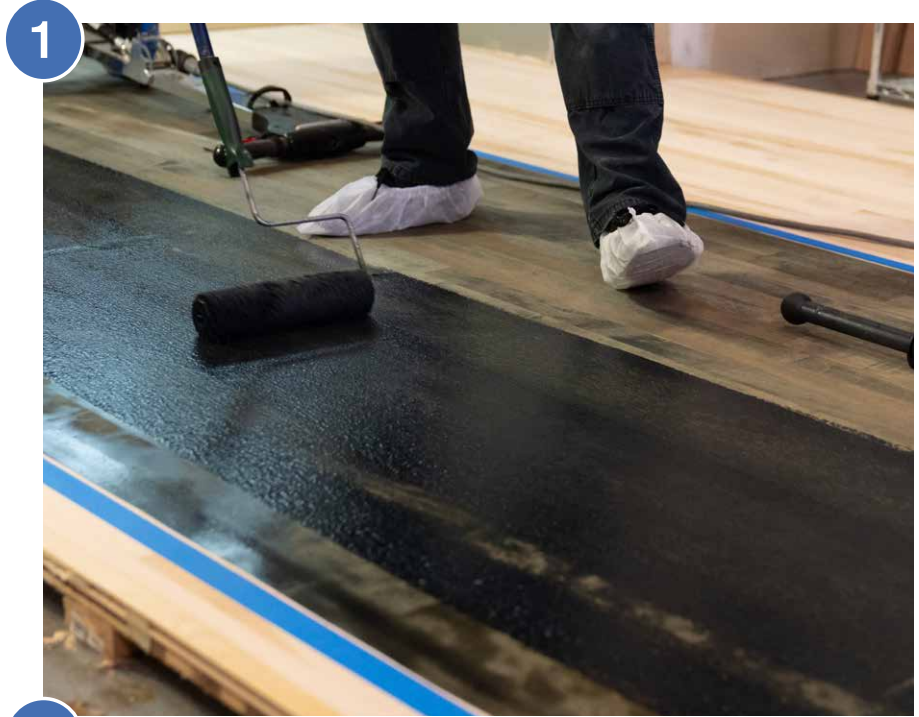
APPLICATION USING A ROLLER

- For proper coverage, use a fully saturated Bona Microfiber Roller to liberally spread Bona Chroma. Assure that the Bona Microfiber Roller is fully saturated to avoid inconsistencies that result in splotchy coloration across the floor. For best results, use a deep paint tray or bucket. A fully saturated Bona Microfiber Roller should cover approximately 24 sq. ft. of flooring.
- Work in areas no bigger than 3' x 8'. Dry conditions (<40% RH) may require smaller areas.
- Overlap perpendicular to the grain by 8" - 12" and parallel to the grain by 2" - 4". Feather all overlap areas with the grain. Avoid leaving hard stop and cross-grain marks.

STEP 2

REMOVAL OF EXCESS CHROMA WITH TACK MOP

- Using a terry towel and a tack mop, remove 50%- 70% of the excess Bona Chroma. Scrub with the grain along lap areas, feathering into previously stained sections. The amount of excess to remove will vary depending on humidity. Drier climates (<40% RH) may require less removal, while wetter (>60% RH) climates may require more removal. Do not remove all of the excess.

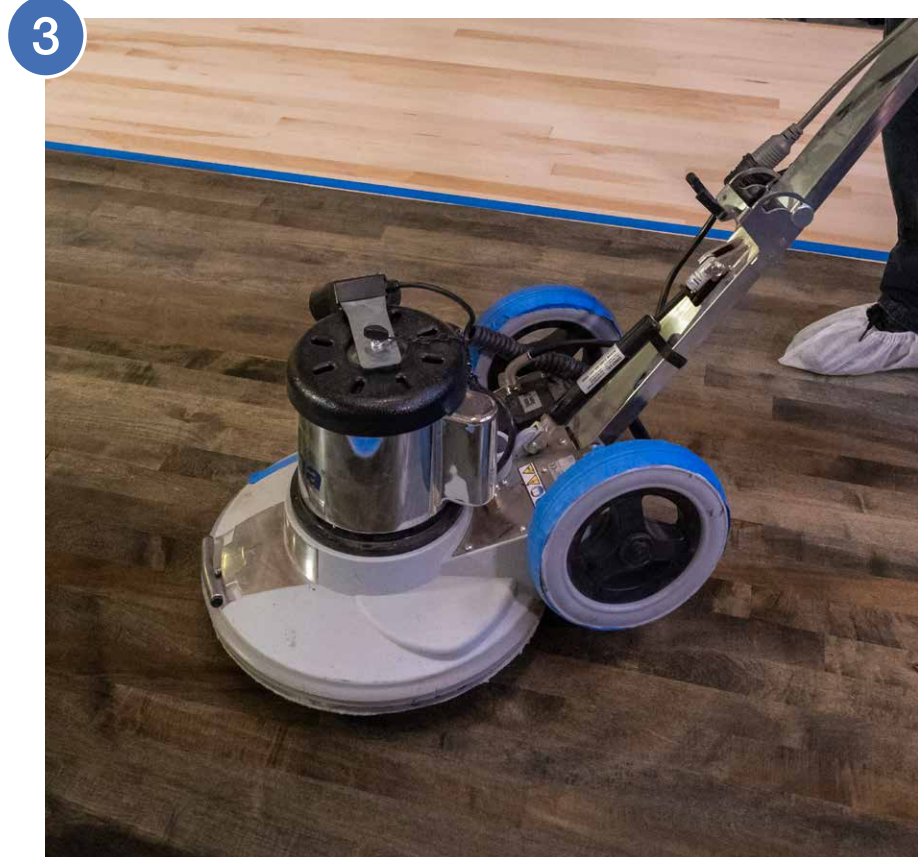


APPLICATION (CONT):

STEP 3

BUFFING-IN CHROMA

- Using a new Bona White Polishing Pad, buff the stained areas. Move slowly from one end to the other, and then back again at a faster rate. A thin wet swirl should follow the initial pass and be worked on as the section is thoroughly buffed. Adjust the excess removal rate as needed if too much or too little wet swirl is initially following the buffer. One side will typically last 85-150 sq. ft. Drier or warmer climates may require flipping or exchanging white pads more often. When flipping over the white pad in the middle of a room, start it on a small 2' x 2' area where the bulk excess stain has not been removed with the terry cloth towel. This action will help prevent the new pad from stripping too much color, which may leave a light spot.
- When buffing with the white pad, complete the overlap area first before doing the rest of the section.
- Between the buffer and white pad uses, tip the buffer off the white pad, and lift the pad off the floor, wiping up any sticky excess stain deposits with a terry cloth towel.



SEALER APPLICATION:

- After drying for 2-3 hours, seal Bona Chroma with Bona ClearSeal®, Bona IntenseSeal®, or Bona AmberSeal® at the recommended coverage rate.

NOTE: Bona NaturalSeal® or Bona NordicSeal® will help intensify the color for a whiter look when using Bona Chroma Winter.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FLOOR PREPARATION

Q | Will my final finishing grit influence the color?

A | Finer sanding will result in a lighter color, and coarser sanding will result in a darker color.

Q | Is it necessary to water-pop the floor before applying Bona Chroma to achieve a deeper, richer color?

A | Because Bona Chroma is water-based, it is not necessary to water-pop the floor before application to achieve full-color saturation. However, on some species such as maple, water-popping may help alleviate inconsistencies in the sanding process.

Q | Will water-popping make Bona Chroma darker?

A | Yes, the color will be darker, but not as dark if water-popping prior to application of an oil-based satin.

APPLICATION

Q | Can Bona Chroma be buffed on and buffed off?

A | No, Bona recommends applying Bona Chroma with a roller and cut-in pad, removing approximately 50% of the excess liquid with a terry towel and tack tool, and then buffing in the remainder with a 3M white pad.

Q | Can I apply Bona Chroma by hand?

A | Yes, you can apply the coloration using the cut-in pad and removing approximately 50% of the excess liquid with a terry towel and tack tool. Be sure to apply firm pressure when removing the excess to ensure these areas match any areas completed with the buffer.

Q | What thickness is needed when applying Bona Chroma with a cut-in pad and roller?

A | The amount of coloration applied should be similar to a thin coat of paint without puddles. The wood grain should not be easily visible.

Q | Can I pour Bona Chroma on the floor?

A | Yes. However, some splashing will likely occur due to its low viscosity.

Q | At what speed should I move when buffing Bona Chroma?

A | First, move slowly across the whole area to evenly distribute the wet swirls, and then go over the area again, at a faster pace, until the field looks evenly colored and the wet swirls are gone.

Q | What do I do when I need to flip over the white pad in the middle of the room?

A | Run the new white pad over a small, 4 ft² area that has been rolled but has not had the excess wiped up yet. This will prevent the white pad from picking up too much stain and leaving a light section where you started.

Q | Will the Bona Chroma color be deeper if I skip the excess removal and buffing process?

A | The color will not be deeper. However, the white application pad will fill up faster, leading to thicker deposits of excess color that may appear as a dark haze in areas of overlap. Bona does not recommend skipping the excess removal and buffing process.

Q | What is the open time on the floor before getting tacky?

A | This will depend on the interior humidity, temperature, and color. Low humidity and high temperature will shorten the open time. Heavily pigmented colors may also experience shorter open times.

Q | How soon can I walk on Bona Chroma after the application?

A | The floor can be walked on immediately after buffing in color. For best results, Bona recommends using booties or towels under the feet.

Q | Will Bona Chroma cause grain raise?

A | No, the buffing process with Bona Chroma mitigates this and provides an ultra smooth surface ready for your finishing system. Areas where you can't use the buffer, like stair treads, risers, or hard-to-reach places, will have minor grain raise, but not to the same degree if you were to water pop the floor.

Q | Can I add water to Bona Chroma to dilute the coloration?

A | No, do not add water to Bona Chroma. Instead, use Bona Chroma Clear to dilute the coloration.

Q | Does Bona Chroma bleed back?

A | Not in the traditional sense; however, if there is significant vertical movement of individual boards – such as when the floor is walked on – the coloration that has seeped between the boards can creep to the surface.

Q | How does Bona Chroma work on other species like Brazilian cherry, maple, pine, or hickory?

A | Bona Chroma Coloration looks similar on various species. However, when staining more difficult wood species, such as maple or American cherry, you can expect a more splotchy appearance, similar to using an oil-modified stain.

Q | What if I get Bona Chroma on painted surfaces like baseboards or trim?

A | Typically, Bona Chroma will wipe off with a dampened terry cloth towel. Some low sheen-painted finishes may require a multi-purpose surface cleaner to adequately remove the stain.

Q | If it's been more than 48 hours since I applied Bona Chroma, do I need to do any additional prep?

A | No prep is necessary. Ensure that no one has contaminated the surface with any other products, and coat as you normally would.

APPLICATORS

Q | What should I use if I don't have a Bona roller?

A | A standard 3/8" nap roller can be substituted; however, take care to ensure the coverage is the same as with a Bona Microfiber roller.

Q | How long will a white pad last?

A | It depends on the color applied, but typically a white pad will last 150–300 sq. ft. per pad using both sides.

Q | Can the roller/cut-in pads be washed and re-used for the same color?

A | Yes, after each use, thoroughly wash all applicators with clean water and store in an airtight container.

MIXING

Q | Why do I need to add the Bona Coloration Additive?

A | The Bona Coloration Additive retains the color of Bona Chroma when coating with a Bona Sealer.

Q | What happens to the coloration when the Bona Coloration Additive gets older and thick?

A | If the Bona Coloration Additive is still liquid and mixes completely into the Chroma, it will perform correctly.

Q | What is the pot life once Bona Chroma is mixed with the Bona Coloration Additive?

A | Once mixed with the Bona Coloration Additive, Bona Chroma has a pot life of 24 hours.

Q | Can Bona Chroma be re-mixed with the Bona Coloration Additive?

A | No, Bona Chroma can only be mixed one time. To mix smaller amounts use a 20:1 (5%) ratio of Bona Chroma to Bona Coloration Additive.

Q | How do I dispose of rags soaked with Bona Chroma?

A | Rags soaked in Bona Chroma are not combustible and can be rinsed and re-used for other non-Chroma applications or immediately thrown away.

MISCELLANEOUS

Q | Is Bona Chroma freeze/thaw stable?

A | While Bona Chroma is freeze-thaw stable, we recommend avoiding conditions with extreme high or low temperatures for extended periods of time, to prevent damage. Always bring product onto the job site to acclimate, or keep it stored at the shop or distribution until needed for the job. We recommend storing Bona Chroma under ideal conditions of 65°-80°F (18°-27°C) with 40-60% relative humidity.

Q | How should I thaw Bona Chroma if it freezes?

A | Allow Bona Chroma to thaw naturally without any agitation, by placing on a shelf at room temperature. Damage can occur during the thawing process when the product is partially frozen and agitated (i.e. shaken or moving around in a vehicle). Before using on a job, we recommend testing the product first to ensure no product damage occurred during the freeze-thaw process.

Q | What are the best practices for using Bona Chroma as a toner in a sealer?

A | When using Bona Chroma as a toner in a Bona waterborne sealer, 2% - 5% can be added without the Bona Coloration Additive. To achieve the final desired color, multiple thin coats should be applied to avoid application marks.

TROUBLESHOOTING TIPS

PROBLEM:

hard lines,
lap marks,
stop marks

SOLUTION:

Efficiently resolve hard lines that appear during application by scrubbing fresh coloration using the cut-in pad.

For hard lines or marks that have set in since application, apply a liberal amount of Bona Chroma over the section and scrub the product in until lines dissolve into the grain. Blot the excess product with the grain over the surrounding boards, and allow the product to sit for approximately 3-5 minutes. Using a terry cloth towel, blot the repair zone to remove the excess. Working from the outside of the repair area, begin wiping in light circular strokes, and then wipe with the grain until the surface is dry.

For lines or marks on dried Bona Chroma, hand sand or scrape with the grain, and then spot re-color. Allow the coloration to penetrate for 3-5 minutes, and then blot the excess with a terry cloth towel and gently wipe with the grain to feather out and blend into the surrounding area.

Freshly applied Chroma will appear darker than the surrounding dried area. It's best to let the repair dry for 10-30 minutes before final assessment.

PROBLEM:

missed spots

SOLUTION:

Repair a missed area by applying a medium amount of Bona Chroma to the affected area, feathering out the excess by blotting 2" - 3" beyond the repair area with a terry cloth towel, and allow to sit for approximately 3-5 minutes. Using the terry cloth towel, blot the repair zone to remove the excess. Working from the outside of the repair area, begin wiping in light circular strokes, and then wipe with the grain until the surface is dry.

If a darker halo develops around the repair due to excess coloration application, use a damp rag to gently wipe with the grain using your fingertips. Avoid wiping back into the repair area with the damp rag.

PROBLEM:

dried excess of
Bona Chroma on
the floor surface

SOLUTION:

If less than 1 hour has passed, use a damp rag to blot the excess Bona Chroma until it softens and can be gently blended back in. Avoid scrubbing the spot, which will create a lighter area.

If more than 1 hour has passed, lightly sand the area by hand with the final grit for floor sanding to remove the spot. Follow up with a medium application of Bona Chroma and feather into the surrounding floor. Using a terry cloth towel, blot the repair zone to remove the excess. Working from the outside of the repair area, begin wiping in light circular strokes, and then wipe with the grain until the surface is dry.

PROBLEM:

inconsistent
saturation from
irregular sanding
sequence

SOLUTION:

Color saturation can vary depending on the final sanding sequence from the edge to the field or within the field itself. For example, dull abrasives will burnish the wood fibers causing them to absorb less product and appear lighter in color. Conversely, coarse abrasives in the field, with duller edges, will cause surface area wood fibers to absorb more product and appear darker in color.

If the color is inconsistent due to an irregular sanding process, the floor may need to be resanded with the final abrasive, ensuring that all areas are equally abraded.

PROBLEM:

spills,
footprints,
etc.

SOLUTION:

Spills and footprints on un-colored sections of the floor will be re-dissolved when the area is adequately coated in a flood application with the roller or cut-in pad. In some instances, it may be necessary to work over the specific spot with a generous amount of Bona Chroma and the cut-in pad until the spill or footprint disappears.

See above for hard lines, lap marks, stop marks. Proceed with the regular removal of excess and final buff-in afterward.

PROBLEM:

water drops or
sweat drops on the
colored surface

SOLUTION:

If drops of water or perspiration occur on the colored floor, blot them with a dry terry cloth towel. Avoid scrubbing the floor as this action may remove color. Most drops of water will dry on their own without adverse effects.

PROBLEM:

fast set-up

SOLUTION:

Low humidity, high temperature, direct sunlight, high airflow, and large-area application can cause Bona Chroma to set up too quickly, becoming sticky or difficult to remove and buff-in.

If this occurs, reduce the temperature by using the air conditioner, cover windows to block direct sunlight, work earlier or later in the day, increase the humidity using a humidifier, reduce airflow, or apply to smaller sections. A typical recommended section is no larger than 3' x 8'.

If already working in sections this size, and still having issues, reduce the area size to 3" x 6", and feather all stop and start zones with the grain. Additionally, using a water bottle to mist the surface lightly with a small amount of water can re-wet Bona Chroma on the surface, allowing it to be worked more easily.

PROBLEM:

removal of sanding
marks or leftover
finish

SOLUTION:

To remove sanding mark swirls or leftover finish missed during re-sand, gently scrape to raw wood and hand sand with the same grit used during the final sanding. Vacuum the dust, and apply a liberal amount of Bona Chroma to the bare wood, keeping the excess going beyond the repair area.

Allow to sit for approximately 3-5 minutes. Using a terry cloth towel, blot the repair zone to remove the excess. Working from the outside of the repair area, begin wiping in light circular strokes, and then wipe with the grain until the surface is dry.

PROBLEM:

inconsistent overall
sheen before
sealer application

SOLUTION:

Sheen differences are typically the result of slight burnishing of the wood fibers during the buffing process. Generally, unless there is a color inconsistency associated with a difference in sheen, applying a seal coat will remedy the issue.

If a color issue is related to a sheen issue, the cause is likely related to an inconsistent sanding sequence. Inconsistent sanding during the final buff can cause variations in surface porosity, which will cause the color to absorb irregularly, developing light and dark spots. The sheen will also vary from dull-to-gloss in coarse-to-fine sanding areas.

Bona Chroma® COLOR MATCH INDEX

All colors were matched on white oak sanded to 120-grit.

The representation of stain colors is approximate. Sheens, color, and intensity of the product may vary depending on floor preparation, method, and distinct specie/cut properties for each particular floor.



Bona DriFast ® Stain Color		Bona Chroma ® Color Blend Ratio	
 Provincial	Water-popped	3:2:1	Caramel: Clear: Cocoa Bean
	Non Water-popped	6:2:1	Clear: Caramel: Cocoa Bean
 Nutmeg	Water-popped	4:1	Caramel: Clear
	Non Water-popped	2:1	Clear: Caramel
 Golden Oak	Water-popped	2:1	Caramel: Clear
	Non Water-popped	1:1	Caramel: Clear
 Jacobean	Water-popped	1:1:1	Caramel: Cocoa Bean: Clear
	Non Water-popped	3:1:1	Clear: Cocoa: Caramel
 Medium Brown	Water-popped	1:1:2	Cocoa Bean: Caramel: Clear
	Non Water-popped	4:2:1	Clear: Caramel: Cocoa
 Spice Brown	Water-popped	4:2:1	Caramel: Spilt Wine: Cocoa Bean
	Non Water-popped	5:1	Caramel: Spilt Wine
 Bark	Water-popped	2:1:1	Cocoa Bean: Spilt Wine: Caramel
	Non Water-popped	5:1:1:0.5	Caramel: Clear: Spilt Wine: Beachwood
 Early American	Water-popped	4:2:1	Caramel: Clear: Cocoa
	Non Water-popped	5:2:0.25	Clear: Caramel: Spilt Wine
 Twig	Water-popped	3:1	Barnwood: Clear
	Non Water-popped	3:1.5	Clear: Barnwood
 Sand Dune	Water-popped	1:1:1	Clear: Caramel: Winter
	Non Water-popped	2:1:1	Clear: Caramel: Winter

Bona Chroma®

COLOR MATCH INDEX



Other Manufacturer Color		Bona Chroma® Color Blend Ratio	
Antique Brown	Water-popped	4:1:1	Cocoa Bean: Spilt Wine: Americano
	Non Water-popped	4:1:1:1	Clear: Caramel: Spilt Wine: Cocoa Bean
Coffee Brown	Water-popped	8:4:1	Cocoa: Clear: Beachwood
	Non Water-popped	2:1:1	Beachwood: Cocoa: Clear
Dark Walnut	Water-popped	4:1	Cocoa Bean: Americano
	Non Water-popped	4:1:1	Clear: Cocoa Bean: Americano
Golden Brown	Water-popped	5:1	Caramel: Cocoa Bean
	Non Water-popped	2:2:1	Caramel: Clear: Cocoa Bean
Weathered Oak	Water-popped	3:2:1	Wheat: Clear: Barnwood
	Non Water-popped	3:1	Wheat: Clear
Aged Barrel	Water-popped	1:1:1:1	Clear: Americano: Smokey Grey: Barnwood
	Non Water-popped	3:1:1:1	Clear: Americano: Smokey Grey: Barnwood
Classic Grey	Water-popped	1	Smokey Grey
	Non Water-popped	1:1	Smokey Grey: Wheat
English Chestnut	Water-popped	2:1:1	Clear: Caramel: Spilt Wine
	Non Water-popped	4:1:1	Clear: Caramel: Spilt Wine
Rustic Beige	Water-popped	1:1	Wheat: Smokey Grey
	Non Water-popped	3:1	Wheat: Smokey Grey
Silvered Grey	Water-popped	5:1	Wheat: Winter

A top-down view of a light-colored wooden floor. In the upper right corner, there is a decorative, octagonal wooden tray with a distressed, golden-brown finish. On the tray, there are several green hardcover books stacked together, and a round, teal-colored ceramic dish containing a white candle with three wicks.

The benefits of selling the system.

- + better look
- + better value
- + faster dry time
- + low to no odor
- + easy to use
- + endless possibilities

Bona® Waterborne Wood Floor Coloration

Bona US
24 Inverness Place East, Suite 100
Englewood, CO 80112
Bona.com • 800.872.5515
REV061825 | Item #4873L

Bona.com



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