



2645 South Hanley Brentwood Mo, 63144 314- 647- 9300

### **Death, Taxes and Wood Gapping**

The saying goes, “the only things in life that are certain are Death and Taxes”, we are now adding one more which is “gapping of solid wood flooring”.

It is almost certain that your solid wood floors will show gapping at some point during its life span. Wood flooring is an ever living, ever moving product even when it is correctly installed. Changes in your home or offices environment will cause the wood to expand or contract, thus showing the effects of this movement in either gapping or swelling of wood planks. This is not an alarm that the wood is Bad nor that the wood is failing. We should expect to see solid wood flooring to keep up with its environment and alert us that we need to either take excess moisture out or add moisture to our environment to balance for our personal health and the long term stability of our home including its wood flooring.

All solid hardwood floors will take on moisture in high humidity areas and loose internal moisture in dry places or areas.

Flooring Galaxy suggest that a Humidistat be used to gauge the conditions of your environment, allowing you to know when your wood flooring needs the assistance of a humidifier (add moisture) or a dehumidifier (reduce moisture) throughout the seasonal changes. As changes in moisture will cause wood to shrink or to swell in accordance with conditions that exist, the amount of movement will vary board to board and area to area from a hairline to up to 1/8” wide gap or more. Both prefinished and jobsite finished wood floors are effected by the environmental conditions including engineered wood flooring will also show movement when overly dry or wet conditions exists but may not be as noticeable or as much of an visual impact.

If you need further assistance with your environmental wood concerns stop I to the Flooring Galaxy for answers to your concerns along with great maintenance advice on your wood flooring.

**FlooringGalaxy.com**



2645 South Hanley Brentwood Mo, 63144 314- 647- 9300

**[FlooringGalaxy.com](http://FlooringGalaxy.com)**