

# PEAK OAK

OAK FLOORING, OAK DOORS  
& WROUGHT IRONWARE



Can I Apply One Hard Wax Oil Brand  
Over Another?

[www.peakoak.co.uk](http://www.peakoak.co.uk)

## Introduction

A Traditional Hard Wax Oil is the perfect way to finish off your oak flooring. Offering extreme durability and resistance, these oils are also micro-porous and water repellent. As a natural oil and wax mix, hard wax oils are safe for humans, animals and plants. As standard these oils can give either a natural satin or a natural matt finish, which is beloved by many.

As you may have already seen from our [guide to oak floor finishes](#), there are a number of different brands available many of which we stock, including [Osmo Polyx-Oil](#), [Blanchon Hard Waxoil](#) and [Fiddes Hard Wax Oil](#).

Although all of these are Hard Wax Oils, the different formulas used mean that they will of course produce a slightly different final finish.

As a supplier, we are asked various questions in relation to their application, resistance and much more.

One question that has recently been asked more and more in one form or another is “can I apply hard wax oil A over hard wax oil B?”.

Although we always recommend that you stick with the same oil brand when re-coating, we have had customers who have simply forgotten which oil they used 5 or 6 years ago and are therefore left with no other choice.

We have also had customers who many years ago coated up their flooring with one particular oil, but have since discovered another option which they much prefer.

This short guide will take you through a couple of tests we undertook recently.

## Mixing After One Coat

For the first part of our test we took one of our unfinished 240mm Character Grade Engineered Oak floorboards and split it into three individual sections.

We chose to use a satin finish from each of three manufacturers as this would be likely highlight the biggest problems.

We applied a thin coating of hard wax oil to each section and then left to dry in warm, dry, well ventilated conditions as per the manufacturers instructions.

### Section 1

Fiddes Hard Wax Oil – Clear Satin

### Section 2

Blanchon Hard Waxoil – Natural Satin

### Section 3

Osmo Polyx Oil – Satin-matt.

After leaving the first coat to fully dry, the next step was to combine the oils.

Section	First Coat	Second Coat
1	Fiddes Hard Wax Oil	Blanchon Hard Waxoil
2	Blanchon Hard Waxoil	Osmo Polyx-Oil
3	Osmo Polyx-Oil	Fiddes Hard Wax Oil



## Results

There seemed to be no discernible difference.

In terms of colour alone, using two different brands seemed to have no negative impact upon each other.

Looking over the boards it would be difficult to know that two different brands had been used.

## Mixing After Two Coats

To ensure that the results of the first test were not a fluke or due to only one coat being applied, we decided to carry out a more extreme test.

Once again, we used one of our standard unfinished oak boards, this time in 140mm width, again split into a number of sections.

This time we applied two base coats of one brand of oil and then added a coat of another brand and then compared this to 3 coats of the same brand.

Section	First Coat	Second Coat	Third Coat
1	Fiddes Hard Wax Oil	Fiddes Hard Wax Oil	Fiddes Hard Wax Oil
2	Fiddes Hard Wax Oil	Fiddes Hard Wax Oil	Osmo Polyx-Oil
3	Blanchon Hard Waxoil	Blanchon Hard Waxoil	Blanchon Hard Waxoil
4	Blanchon Hard Waxoil	Blanchon Hard Waxoil	Fiddes Hard Wax Oil



## **Results**

There were no reactions between coats of different brands of oil but the final finished look is determined by the last coat applied.

In other words, if you particularly like the slightly “hard” look of Fiddes, you can achieve this by applying one coat over any of the other brands.

## **Conclusion**

We have proven that with these three brands, you can apply any one over any of the others with no detrimental effects, however we would still recommend that you use just one brand if you want to be absolutely certain of getting the finish you want.