

Dunkeswell Abbey Church

Cleaning guidelines

Below are the guidelines for cleaning taken from the Churches Conservation Trust. Please don't use any cleaning products with bleach on any surface.

- **Timber**

Pews, floorboards, pulpit, lectern, piano, organ, doors, altar rail

- Dust timbers with a lint free cloth or brush. In certain situations, a combination of a brush, vacuum, and cloth will be needed for complex or intricate shapes.
- Unless otherwise instructed please only use dry, or very slightly damp cloths to clean
- Spray polishes contain silicon and should not be used. They can cause damage to surfaces.
- Use wax polish sparingly, infrequently, and only when needed to ensure layers of wax are not built up.
- If you notice any signs of insect damage, beetle infestation or rot please let one of the trustees know.
- A soft brush can mobilise dirt from carved details such as pew ends

- **Floors**

- Sweep floorboards with a soft broom or vacuum
- Do not apply wax polish to any areas that have rugs or other items placed on top as this causes a slip hazard
- Try to avoid mopping, but the hall tiles may need it. If it is essential use an almost dry mop or cloth as is slow to dry and stays damp.
- Alter Tiles: These are original Cistercian, loose and very fragile. These should be either dusted with a cloth or very gently swept to remove dust.
- **Plaster:** please be careful when sweeping up plaster. It is recommended that a mask should be worn.

- **Textiles**

Carpets, rugs

- The alter cloth is regularly replaced by Carol, this just needs clearing of any fallen flowers.
- Shake, sweep or vacuum mats and carpets.
- If you discover mould, please let one of the trustees know.

- **Stone**

Font, exhibits

- Work from top to bottom and use a soft cloth or brush to dust into a dustpan or vacuum nozzle.
- Window Sills brush or dust

- **Glass**

Cabinets, display boards.

- Use wet cloth or window cleaner

Thank You!

