

# DEAR DESIGNER DEAR DESIGNER

## Dear Readers:

I've been getting a lot of questions lately concerning decorating trends, the economy and interior design and about how much money to put into an existing home or a new home. I believe the biggest thing to remember is that it is YOUR home, and you should make decisions based on what you desire in your home. Many people in this economy are finding that they are staying in a house they thought they would be selling for a profit; but now, they are thinking about improvements rather than selling. A lot of you have questions about hardwood floors, so let's take that topic and look at the pros and cons.



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### PROS:

1. Hardwood floors are real wood; they can be repaired, refinished and resealed over and over again. Usually, once a hardwood floor is installed, it remains for the life of the house.
2. Hardwood floors have been around for years and are still in good condition in century-old homes around the world.
3. They are easy to clean and don't retain dust and pollen; they are warm and easier on people's feet and backs than some hard surfaces, such as tile.
4. Hardwoods come in many species and can be natural or stained in any shade. Using the appropriate wood with the appropriate stain and seal, floors can hide most small nicks and scratches for years before needing refinishing.
5. Every day spills will not soak in and damage floors that are properly sealed.

### CONS:

1. Hardwood floors do scratch and dent depending on the type of wood and your lifestyle.
2. Because of the risk of water damage, hardwood floors shouldn't be installed in bathroom areas or basements.

I hope this helps if you are considering buying a home with a wood floor, redoing a floor or considering taking out a wood floor...as you can see, the pros outweigh the cons! 🍷



Linda Thunberg is the owner of Full Circle Interior Design, offering full-service design and design courses. For more info, call Linda at 704-483-3090.

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