# Elevate Your Gym to New Heights!



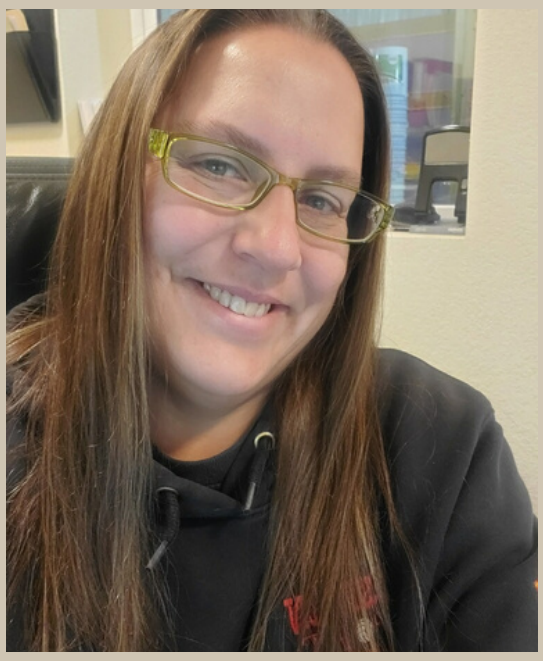







**March 2025**
issue 1

# Western Sport Floors & Wyoming Wood Floors Administrative staff



## Rosemarie Waddle

Rose is the dedicated Office Manager for Wyoming Wood Floors, LLC & Western Sport Floors, LLC. Rosemarie has been an integral part of our team for the past four years, and her commitment to understanding our operations is reflected in her choice to spend her initial weekends on the floor, familiarizing herself with the daily experiences of our crew members. This firsthand knowledge has greatly enhanced her communication with customers.

With a lifelong career in office work and a degree in Accounting/Business Management, Rosemarie brings a wealth of experience in accounting, customer service, data entry, and management to our team. She takes immense pride in being part of Wyoming Wood Floors, LLC & Western Sport Floors, LLC, which she considers her second home, and appreciates the camaraderie of her co-workers and the inspirational leadership that guides our company.

## McKenzie Nelson

McKenzie is the Chief Marketing Manager for Wyoming Wood Floors, LLC, and Western Sport Floors, LLC, showcasing her steadfast commitment to her role. Over the past two years, she has become an essential member of our team. Her dedication to understanding our operations drove her to spend countless hours traveling to learn the intricacies of our processes and teams.

With a Bachelor's degree in Radiologic Sciences and over 20 years of experience in the medical field, McKenzie decided to embark on a new career path to support her husband's companies. This transition has allowed her to blend her professional skills with her curiosity for gym floors, demonstrating her commitment not only to her own growth but also to the success of the family business. McKenzie's unique journey reflects her resilience and determination to make a meaningful impact in this industry.



# ELEVATE YOUR GYM TO NEW HEIGHTS!






## Introducing the Western Sport Floors and Wyoming Wood Floors Digest:

## Elevate Your Gym to New Heights!

Are you looking to transform your gym floors into a space that truly reflects the spirit and identity of your institution? Look no further than our esteemed company, serving the expansive regions of Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Northern Idaho, Eastern Washington, and Nebraska. Western Sport Floors and Wyoming Wood Floors bring a wealth of experience and expertise in enhancing gym floors, offering you a myriad of possibilities to amplify the aesthetics and functionality of your space.

At Western Sport Floors and Wyoming Wood Floors, we understand the importance of a well-crafted gym floor, not just in terms of performance but also as a statement of your institution's values and spirit. Our catalog is a reflection of the numerous successful installations, repairs, sanding, paintings, and staining we have undertaken in the past. It serves as a treasure trove of inspiration, showcasing a diverse range of projects that have breathed life into gyms across our service areas.

Join us on a visual journey through our catalog as we unveil the stunning transformations we have brought to gyms like yours. Our projects not only exemplify our craftsmanship but also serve as testaments to the dedication of our passionate crew. Each gym we work on is a canvas where we blend artistry with functionality, creating spaces that our customers are proud to call their own. Let our catalogue ignite your imagination and provide you with the inspiration you need to take your gym floors to the next level.

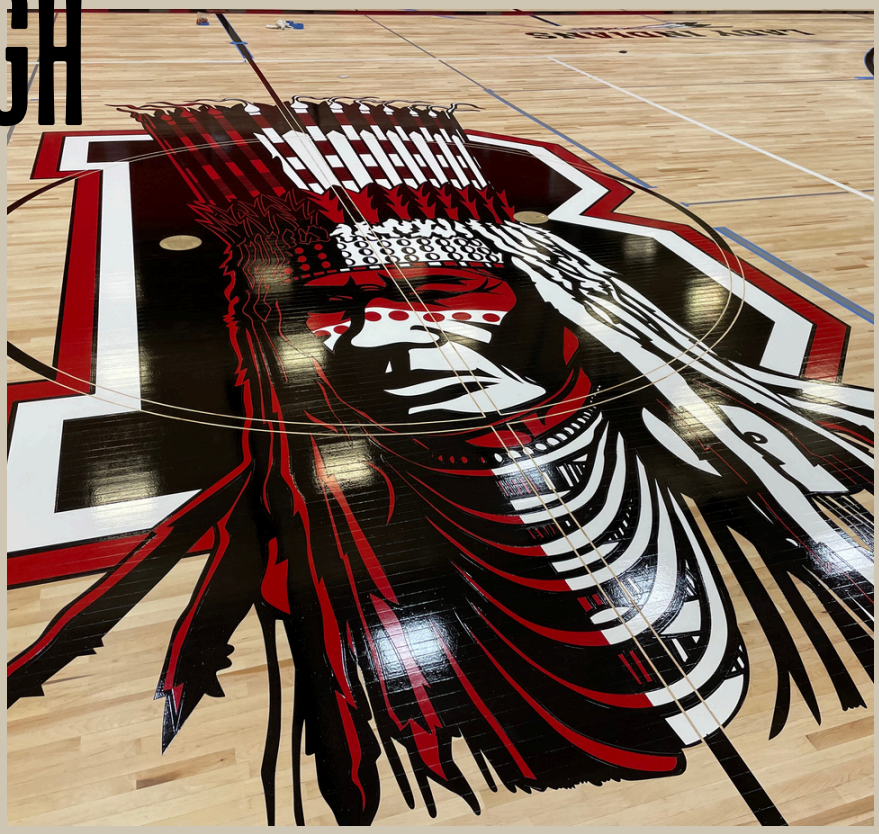
Immerse yourself in the possibilities that Western Sport Floors and Wyoming Wood Floors can offer. Let us be your partners in crafting gym floors that not only look amazing but also stand the test of time.

## Elevate your gym - Elevate your institution with us!

WYOMING WOOD FLOORS
CLINTON, MT

www.westernsportfloors.com 406-549-1900

# BROWNING HIGH SCHOOL

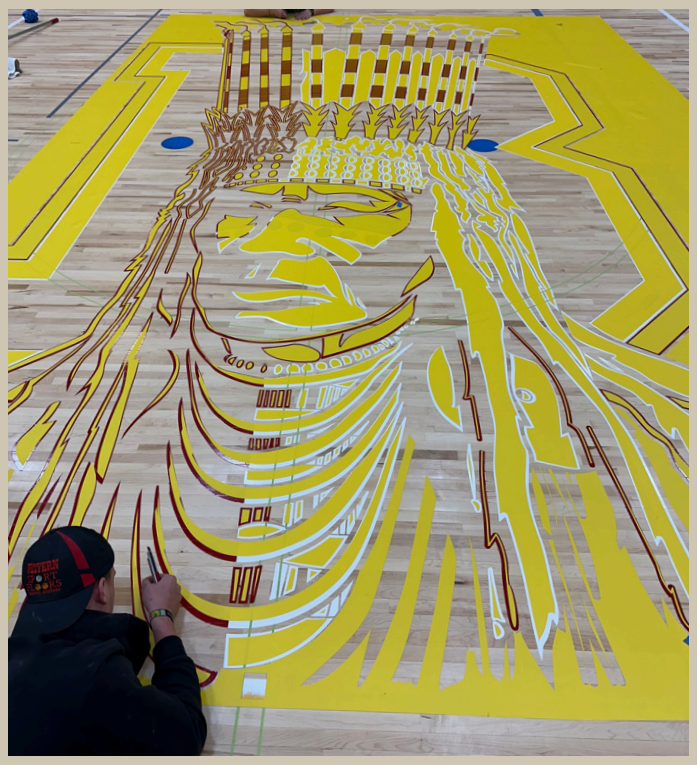


Located in Browning, Montana, in the heart of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, Browning High School proudly houses the renowned Runnin' Indians and Lady Indians.

In the early winter of 2024, Western Sport Floors undertook a prestigious project at the school, installing a new state-of-the-art Robbins Air Channel Star gymnasium floor system. This cutting-edge system encompassed 14,000 square feet of premium 1 1/2" second and better Maple flooring, creating a foundation of both durability and aesthetic excellence.

Embracing the rich cultural heritage of the Blackfeet Native community, the school district initiated a logo submission contest, inviting local artists to showcase their talent. The winning design, crafted by a Blackfeet Native artist, depicted an Indian warrior adorned in a majestic war bonnet headdress. Executing this intricate design required meticulous precision, with the logo comprising nine meticulously crafted vinyl paint stencils. Noteworthy is the astonishing detail work involved, such as the headpiece containing a staggering 612 individual vinyl strips meticulously removed post-painting.





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Executing this intricate design required meticulous precision, with the logo comprising of nine carefully crafted vinyl paint stencils.

This remarkable gymnasium floor stands as a testament to the dedication to craftsmanship and attention to detail exemplified by Western Sport Floors. Comprising 120,000 nails securing the flooring to the subfloor, the floor's intricate design further showcases red stain accentuating the three-point arcs and English Chestnut stain highlighting the keys.

A pinnacle of excellence, the Robbins Air Channel Star subfloor system coupled with Robbins XL long length finger-jointed Maple flooring in 1 1/2” width, truly elevates the aesthetic and functionality of Browning High School's gymnasium.



*Eevate your gym to new heights!*

# Absarokee High School

## Montana

### Why Stain?

Many of our customers choose stain these days over paint.

Stain has better longevity, and stain highlights the natural wood grain of the maple flooring.







Different colors of stain can highlight the different features of a floor.



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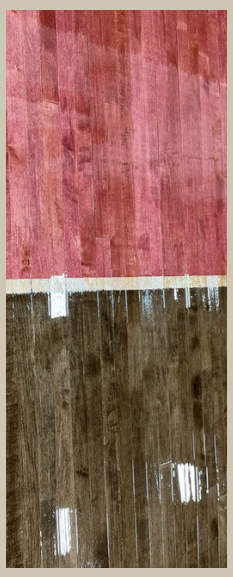



# Worland High School

## Worland, Wyoming

Our staining process actually colors the raw maple. That means there is no paint to chip or crack as the floor ages.

It is usually the case that stain holds up better than paint from the day to day use and abuse that gym floors receive.

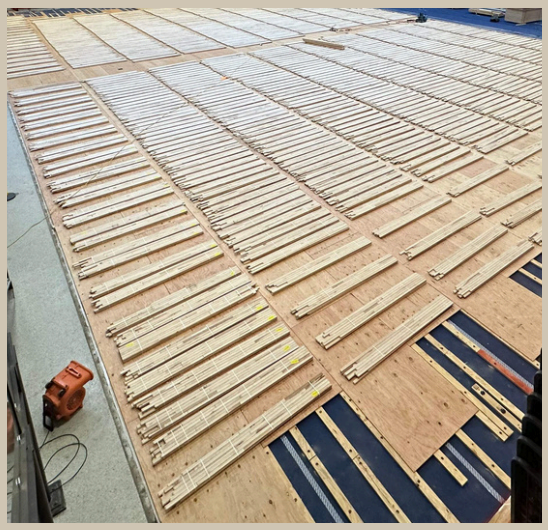





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# How Long Does it Take To Install A Gym Floor?



This answer will vary a little depending on whether this is a replacement gymnasium floor in an existing building. Or a newly constructed building. For this exercise, we are going to be installing a new floor in a new building.

This answer will also vary depending on the size of the facility. We work in the Rocky Mountain West, we serve customers in Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Eastern Washington, North & South Dakota, and Nebraska. The average size of the gym floor in the facilities we work in is 8,000 – 12,000 square feet. Larger floors will take longer smaller floors may be installed in less time.

For the sake of this exercise, we will assume this floor is 8,000 – 12,000 sq ft. We also have specific procedures that we do, others may not follow our process exactly. However, this article outlines what we believe are "best practices" in our area for our customers.

Week #1 Monday morning, take delivery of the gym floor materials. Unload the truck and bring the materials into the gymnasium. Throughout the balance of week #1, we will install the subfloor system and stock the Maple on top of the subfloor system. This will allow the Maple to acclimate.

Week #2 Allow the Maple to acclimate. The HVAC system should be up and running. Room Temperature should be 55 – 75 degrees. The RH should be maintained at 35 – 50% relative humidity.

Week #3 Allow the Maple to acclimate. The HVAC system should be up and running. Room Temperature should be 55 – 75 degrees. The RH should be maintained at 35 – 50% relative humidity.

Week #4 Nail up the Maple and sand & seal under the bleacher footprint.

Week #5 Installation of bleachers, completion of any other overhead work in the gymnasium.

Week #6 Installation of bleachers, completion of any other overhead work in the gymnasium.

Week #7 Sand, stain, and seal the gym floor.

Week #8 Screen the floor & clean the floor. Tape out game lines. Lay out vinyl for logos and lettering. Paint the floor.

Week #9 Complete any remaining paintwork. Install base cove and threshold.

Week #10 Complete final paint touchups & apply the final coats of finish.

Week # 11 Allow the floor to cure for a week. Perhaps 2 if Oil Modified finish was used.




Rocky Mountain College
Billings, MT

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# Build A Legacy Of Pride And Performance With Western Sport Floors & Wyoming Wood Floors

At Western Sport Floors, we're committed to helping schools and businesses transform their gymnasiums into sources of pride and inspiration. We understand that a well-maintained gym floor not only reflects your commitment to your local team and community but also serves as a central gathering point for fans, coaches, and athletes. Our experienced team has been providing exceptional gym floor solutions since 1988, specializing in hardwood maple flooring installations, restorations, and repairs.




## Freeman High School

We pride ourselves on delivering results that exceed expectations, backed by a 1-year warranty on materials and workmanship. Plus, our complimentary professional floor design service ensures you make the best decision for your facility. Trust Western Sport Floors & Wyoming Wood Floors to create a stunning, functional gym floor that motivates your teams and unites your community.




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# Power School District

## Power, Montana




Our dedicated efforts at this vibrant school in Power, Montana, earned our team the title of 'August Sport Floor of the Month. Through our commitment to precision and hard work, we successfully completed the gym floor, bringing immense satisfaction to our team and pride to the school."

The 34ft x 32ft grey stained pirate ship isn't the only unique feature this floor contains. All sealers and finishes were water-based. Basic Coatings Hydroline, a water-based sealer, was used to seal the raw wood followed by Bona SuperCourt water-based gameline paint. Finally, the floor was finished with Basic Coatings Street Shoe NXT water-based finish.





Two intricate pirate logos can be seen highlighting the lanes. These logos took time and patience to cover six paint on paint colors. It's designs like these that really make the Power Pirates and Lady Pirates stand out on and off the court.



This giant logo was created by laying 10 individual stencil panels covering almost 1/3rd of the floor. The crew needed to pay close attention to details while laying these panels to ensure that they all would line up, bringing this Pirate ship to Life!

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# White Sulpher Springs Montana



We are thrilled to announce that our company has won the

## Basic Coatings Floor of the Year

award for our exceptional gym floor project completed in White Sulpher Springs, Montana. This achievement reflects our commitment to quality and excellence in every project we have the honor of working on!



Each honeycomb hexagon was carefully measured and hand taped to ensure that everything was parallel and even. With so many lines running parallel with each other, if even one of them was a few inches off, our eyes would catch it.



On top of the impressive, stained graphics, the painted logo had some challenges of its own. This paint-on-paint logo was created using two layers of stencils, each layer containing five panels. Extreme care was taken to ensure every stencil lined up, this helped guarantee that the second layer would line up without any issues.






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# Gymnasium Floor Repair



## Water Damage?

## Broken Boards?





Let the friendly experts at Western Sport Floors LLC save the day.

We'll fix the damage and give your floors a fresh, new look without the high cost of a full replacement.

Since 1998, our dedicated team has been helping schools and businesses enjoy beautiful, functional gym floors.

With a 1- year warranty on all parts and workmanship, you can trust us to get the job done right. Give us a call today for a FREE estimate, and let's get your gym looking amazing again!

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# Synthetic Gym Floors

**Synthetic sports surfaces are designed for outstanding durability, enabling them to endure the rigors of indoor sports while maintaining their quality over time. Each surface is specifically engineered to offer excellent shock-absorbing capabilities, enhanced resistance, and ease of maintenance.**



## Transform Your Play with Our Durable Synthetic Sports Floors!

## Call 406-549-1900 Today!



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# We often get asked our opinion on Oil modified finish vs Water based finish on a gym floor application.

## Pros Oil Modified Gym Floor Finish:

- This floor has a very good shine and deep tone, typical of Oil Modified finishes.
- Gives the floor an extremely bright shine immediately upon application.
- Has a deep amber tone that is considered traditional in gym floors.
- Maintains good traction throughout the year, even if the floors are dirty.
- Has a higher solids content, usually a single coat will provide good coverage and shine.




## Pros Water Based Gym Floor Finish:

- This floor has water-based finish, notice how clear the white paint is.
- Has very little smell and is VOC compliant in all 50 states.
- Crystal clear, provides a lighter color than what is considered traditional.
- Does not discolor painted game lines, even whites & yellows.
- Quick dry time, some Water based finishes are considered “playable” in 24 hours.
- Harder than oil- When boards shrink with temperature changes, the finish breaks clean with the seams.




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## Cons Oil Based Finish:

- The deep traditional tone of the oil modified finishes will yellow the painted game lines and graphics in time. Whites, yellows, and grays will all start to turn brown.
- Has a heavy chemical smell that permeates the building and may linger for days.
- Not legal to use in some states.
- Takes time to fully cure out. Usually 10-14 days.
- Requires paint thinner or mineral spirts for tool clean up after application.
- Softer than water- When boards shrink with temperature changes, finish will stretch, creating an air bubble that could become problematic.






## Cons Water Based Finish:

- Lesser solids content often requires 2 coats to achieve the desired look.
- Has a tendency to become slippery if not kept clean.
- Somewhat more difficult to apply, because it dries so quickly.
- May not have as bright of shine upon completion.

## Conclusion

There are other factors to consider, but these are the ones we have observed time and again working for customers throughout the Rocky Mountain West.

We have been encouraging our customers to switch over to Water based finish whenever possible, because we believe the health and safety issues outweigh the others.

Lead based paint and Asbestos insulation are great products but were eventually discontinued because of health and safety concerns. We think the writing is on the wall for Oil Modified gym floor finish as well.

Finally, our customers tell us that they have more and more difficulty scheduling time to close their gymnasiums for maintenance work. Shutting down a facility for up to 2 weeks while the finish cures out, is just not an option. So here again, we find water-based finish wins the day!!

For more Information on this subject and many more please visit out website listed below!

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CLINTON, MT

www.westernsportfloors.com

# How Long Should A Wood Gym Floor last?

The MFMA (Maple Flooring Manufacturers Association) says that a 25/32-inch (¾-inch) maple gymnasium floor should last 75 years.

Their website states: "In 1997, MFMA statistics showed that less than 1 percent of replacement floors were necessitated by depleted wear surface on the existing floor. Floors are far more commonly replaced due to flooding, improper facility maintenance and even building demolition/replacement than are replaced due to the 'wearing out' of the surface."

This has been my experience as well; gym floors are torn out and replaced for reasons other than just having a depleted wear layer. Dead spots and broken boards are much more likely to cause owners to replace their gym floors.

There are many examples in this country of 100-plus-year-old gym floors, but they are the exception, not the rule. Like any other product, the longevity of a gym floor will depend on several factors:

1) How well is it cared for?
2) How hard is it used?
3) Has it ever suffered a flood?
4) Is there a good reason to replace it?





This gym floor in the community center in Emblem, Wyo., is a great example of the longevity possible for a gym floor—originally installed around 1930, we were able to resand and coat this floor in 2022.

# Let's take these one at a time:

## 1. How well is it cared for?



This is the No. 1 factor. Daily cleaning, yearly maintenance coats, and being sanded every decade or so will keep a gym floor looking like new for generations. A gym floor's biggest enemy is water, so making sure the facility has a good functional roof is part of gym floor maintenance.
Without daily maintenance, gym users will continually track dirt and grime around the floor. As a result, the finish will wear off prematurely. If the maintenance coats are also skipped, then the finish may get so worn that the maple itself will be damaged. These poor maintenance procedures will compound upon themselves, and the result will inevitably be a shortened life of the gym floor.




## 2. How hard is it used?

This seems obvious, but it needs to be pointed out that a K-12 public school that holds physical education classes all day, as well as before-school and after-school sporting activities and community programs, will have a shorter life cycle than a church gym that is used only on the weekends.

## 3. Has it ever suffered a flood?

Unfortunately, floods are all too common on gym floors, although getting water on your gym floor does not automatically ruin it. Sometimes the spill can be contained and mopped up with little or no damage to the floor. Too often, though, the leak is not immediately detected, and the resulting damage is catastrophic. Many times insurance companies want to try to have a floor/fire restoration company attempt to "dry out" the floor. If the amount of water damage was not severe, this sometimes works. However, if the floor had a significant amount of water standing on it, even when the floor has been "dried out," issues are possible, if not probable. When plywood or stringers have been soaked with water, as they dry there could be issues with the fasteners not holding as well, which could result in problems with ball bounce, shock absorption, and area deflection.

## 4. Is there a good reason to replace the floor?

Technology moves ahead, the MFMA member flooring mills have done fabulous work in designing and engineering floor systems that provide athletes with improved safety and excellent biomechanics. The result of the work of sports medicine experts, engineers and basketball programs is that today's floors offer superior lower extremity (hips, knees, ankles) protection for athletes. Older floors are typically firm—many systems have no padding or pads that have hardened with age. Newer floors provide better shock absorption and vibration control.

For more Information on this subject and many more please visit out website listed below!

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# Advice for Gym floor maintenance

- The lifespan of a gym floor can be significantly extended with the application of these maintenance practices:
- Keep the room's temperature within the range of 55-75 degrees Fahrenheit, and the relative humidity at 35-50 percent all year round.

- Regularly dust mop the floor, and do it even more frequently on the days following snow or rain.
- Ensure the walk-off mats are routinely vacuumed.

- Gum and candy should be scraped off using a plastic putty knife.
- A tennis ball attached to a stick can be used to remove stubborn marks.
- Clean the whole floor periodically with an approved cleaner such as Basic Coatings' Squeaky or Bona's SuperCourt.

- Ensure a comprehensive cleaning, abrasion, and fresh finish application is carried out on the floor annually.
- Plan to have the floor sanded down to the raw maple every 8-12 years, followed by re-staining, sealing, painting, and coating.



For more Information on this subject and many more please visit out website listed below!

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# How Do We Pay For Work On Our Gym Floor?

We often get asked this question. Schools, Civic Centers, Universities, YMCA's and other owners of gymnasium floors often struggle to pay for the upkeep or replacement cost of their gym floors. Over the years we have been able to help facilities pay for upkeep and replacement of their gym floors through the use of Sponsorship Logo's.

What is a Sponsorship Logo?

A Sponsorship Logo is simply allowing a business or entity advertising space on your gymnasium floor. Generally, on the main Basketball court.

This is not a new concept, virtually all professional teams across many sports allow sponsorship logos.




Sponsorship logos have been a part of sports since the beginning of sports. The idea of sponsorship logos on Junior High and High School gym floors, while not unheard of, has not historically been as popular as it is on Colleges and Professional arenas.

However, with budget shortfalls becoming more & more frequent, exploring new revenue ideas for gymnasium floor maintenance and replacement costs may be worth the effort.

We have seen sponsors pay between $5,000.00 and $30,000.00 to put a logo on a High School Gym Floor.

We will assist our customers with this process.

At the end of the day, a beautiful new gym floor with some sponsorship logos looks a LOT better than an old, worn-out floor without them!!






# Court-Side Equipment LLC

Court-Side Equipment LLC
20450 Us Hwy 10 East Clinton, MT 59825
CourtSideEquipment.Com
(406) 303-0304

Innovative Solutions for Gymnasium Flooring

At Court-Side Equipment, we are on a mission to redefine gymnasium flooring with our top-tier, expert-designed equipment. Backed by our hands-on industry experience, we've crafted a range of products that ensures quality and performance. From installation to refurbishment, our offerings are tailored to meet and exceed the demands of the most intricate gym flooring projects.




## Power Box & Handle

Sander Power Box, handle, Control rod, and reverser switch. This handle also features LED readouts for all three hotlines coming into the machine. If your power is hooked up backwards.... Reverse the switch and start sanding.



COMPLETLY REBUILT AMERICAN TWELVE SANDERS

We have a VERY limited supply of completly rebuilt American Twelve Sanders with upgraded Power boxes and handles.

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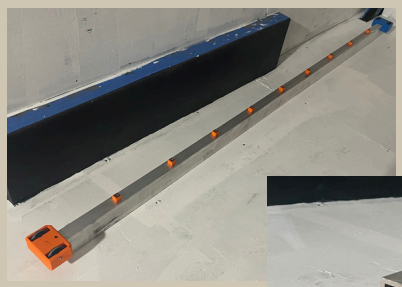
Call for details:

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www.courtsideequipment.com

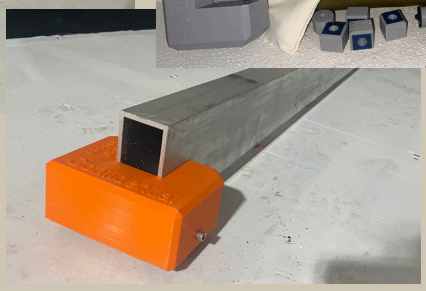
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# Our Game-Changing Equipment Lineup

## Straight Edge Kit







The small spacer cubes are 1/8″ above the floor. When rolled over a high spot or through a low spot, the cubes catch the floor and stop the straight edge.

## Transportation Kart



This kart features wheelchair wheels with bearings to transport Gym Floor Sanders over uneven ground and into the gym.

## Front Tracking Plate



This tracking plate is designed to attach the American Twelve machines together by removing the existing wheel covers and attaching the front tracking plates. These should work with any existing hitch system on (2) American Twelve sanders.



## Rear Hitch & Adjustment Box

This hitch system holds the floor sanders securly together and allows for adjustments in alignment to make the sanders run smoothly together.



## Sander Drums

Our drums have been professionally reconditioned with new rubber and balanced by Revolution Manufacturing.

## Call for details:

(406) 303-0304, Or (307) 699-4734

www.courtsideequipment.com

Court-Side Equipment LLC

Leadership is not about titles, positions or flowcharts.

It is about one life influencing another.

-John C Maxwell



WESTERN SPORT FLOORS

# Who is Paul R Nelson?



Paul R Nelson has a diverse background spanning military service, entrepreneurship, and active involvement in various professional associations.

Paul is a Marine Corps Veteran, and founder of Wyoming Wood Floors, with a deep passion for creating stunning gymnasium floors.

Paul serves as an operating manager for both Wyoming Wood Floors, LLC and Western Sport Floors, LLC, delivering exceptional service to customers across 7 Western States.

He has also worked consulting nationally and internationally on gym floor installations. This has further broadened his expertise.

He is an active member of the MFMA and the American Sports Builders Association. At ASBA's 2023 conference in Houston Paul shared insights on leveraging social media for the contractors.

Through his YouTube channel, he has shared over 130 unique videos on gymnasium floors, reaching over 120,000 viewers who have collectively spent more than 7,000 hours engaged with his content.

With a strong social media presence, including 4,300 followers on Facebook, 2,100 followers on LinkedIn, and 4,700 followers on Tik Tok. Other social media platforms include Instagram, Truth Social, and Twitter.

Paul is dedicated to expanding his influence as a public speaker and maintaining an active online presence.

Through his work on social media Paul has been called the
"Best Known Sport Flooring Contractor in the World!"

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CLINTON, MT

# ELEVATE YOUR GYM TO NEW HEIGHTS!

# WESTERN SPORT FLOORS

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CLINTON, MT

**Featured:**
Our Design of the 2024:
Browning High School

How long Will a Gym floor last?
Sports Floor of the Month & Year!
Oil vs Water

Pulastic Gym Floors
Sponsorship Logos
Stain vs Paint




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