

# Maintenance Recommendations & Procedures for Commercial Resilient Flooring



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commercial hardwood commercial laminate specialty flooring accessories

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# Icon Key:



Polish













Mix Cleaner Mop/Spot Mop Damp Mop/

Scrubber, Auto Scrubber Stripper, Buffer Buffer

# Maintenance Recommendations For Resilient Flooring

The following are general guidelines for maintaining Armstrong® commercial flooring products. They are based on general experience using established methods and cleaning materials. It is important that these guidelines are read carefully as many of the products offer the end-user maintenance options. Ultimately the local site conditions will determine what specific maintenance procedures and frequencies are needed. It is the responsibility of the maintenance provider to establish the maintenance program(s) that meet the demands of the space(s) and needs of the facility.

All resilient floor coverings require maintenance. How frequently the floors must be maintained depends largely on the factors described below. Following regular and well-planned maintenance programs protects the floor by reducing wear, preserves the floor's attractive appearance and ultimately increases its service life.

#### HOW TO DETERMINE/TAILOR YOUR MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Before establishing a maintenance program, there are a number of factors which must be considered in order to determine the most appropriate, cost-effective methods to use. It is critical that the maintenance methods for each floor and area be chosen only after careful evaluation and regard to the following:

# Type of Flooring

It is important to know the type of floor before cleaning. Rubber or linoleum could be confused with vinyl or luxury vinyl tile (LVT) confused with wood or laminate.

# Resources/Equipment/Chemicals/Personnel/Budget

Are well-trained maintenance personnel available?

Are the appropriate pieces of equipment (scrubbers, buffers, mops, pads, etc.) available?

Are the appropriate chemicals available?

What is the budget?

#### **End-User's Expectations**

What is the desired gloss (high or low gloss)?

What is considered an acceptable level of appearance by the owner, customers, staff or end-user?

# Type of Facility & Location of Flooring

Entryways, lobbies and pivot-point areas may require more protection and more frequent cleaning than lower traffic areas in other parts or upper levels of the building.

#### Volume and Type of Traffic and Soil

For instance, traffic types and volumes in entryways and corridors will vary greatly from those found at nurses' stations or in examination rooms. Dirt and grit carried in from outside can differ significantly from the soils and chemical spills found in a laboratory or emergency room.

# Special Traffic/Footwear

Areas subjected to frequent rolling loads provide a different environment than a children's play area or corridor in an elementary school.

#### Color/Design of Flooring

Color and pattern can have a significant impact on a floor's appearance and when properly chosen, may help mask soiling and staining. Mid-tones are better choices than light or dark colors. Busier/high contrast patterns will hide better than solid/monolithic ones.

#### STAGES OF THE FLOOR CARE MAINTENANCE LIFE CYCLE

#### Initial

Initial maintenance defines those procedures that are to be performed on newly installed flooring. The extent of initial maintenance will be dependent on the level of cleanliness in which the installed floor covering was left.

#### Daily/Regular

As the name suggests, these are the procedures that are conducted on a frequent, daily or routine basis. They are generally less-aggressive procedures and consist primarily of dry soil and grit removal (vacuuming, dust mopping, sweeping) and damp or wet mopping. Daily/Regular maintenance is perhaps the most important aspect of a maintenance program and is designed to keep the floor at a consistent level of appearance. In high traffic environments, performing these simple procedures more frequently can extend the time between and need for more aggressive and costly periodic or restorative procedures.

#### Periodic

Periodic maintenance generally consists of more aggressive procedures that go beyond dry soil removal and damp or wet mopping. They incorporate machine scrubbing, (with or without the application of floor finish), buffing, spray buffing, burnishing or some combination of these procedures. Periodic maintenance will address traffic-laning and the overall appearance and gloss of the floor. In high traffic areas, these periodic procedures may be part of the Daily/Regular stage.

#### Restorative

Restorative maintenance is the most aggressive of all procedures. It typically involves stripping and refinishing of the floor and requires the largest investment of time, labor and money. It is performed when routine/periodic maintenance no longer provides the desired level of appearance.

#### SAFETY TIPS

Since wet floors may be slippery, post "Wet Floor" or "Caution" signs before and during wet cleaning procedures and until the floor is thoroughly dry. Tape off aisles and other areas if necessary (example: 24-Hour Stores).

- Clean up spills and remove gum, labels, stickers, etc. immediately to minimize/eliminate slip hazards.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment such as eyewear, gloves and footwear.
- Inspect floor machines, making sure they are in good working condition according to the manufacturer's recommendation.
- If possible, notify facility staff and occupants before conducting maintenance.
- Follow cautions and warnings provided by the manufacturer on the maintenance product containers.
- Dispose of residual cleaning products and containers per your local disposal guidelines.
- Refer to Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS).

#### FLOOR CARE FUNDAMENTALS

#### **Grit Control**

Controlling grit and soil is crucial to prolonging the attractive appearance of any floor. Grit or soil is any material – including dirt, stones, sand and clay – that is deposited onto the floor by normal commercial traffic. The best way to control grit is by using appropriate walk-off mats.

Recommended walk-off mats should:

- Have a high-friction, open surface design to knock grit particles from the bottoms of shoes and then trap the particles.
- Be used at every entrance, inside and outside, and should be at least as wide as the doorway and 8' to 12' long.
- Have a backing that won't stain the floor.
- Be cleaned regularly and vacuumed, shaken and/or hosed off frequently.

While walk-off mats will retain a substantial amount of this grit and soil, some will still find its way into the building. Regular vacuuming, sweeping and dust-mopping will help control this type of grit.

# Furniture Rests (feet, glides, casters, etc.)

Proper selection and care of furniture rests is important in the maintenance and appearance retention of all types of floor coverings. Following are some guidelines to consider:

- The contact area should be large enough to distribute the load evenly, without damaging the floor.
- The contact area should be smooth, flat to provide full contact and free of small protrusions, irregularities, roughness, depressions, mold lines, embedded dirt, grit, etc.
- All edges should be slightly rounded to prevent damage if briefly turned on edge.
- Rests should be manufactured from non-staining materials.
- Rests should be properly maintained. Worn, damaged and missing furniture rests should be replaced.
- Furniture, appliances, equipment, etc. should be properly leveled so that all rests are fully and firmly on the floor at all times.

#### Heat welded seams

If not completed following the installation phase of heat welded sheet flooring, apply a narrow band of a protective finish to the heat welded seams. This will help reduce the porosity and seal the top surface of the weld. This is most important when using one of the No Polish maintenance options. When maintaining a product without the use of floor polish, it may be necessary to periodically recoat welded seams.

# MAINTENANCE CHEMICALS

#### **Neutral Floor Cleaner**

A mild (pH of 6 to 8) detergent that does not contain any strongly alkaline material. Neutral cleaners remove soil, not floor polish, and are used for damp mopping, spot mopping, scrubbing and general floor cleaning.

#### **General Purpose Cleaner**

Stronger and more alkaline than neutral cleaners, general purpose cleaners are used in high traffic environments that might require the removal of more stubborn soils. Proper use and care should be taken as they can remove floor finish.

#### **Disinfectants**

Quaternary ammonium compounds ("quats") are commonly used disinfectants in healthcare infection control programs. For the most part, when properly used and diluted they will have little or no effect on most floor coverings. Phenolic disinfectants tend to be caustic and are corrosive enough to attack and damage floor finishes and sensitive resilient flooring.

#### Floor Sealer

Sealers, usually acrylics, are applied between the floor and the finish/polish to help fill in the pores and smooth the surface. Sealers provide a base that promotes adhesion and increases the gloss of the finish/polish that is applied over it. Some sealers also provide stain resistance.

#### Floor Polish/Finish

A temporary coating that enhances the appearance and protects the flooring surface to which it is applied. Used for protection of the floor against abrasive wear and scratches from dust, dirt, grit and debris. Also helps to protect the floor from damage caused by spills.

# **Spray Buffing Solution**

Specially formulated compound that is sprayed onto and buffed into the floor to renew the surface by filling in scratches and irregularities in the floor finish. Sometimes diluted floor finish is used.

# Floor Stripper

Strippers are a highly alkaline (pH ≥10), deep penetrating chemicals which, when properly diluted with water, loosen and remove sealers and finishes. They may also be used for the removal of heavily embedded soil.

Mop-on/mop-off strippers do not require machine scrubbing. The use of mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and/or no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors that are less than two years old, because they may affect the adhesive bond. The use of these highly solvenated or highly concentrated strippers can also be detrimental to linoleum and other specialty flooring products.

#### CLEANING THE FLOOR

# Damp Mopping/Spot Mopping

This procedure involves the removal of fine dust, grit and spills from the floor surface with a mop dampened with a neutral detergent solution. Damp-mop isolated spots and spills. Performed daily, this procedure helps to control grit and can reduce time and money spent on more intensive maintenance.

# **Wet Mopping**

A floor cleaning method, which utilizes a detergent solution to wet the floor, is used primarily to remove soils not evacuated by sweeping or dust mopping. While wet, a mildly abrasive tool, such as a cotton or sponge mop, is used to agitate the surface. If required, rinse the floor thoroughly after washing it.

## Scrubbing

Washing a floor by wetting it with detergent solution, then using a moderately abrasive nonwoven pad or appropriate brush, either by hand or attached to a low-speed floor machine, to vigorously agitate the wet surface. This procedure is used when a floor is heavily soiled, and less-aggressive cleaning methods have been unsuccessful. Always rinse thoroughly after scrubbing.

# Rinsing

The process of removing residual cleaning/stripping solutions using clean, cool water. Change rinse water frequently. When performing a stripping procedure it may take multiple rinsings.

#### Wet Vacuuming

Using a vacuum cleaner designed to pick up aqueous solutions. It is particularly useful when scrubbing, stripping or rinsing a floor.

# STRIPPING THE FLOOR

Stripping is the process of removing existing layers of old site-applied sealers and/or finishes from the flooring surface. A standard stripping chemical is diluted and applied to the floor with a mop or solution applicator and allowed to dwell. This solution penetrates the finish and re-emulsifies it into a semi-liquid state. Abrasive agitation is needed to completely remove the finish using a floor machine.

# **Stripping Tips:**

- Proper dilution is critical to optimum performance.
- Stripping solutions for linoleum should not exceed a pH of 10.
- Stripping of newly installed Armstrong floors is not required nor recommended.
- This process is performed in the restorative stage of the maintenance life cycle and should only be performed when routine daily/periodic procedures are no longer effective.
- Stripping is used primarily with the Polish maintenance option.
- When using the spray buffing maintenance option, stripping may become necessary with the long-term build-up of spray buff solution (polish).
- Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor as it will become more difficult to remove. Failure to completely remove stripping solution residue may result in inadequate bonding of the floor finishes.
- Drizzling fresh, clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with more thorough removal.
- The proper use of quality maintenance products and adherence to a well-planned maintenance program will greatly reduce the need for stripping.

NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub/no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.

#### POLISHING/FINISHING THE FLOOR

There are three primary reasons for polishing a floor:

#### **Protection**

Polish will protect the flooring from the damaging effects of abrasive wear, the embedment of soils, many stains and the leaching effect of frequent cleaning.

# **Appearance**

The use of floor polish (finish) will impart an enhanced appearance and provide a uniform gloss.

#### **Ease of Maintenance**

The use of polish may allow for the floor to be more easily cleaned.

High-quality, water-based acrylic polishes are the most commonly used type of field-applied finishes for protecting and enhancing commercial resilient floors. Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish, designed for durability and resistance to detergent solutions (except stripping solutions), offers a broad-spectrum response to a variety of maintenance procedures and equipment. There are numerous types of floor polishes available, so it is important that they are properly selected to match the maintenance program.

# NOTE: Static Dissipative Tile requires the use of Armstrong S-392 SDT Polish.

Maintaining an acceptable gloss level is achieved by buffing, spray-buffing or burnishing.

Supplemental coats of polish should be applied as appearance and gloss level dictate. To maintain optimal appearance and protection in high traffic and high soil areas (such as lobbies, chair-slide areas in classrooms and cafeterias, elevators, supermarket checkout lanes, etc.), polish may need to be applied more frequently to maintain the minimum protective layer.

#### NOTES:

- 1. Prior to the application of floor polish all dust, dirt, grit and debris must be removed.
- 2. Always allow adequate drying time between coats. Normally, drying takes 30-45 minutes depending on the polish and site temperature, humidity and air circulation conditions.
- 3. Generally, no more than four coats of finish should be applied in twenty-four hours.
- 4. If a sealer is recommended or required, it must be applied before the polish. (See Sealing The Floor.)

#### SEALING THE FLOOR

Generally, sealing a floor is optional. Sealers are usually used on older floors to improve maintenance characteristics and on floors where additional stain resistance is desired. Sealers may also promote adhesion. However, if the polish manufacturer recommends the use of a sealer, that recommendation should be followed.

Generally two coats of a sealer are sufficient to provide the desired protection. Sealers by themselves are generally not recommended as a walking surface. They must be top coated with a floor polish. Resilient flooring sealers are generally applied by the same techniques used when applying floor polishes.

Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer is designed to provide a proper base for S-480 Commercial Polish, as well as offer the added benefit of increased stain resistance.

# **BUFFING TECHNIQUES**

Buffing is the process of making the flooring surface smooth and glossy by friction. Care must be taken to combine the proper pads or brushes with the proper machine speed and the recommended polish or finish to produce the desired result. The rpm of buffing machines and the selection of pads or brushes should be as recommended by the polish/finish/pad or brush manufacturer. Different types of buffing techniques include:

# Spray-Buffing

Spray buffing is the process of applying and buffing the floor with a specially formulated spray buffing solution. This procedure is especially useful in high traffic areas. The solution is sprayed on the floor and then immediately buffed with a machine until dry. This process levels and fills scratches and reduces the need for stripping while enhancing the floor's gloss level. Depending on the finish and the floor, spray buffing is performed at machine speeds of 175 to 1000 rpm.

#### Dry-Buffing/Burnishing

The process of buffing a clean, dry flooring surface with a machine. Dry-buffing will restore or increase gloss; however, care must be taken to avoid damaging the surface. Conventional dry-buffing is typically done at 175-1500 rpm. Ultra High Speed (UHS) burnishing is a similar process with typical machine speeds of 2000 rpm or higher.

#### **EQUIPMENT**

#### Floor Machines

#### **Automatic Floor Machines**

- Self-contained machine that dispenses, scrubs and takes up cleaning solution in a single-pass operation.
- Typically electric or battery powered.
- Single or multiple disks.
- Riding, robotic or walk-behind.
- 175-300 rpm range.
- Typically used for cleaning and scrubbing.

## Single-disc Floor Machine

- Manually operated swing machine.
- Used for scrubbing, buffing and stripping.
- Comes in various sizes (13" to 23" disc).
- Typically 175 rpm.
- Usually electric.

# High-Speed Buffers

- Typically used for buffing and spray-buffing.
- Typical speeds 300 to 1100 rpm.
- Range in size from 13" to 23"

# Ultra High Speed Buffer/Burnisher

- Used for quick buffing and burnishing, thereby reducing labor costs.
- Usually a single-disc.
- Operate in the 1100- to 2000-plus rpm range.
- Propane, battery or electric.
- Various sizes.

#### Wet-vac

- A vacuum cleaner that picks up maintenance solutions.
- Typically used when scrubbing or stripping a floor with a single disc swing machine.
- Unlike an automatic machine, this would be done in a separate operation.

#### **Machine Pads**

- A nonwoven nylon, polyester, or natural fiber disc up to 1"thick. Each disc has various types and sizes of intertwined fibers, some of which may have grit particles bound to fiber on the surface.
- For scrubbing, stripping, buffing.
- Coarseness of the pad determines its use: least coarse for buffing, with increasing coarseness for scrubbing and stripping. Pads are color-coded to designate their coarseness and use. Lighter-color pads tend to be less abrasive, with darker color pads being the most abrasive. Pad manufacturers generally follow these guidelines:
  - Natural fiber burnishing
  - White polishing
  - Beige buffing
  - Red spray-buffing and light scrubbing
  - Blue/Green (medium abrasive) scrubbing and stripping
  - Brown (extremely abrasive not recommended for Armstrong resilient flooring)
  - Black (extremely abrasive not recommended for Armstrong resilient flooring)

#### **Machine Brushes**

- Used as an alternative to pads.
- A circular brush with bristles of varying stiffness and abrasiveness, depending on whether it's to be used for scrubbing, buffing or stripping. Bristles are made of natural or synthetic fibers or grit-impregnated nylon.
- Always follow brush manufacturer's guidelines for choosing the floor machine brush with the appropriate stiffness and abrasiveness.
- Advantageous on embossed surfaces and slip resistant flooring.

#### Mops

### **Dust Mops**

- Used under dry conditions for the removal of loose surface soil, grit and dirt.
- Available in widths from 12" to 72".
- Alternatives include vacuums, brushes and brooms.

## Wet Mops

- Available in various sizes (16oz, 20oz, 24oz, 32oz, etc.).
- Usually cotton, rayon or blends of cotton, rayon or other synthetics.
- Looped end or cut end.
- Used in wet methods for the application and removal of maintenance solutions and rinse water.

# Specialty Mops

• T-shirt, chamois for use on slip-retardant products.

# Finish Mops

- Designed to absorb, release and spread floor finishes (polish).
- May be cotton, rayon, blends or microfiber.

## Microfiber Mops

- Composed of tiny (micro) fibers which provide more surface area.
- Used for cleaning and/or finish application.
- Use less maintenance solution than traditional mops.
- Longer product life compared to traditional mops.

#### PETROLEUM AND ANTIOXIDANT STAINING

Antioxidants used in the manufacture of rubber, as well as petroleum from exterior asphalt sealants and/or spills tracked in on shoes and casters may cause permanent discoloration to any resilient floor. The stain gradually appears over time. The use of a polish/finish will help minimize these types of stains.

#### **SPILLS**

Clean up spills as soon as they occur to minimize slip and fall potential, impact on health, environment and the floor. Use the proper cleaning solutions; use only what is necessary and dispose of solution properly. Ensure occupants know whom to contact if a spill occurs.

#### STAIN REMOVAL

Stains should always be removed as soon as possible in order to prevent or minimize permanent discoloration. Use the least aggressive cleaner possible (water, neutral cleaner, etc.). More stubborn stains may require the use of a general purpose cleaner or a floor stripper. (For Linoleum, any maintenance solutions must be 10 pH or less.)

# Commercial Floor Care Products Chart

Product	Uses	Dilution Range	Spread Rate	Selection		
S-392 Static Dissipative Tile Polish	EXCELON® SDT® Static Dissipative Tile		1,500 – 2,000 sq. ft./gallon	1-gallon container	TO AND THE PARTY OF THE PARTY O	
Features		Benefits				
Metal cross-linked acrylic co-polymer that dries bright		Helps floor keep its shine, even after repeated cleanings				
Can damp mo	op or spray buff		Added flexibility for increased convenience			
Does not requ	Does not require buffing		Save time and money			
Strips easily		Save more time and money				
Pleasant fragrance		No harsh chemical odors				
Meets the ASTM D2047 Standard for slip resistance on dry floors		Can be used in a commercial setting				

Product	Uses	Dilution Range	Spread Rate	Selection	
S-480 Commercial Floor Polish	<ul> <li>All Armstrong commercial vinyl floor coverings except SAFEGUARD™, SAFEGUARD Spa™ and EXCELON SDT™</li> <li>Asphalt and rubber tile</li> <li>Linoleum</li> <li>Ceramic – although not of much value on glazed ceramic</li> <li>Slate and terrazzo, although other products are designed for better results</li> <li>DO NOT USE FOR: Wood and marble</li> </ul>		1,500 – 2,000 sq. ft./gallon coat depending on surface characteristics of floor	1-gallon 5-gallon	Ametrong Roor Polish
Features		Benefits			
Metal cross-lir	nked acrylic co-polymer		Helps floor keep its	shine, even at	fter repeated cleanings
High durability	,		Long lasting protection		
18% solids			Easy application and excellent leveling		
Dries bright	Dries bright		Helps for areas where buffing is not applicable or desired		
Excellent buffing response		For spray-buffing repairs or high-speed burning programs (up to 2,000 rpms)			
Readily strippa	Readily strippable with S-490 Commercial Stripper		Compatible products for increased convenience		
Meets the ASTM D2047 Standard for slip resistance on dry floors		Designed for use in	a commercia	l setting	

Product	Uses	Dilution Range	Spread Rate	Selection	
S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner	Vinyl Linoleum Terrazzo, ceramic and brick DO NOT USE FOR: Wood or cork	Up to 64:1		1-gallon 5-gallon	Ameteorg Floor Deaner
Features		Benefits			
Neutral floor cleaner		Less harsh than competitive cleaners			
High efficiency		Allows dilution as low as 64 : 1			
For damp-mopping and moderate to heavy scrubbing		Added flexibility for increased convenience			
Won't strip polish		Great for cleaning between polishing treatments			
Pleasant fragrance		No harsh chemical odor			
Low foaming formula		Great for automation	floor machine	es	

Product	Uses	Dilution Range	Spread Rate	Selection	
S-490 Commercial Floor Stripper	<ul> <li>Any commercial vinyl requiring polish</li> <li>Terrazzo, ceramic and brick</li> <li>Rubber – allowable but rubber usually doesn't require stripping and once done, it is difficult to restore gloss</li> <li>DO NOT USE FOR: Linoleum, Wood, Marble or Cork</li> </ul>	1:3		1-gallon 5-gallon	Amatrong Floor Stripper

Features	Benefits
Strips efficiently without the need for the use of highly aggressive type floor machine pads or brushes that can damage vinyl floors	Save time and cost & reduce hassle
Strips and cleans at the same time & rinses easily	Added convenience
Softens layers of old polish in just 5 minutes	Save time
Does not contain large amounts of potentially floor-damaging solvents. Contains no ammonia	Allows for use on all commercial vinyl floors
Low solvent and low odor	Low odor

Product	Uses	Dilution Range	Spread Rate	Selection	
S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer	Commercial resilient flooring		1,500 - 2,000 sq. ft./gallon/coat	1-gallon 5-gallon	Armstrong Floor Scaler
Features		Benefits			
Stain resistant		Protects porous or well-worn floor surfaces			
Water-based acrylic emulsion		Provides an excellent base for S-480 Commercial Floo Polish		480 Commercial Floor	
16% solids		For easy application and excellent leveling		t leveling	
Semi-permanent		Resistance to conventional polish stripping		stripping	
High durability		Long lasting protection			

# **Commercial Resilient Maintenance**

		Maintenance Options				
Product	Factory Finish	Polish	No Polish -Low Maintenance Options			Pads or Brushes
	1 111311	Polish	Spray Buff	Dry Buff	No Buff	Brasiles
Linoleum with NATURCote™						
MARMORETTE™, COLORETTE™, LINORETTE™, GRANETTE™, UNI WALTON™	Urethane	1	1			Either
Heterogeneous Vinyl Sheet						
PERSPECTIVES®, TIMBERLINE®, TRANSLATIONS™	Urethane	1	/		1	Brushes Recommended
Light Commercial Vinyl Sheet						
ABODE™	Urethane	✓	✓			Brushes Recommended
Homogeneous Vinyl Sheet						
MEDINTECH®, MEDINTONE™, MEDLEY™, ROYAL, SOLID	Urethane	1	1	1		Either
Inlaid Vinyl Sheet						
MEDINTECH Tandem®, POSSIBILITIES®, Connection CORLON®	Urethane	1	1	1		Either
Luxury Vinyl Tile						
NATURAL CREATIONS®	Urethane	✓	✓		✓	Brushes Recommended
Vinyl Composition Tile						
ARTEFFECTS®, Companion Square®, Stonetex®, MultiColor™, Imperial® Texture, Rave®, Feature™ Tile/Strips	Acrylic	1				Either
Specialty Flooring						
SAFEGUARD™, SAFEGUARD Spa™	None	Notes 1 & 2				Brushes Recommended
SAFETY ZONE™	Acrylic	✓ Notes 2 & 3				Brushes Recommended
SDT™ (Static Dissipative Tile)	Acrylic	✓ Note 4				Either
RUBBER TILE	None		1			Brushes Recommended

# See individual product pages for specific maintenance recommendations

**Note 1:** Because SAFEGUARD and SAFEGUARD Spa are designed for slip retardance, floor polish is not recommended. Most floor polishes will adversely affect the slip-retardant properties. These products can be maintained using traditional dry mopping, wet mopping and scrubbing procedures. They should not be buffed or burnished.

Note 2: Due to the textured surfaces and abrasive nature of these products, the use of scrubbing brushes is highly recommended. Do not use stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes as they may damage the floor.

**Note 3:** The uniquely textured surface of SAFETY ZONE requires that close attention be paid to maintenance. Using conventional commercial floor finishes makes maintenance of the embossed surface easier. Do not use too much floor finish because it will reduce the slip-retardant characteristics of the tile's surface.

Note 4: Use only Armstrong S-392 Static Dissipative Polish. Using other polishes or sealers may interfere with the electrical properties.

# **Maintenance Recommendations**

# Linoleum Sheet with NATURcote™

## MARMORETTE™ | GRANETTE™ | COLORETTE™ | LINORETTE™ | UNI WALTON™

The above products are manufactured with a protective urethane finish that provides improved maintenance characteristics and maintenance options for the end-user.

#### For Best Results:

- Wipe a narrow band of a protective finish on heat welded seams. When using one of the No Polish Options, it may be necessary to periodically recoat the welded seam.
- Maintenance solutions used on linoleum should not exceed a pH of 10 because linoleum is made primarily of natural raw materials (linseed oil, cork, jute and natural resins). The use of highly alkaline or solvenated solutions or abrasive materials may damage linoleum. Do not use Armstrong® S-490 Commercial Floor Stripper on linoleum.
- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least four days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond and/or seam treatments.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes or stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes on Armstrong® resilient flooring.
- If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

# A. Initial Maintenance and Preparation for Commercial Traffic





- 1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit and debris.
- 2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on the container.





3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.





4. If necessary machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing pad (red for light scrub, blue/green for a deep scrub) or equivalent brushes. NOTE: If the floor will be maintained with the Polish Option, the floor must be scrubbed with a floor machine fitted with a red scrubbing pad (3M red or equal).



5. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.

Having completed Steps 1-5 under Initial Maintenance, choose a maintenance option based on your evaluation of the factors listed under "How to Determine Your Maintenance Program" (see page 3) and proceed as directed below.

6. Maintenance options:



 Polish Option – apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. In areas where the flooring will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents, the application of a stain resistant sealer such as Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer, prior to the application of polish, is recommended.



• **Spray Buff Option** – spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution.

# B. Daily/Regular Maintenance







1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.



2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.





3. Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis, depending upon traffic and soil levels in the space. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

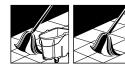
# C. Periodic Maintenance







1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing pad (red for light scrub, blue/green for a deep scrub) or equivalent brushes.



2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.







- 3. Based on the selected maintenance option above, do one of the following:
  - If maintaining with the **Polish Option** and a sufficient base (3 to 5 coats) of polish remains, buff, spray-buff or burnish to restore gloss. If needed, additional coats of floor polish may be applied at this time.



• If maintaining with the **Spray Buffing Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution. This may be followed by dry buffing with a white pad.

NOTE: Use only stripping chemicals designed for use on linoleum (10 pH or less). Do not use Armstrong® S-490 Commercial Floor Stripper on linoleum.





 Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly to floor with mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet if necessary.



2. Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent scrub brush to break up the polish film. **Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.** 





3. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. **TIP: Drizzling** fresh, clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with more thorough removal.







Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.



- 5. Based on the selected maintenance option above, do one of the following:
  - If maintaining with the **Polish Option** apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish.



• If maintaining with the **Spray Buffing Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution. This may be followed by dry buffing with a white pad.

# Linoleum Color Change

"Drying room yellowing," sometimes referred to as "seasoning bloom," "drying room film" or "stove yellowing," is a natural phenomenon that occurs during the manufacturing process of all linoleum. As linoleum cures in the drying room, a yellowish cast may develop on the surface due to the oxidation of the linseed oil. This is not a product defect. Any change in the product's appearance because of this yellow cast is temporary and disappears after exposure to either natural or artificial light. The time required for the yellow cast to disappear ranges from a few hours to several weeks depending on the type and intensity of the light source. Typically, the yellow cast disappears more quickly with exposure to natural light. The application of floor finishes will not interfere with the dissipation of the yellow cast. Disappearance of the yellow cast will not occur on areas not exposed to light.

# BioBased Tile®

#### **MIGRATIONS®**

Armstrong® commercial BioBased Tile is coated with the Fast Start Factory Finish. Fortunately, the Fast Start Factory Finish makes initial maintenance quick and easy and does not require removal after installation. It is compatible with commercial floor polishes such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish and reduces the need to strip the tile. BioBased Tile requires polishing for protection, ease of maintenance and an attractive overall appearance.

#### For Best Results:

- When performing wet maintenance always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least four days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond.
- The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes or stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.
- If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

# A. Initial Maintenance - Immediately After Installation







- Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit and debris.
- 2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on the container.





3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.



4. Apply a minimum of two coats of a high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish to temporarily protect the floor until regular maintenance procedures can begin. The use of a high-quality stain-resistant sealer such as Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer beneath the polish should be considered in areas of high traffic, high soil load and areas where staining potential is high.

## A. Initial Maintenance - Preparation for Commercial Traffic





1. Machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and a scrubbing pad (3M blue/green or equal), or equivalent brushes. If the floor is badly soiled and/or scratched, strip it using the same procedure but substituting a properly diluted stripping solution such as Armstrong S-490 Commercial Floor Stripper. NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.



2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.



3. Apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. If the floor has been stripped, the application of a stain resistant sealer such as Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer, prior to the application of polish, is recommended in areas that will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents.

#### B. Daily/Regular Maintenance







1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.



2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.





 Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis depending upon traffic and soil levels in the space. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

#### C. Periodic Maintenance







1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing pad (red for light scrub, blue/green for a deep scrub) or equivalent brushes.





2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.





3. If there is sufficient (3 to 5 coats) polish remaining on the floor, buff, spray buff or burnish to restore gloss.



4. If needed, additional coats of floor polish may be applied at this time.

# D. Restorative Maintenance - Stripping

NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.





 Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly on floor with mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet if necessary.





 Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent scrub brush to break up the polish film. Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.





3. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. TIP: Drizzling fresh, clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with more thorough removal.





Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.



5. Apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. The use of a high-quality stain-resistant sealer such as S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer beneath the polish should be considered in areas of high traffic, high soil load and areas where staining potential is high.

# **Luxury Solid Vinyl**

## NATURAL CREATIONS® - ArborArt® | EarthCuts® | Mystix®

NATURAL CREATIONS tile are manufactured with a protective urethane finish that provides improved maintenance characteristics and maintenance options for the end-user.

#### For Best Results:

- When performing wet maintenance always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least four days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond.
- The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.
- Do not dry buff or burnish the unpolished surface of NATURAL CREATIONS. Floors which are to be dry buffed or high-speed burnished should have a sufficient base of polish (5-7 coats). Floors must also be clean and dry before burnishing. Any residual soil on the floor before burnishing will be ground into the finish, resulting in discoloration.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes or stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

#### NO POLISH, NO BUFFING MAINTENANCE SYSTEM

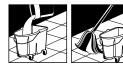
# A. Initial Maintenance and Preparation for Commercial Traffic



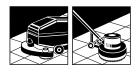




- Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit and debris.
- 2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on the container.



3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.



4. If necessary, scrub the floor using a rotary machine or auto scrubber with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing brushes.



5. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow floor to dry completely.

# B. On-going - Daily / Regular Maintenance







1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.



2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.





3. Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis, depending upon traffic and soil levels in the space. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

#### C. Periodic Maintenance







 When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing pad (red for light scrub, blue/green for a deep scrub) or equivalent brushes.



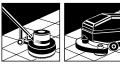


2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow floor to dry completely.

#### **ALTERNATIVE MAINTENANCE OPTIONS**

Recognizing that some end-users may prefer other maintenance options, these products may also be maintained using floor polish (finish) or without polish using spray buffing procedures as described below.

# 1. Polish Option









- After completing Steps 1 and 2 under Initial Maintenance, scrub the floor using a rotary machine or auto scrubber with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and a red scrubbing pad or equivalent brush. This will promote polish adhesion.
- Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow floor to dry completely.
- Apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. In areas where the flooring will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents, the application of a stain resistant sealer such as Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer, prior to the application of polish, is recommended.
- Regular and Periodic Maintenance should be performed as described above in Sections B and C.
- As needed, additional coats of floor polish may be applied. Additional coats should only be applied after scrubbing as described in Section C -Periodic Maintenance, above.

# 2. Spray Buff Option









- After completing Steps 1 and 2 above under Initial Maintenance, scrub the floor using a rotary machine or auto scrubber with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and a red scrubbing pad or equivalent brush.
- Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow floor to dry completely.
- Spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution.
- Regular and Periodic Maintenance should be performed as described above in Sections B and C.
- Spray buffing should only be conducted after scrubbing as described in Section C - Periodic Maintenance, on previous page.

NOTE: For the above two options, at some point it may become necessary to remove polish build-up by stripping the floor. The use of high-quality maintenance products such as Armstrong commercial floor care products and adherence to a well-planned maintenance program will greatly reduce the need for stripping. Should stripping become necessary, follow the procedures outlined below.

## D. Stripping

NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.





 Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly on floor with mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet if necessary.





2. Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent scrub brush to break up the polish film. **Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.** 





3. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. **TIP: Drizzling** fresh clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with more thorough removal.





4. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.



- 5. Based on the selected maintenance option above, do one of the following:
  - If maintaining with the **Polish Option** apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish.



• If maintaining with the **Spray Buffing Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution.

# Heterogeneous Sheet and Tile

TRANSLATIONS™ I PERSPECTIVES® (Sheet and Tile) I TIMBERLINE®

TRANSLATIONS, PERSPECTIVES and TIMBERLINE are manufactured with a protective urethane finish that provides improved maintenance characteristics and maintenance options for the end-user.

#### For Best Results:

- Wipe a narrow band of a protective finish on heat welded seams. When using one of the No Polish Options, it may be necessary to periodically recoat the welded seam.
- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least four days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond.
- The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on PERSPECTIVES tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.
- Do not dry buff or burnish the unpolished surface. Floors which are to be dry buffed or high-speed burnished should have a sufficient base of polish (5-7 coats). Floors must also be clean and dry before burnishing. Any residual soil present while burnishing will be ground into the finish, resulting in discoloration.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes or stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

# NO POLISH, NO BUFFING MAINTENANCE SYSTEM

# A. Initial Maintenance and Preparation for Commercial Traffic







- Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit and debris.
- 2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on the container.





3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.



4. If necessary, scrub the floor using a rotary machine or auto scrubber with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing brushes.



5. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow floor to dry completely.

# B. On-Going - Daily/Regular Maintenance







1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.



2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.





 Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis depending upon traffic and soil levels in the space. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

# C. Periodic Maintenance







1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing brushes.



2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow floor to dry completely.

#### **ALTERNATIVE MAINTENANCE OPTIONS**

Recognizing that some end users may prefer other maintenance options these products may also be maintained using floor polish (finish) or without polish using spray buffing procedures as described below.

# 1. Polish Option









- After completing Steps 1 and 2 under Initial Maintenance, scrub the floor using a rotary machine or auto scrubber with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and a red scrubbing pad or equivalent brush. This will promote polish adhesion.
- Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow floor to dry completely.
- Apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. In areas where the flooring will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents, the application of a stain resistant sealer such as Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer, prior to the application of polish, is recommended.
- Regular and Periodic Maintenance should be performed as described above in Sections B and C.
- As needed, additional coats of floor polish may be applied. Additional coats should only be applied after scrubbing as described in Section C – Periodic Maintenance, above.

# 2. Spray Buff Option









- After completing Steps 1 and 2 under Initial Maintenance, scrub the floor using a rotary machine or auto scrubber with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and a red scrubbing pad or equivalent brush.
- Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow floor to dry completely.
- Spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution.
- Regular and Periodic Maintenance should be performed as described above in Sections B and C.
- Spray buffing should only be conducted after scrubbing as described in Section C Periodic Maintenance.

NOTE: For the above two options, at some point it may become necessary to remove polish build-up by stripping the floor. The use of high-quality maintenance products such as Armstrong commercial floor care products and adherence to a well-planned maintenance program will greatly reduce the need for stripping. Should stripping become necessary, follow the procedures outlined below.

## D. Stripping

NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.





 Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly on floor with mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet if necessary.



2. Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent scrub brush to break up the polish film. **Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.** 





3. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. **TIP: Drizzling** fresh clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with more thorough removal.



4. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.



- 5. Based on the selected maintenance option above, do one of the following:
  - If maintaining with the **Polish Option** apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish.



• If maintaining with the **Spray Buffing Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution.

# **Light Commercial**

#### ABODE™

ABODE is designed to be maintained by traditional residential and light-commercial resilient flooring maintenance options. These maintenance procedures are listed below. Select the maintenance procedure for your installation only after careful consideration as to its residential or light commercial end-use application. Following are some examples of end-use applications and their recommended maintenance procedures.

Market	Application	Recommended Maintenance Procedures
Military Housing & Assisted Living	Kitchens Bathrooms Residence Rooms Activity Rooms Group Dining Areas Corridors	Residential or Commercial Residential or Commercial Residential or Commercial Commercial Commercial Commercial Commercial
Hospitality	Guest Rooms Guest Bathrooms	Residential or Commercial Residential or Commercial
Light Commercial	Doctor/Dentist Office Beauty Salon/Barber Shop Daycare Areas	Commercial Commercial Commercial

#### **Residential Maintenance Procedures**

Take a few moments to review some very important information that will help assure a longer, more attractive life for your floor.

#### For Best Results:

- Do not use detergents, abrasive cleaners or "mop and shine" products they may leave a dull film on your floor.
- Do not use paste wax or solvent-based polishes.
- Do not use a beater bar when vacuuming because it can damage the floor surface.
- Do not use highly abrasive scrubbing tools.
- Do not wash, scrub or strip the floor for at least four days after installation. This prevents excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond and/or seam treatments.
- If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.
- Use floor protectors, such as Armstrong Floor Protectors, on furniture to reduce indentation. As a general rule of thumb, the heavier the item, the wider the floor protector needed.
- Rolling casters can damage the floor. Therefore, we do not recommend them. If you choose to use them, the double wheel types are the best option.
- Place a walk-off mat at outside entrances to reduce the amount of dirt brought into your home. We do not recommend the use of rubber- or latex-backed mats because the chemical (antioxidant) used to keep the backing from becoming brittle can permanently stain your floor. We suggest a non-staining vinyl-backed mat or a woven rug that is colorfast. Most of these products are identified "colorfast" by the manufacturer. All Armstrong floor care products have been specifically developed to care for Armstrong floors. You may purchase Armstrong floor care products at your local flooring retailer.

#### A. Initial Maintenance

1. For 8 hours after seam application, protect the sealed seams on your flooring. This will ensure the proper seam bond. If your seams are disturbed before they're dry, permanent damage may result.







- 2. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit and debris.
- 3. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on container.



4. Damp mop with a properly diluted detergent solution such as Armstrong® Once 'n Done® Resilient & Ceramic Floor Cleaner.

# B. Continuing Regular Maintenance







- Sweep, dust mop or vacuum thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit and debris. When vacuuming, use a non-powered wand attachment to avoid damaging the floor's surface.
- 2. Wipe up spills as soon as possible. Remove dried spills with Armstrong New Beginning® Resilient Deep Cleaning Floor Stripper on a clean white cloth.



3. Wash the floor regularly with properly diluted Armstrong Once 'n Done Resilient & Ceramic Floor Cleaner.



4. Use Armstrong New Beginning Resilient Deep Cleaning Floor Stripper for ground-in dirt.



5. Use Armstrong Shinekeeper® Resilient Floor Finish to restore a like-new appearance if the floor is dulled from soap-based detergents, abrasive cleaners or "mop and shine" products.

# LIGHT COMMERCIAL

#### ABODE™

#### LIGHT COMMERCIAL MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES

#### For Best Results:

- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least four days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond.
- Do not dry buff or burnish the surface.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes or stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

# A. Initial Maintenance and Preparation for Light Commercial Traffic







- 1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit and debris.
- 2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on the container.





3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.





4. If necessary machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing pad (red for light scrub, blue/green for a deep scrub) or equivalent brushes. NOTE: If the floor will be maintained with the Polish Option, the floor must be scrubbed with a floor machine fitted with a red scrubbing pad (3M red or equal).



5. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.

Having completed Steps 1-5 under Initial Maintenance, choose a maintenance option based on your evaluation of the factors listed under "How to Determine Your Maintenance Program" (see page 3) and proceed as directed.

6. Maintenance options:





- Polish Option apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. In areas where the flooring will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents, the application of a stain resistant sealer such as Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer, prior to the application of polish, is recommended.
- **Spray Buff Option** spray buff the floor using a spray buff solution and the appropriate pad.

# B. Daily/Regular Maintenance







1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.



2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.





3. Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis depending upon traffic and soil levels in the space. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

## C. Periodic Maintenance







1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing pad (red for light scrub, blue/green for a deep scrub) or equivalent brushes.





2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.



- 3. Based on the selected maintenance option above, do one of the following:
  - If maintaining with the **Polish Option** additional coats of floor polish may be applied at this time.



• If maintaining with the **Spray Buffing Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution. This may be followed by dry buffing with a white pad to increase the gloss.

# D. Restorative Maintenance - Stripping





 Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly on floor with mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet as necessary.





2. Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent scrub brush to break up the polish film. **Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.** 





3. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. **TIP: Drizzling** fresh clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with more thorough removal.





4. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.



5. Based on the selected maintenance option above, do one of the following:





• If maintaining with the **Spray Buffing Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution. This may be followed by dry buffing with a white pad.

# Homogeneous & Inlaid Sheet

MEDINTONE™ | MEDINTECH® | MEDLEY™ | ROYAL | SOLID | MEDINTECH Tandem® | POSSIBILITIES® Petit Point™ | Connection CORLON®

The above products are manufactured with a protective urethane finish that provides improved maintenance characteristics and maintenance options for the end-user.

#### For Best Results:

- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least four days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond and/or seam treatments.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes or stiff-bristled, highly-abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

# A. Initial Maintenance and Preparation for Commercial Traffic







- 1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit and debris.
- 2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on the container.





3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.





4. If necessary machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing pad (red for light scrub, blue/green for a deep scrub) or equivalent brushes. NOTE: If the floor will be maintained with the Polish Option, the floor must be scrubbed with a floor machine fitted with a red scrubbing pad (3M red or equal).



5. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.

Having completed Steps 1-5 above, choose a maintenance option based on your evaluation of the factors listed under "How to Determine Your Maintenance Program" (see page 3) and proceed as directed on the next page.

6. Maintenance options:



 Polish Option – apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. In areas where the flooring will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents, the application of a stain resistant sealer such as Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer, prior to the application of polish, is recommended.



• **Spray Buff Option** – spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution.



• Dry Buff Option – dry buff (maximum 1500 rpm) with the appropriate pad until the desired luster is achieved. If a higher gloss is desired, the application of a suitable floor finish is recommended.

# B. Daily/Regular Maintenance







1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.



2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.





3. Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis depending upon traffic and soil levels in the space. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

#### C. Periodic Maintenance







1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing pad (red for light scrub, blue/green for a deep scrub) or equivalent brushes.



2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.







- 3. Based on the selected maintenance option above, do one of the following:
  - If maintaining with the **Polish Option** and a sufficient base (3 to 5 coats) of polish remains, buff, spray-buff or burnish to restore gloss. If needed, additional coats of floor polish may be applied at this time.



• If maintaining with the **Spray Buffing Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution. This may be followed by dry buffing with a white pad.



If maintaining with the Dry Buff Option, dry buff (maximum 1500 rpm)
with the appropriate pad until the desired luster is achieved. If a higher
gloss is desired, the application of a suitable floor finish is
recommended.

# D. Restorative Maintenance - Stripping





 Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly to floor with mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet if necessary.





2. Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent scrub brush to break up the polish film. **Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.** 





3. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. **TIP: Drizzling** fresh, clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with more thorough removal.



4. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.



5. Based on the selected maintenance option above, do one of the following:





• If maintaining with the **Spray Buffing Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution. This may be followed by dry buffing with a white pad.



• If maintaining with the **Dry Buff Option**, dry buff (maximum 1500 rpm) with the appropriate pad until the desired luster is achieved. **If a higher gloss is desired, the application of a suitable floor finish is recommended.** 

# Vinyl Composition Tile

**ARTEFFECTS®** 

EXCELON®: | Stonetex® | Companion Square® | Feature™ Tile/Strips Standard EXCELON®: | MultiColor™ | Imperial® Texture | RAVE®

Armstrong® commercial vinyl composition tile is coated with the Fast Start Factory Finish. Fortunately, the Fast Start Factory Finish makes initial maintenance quick and easy and does not require removal after installation. It is compatible with commercial floor polishes such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish and reduces the need to strip the tile. Vinyl Composition Tile requires polishing for protection, ease of maintenance and an attractive overall appearance.

#### For Best Results:

- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least four days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond.
- The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes or stiff-bristled, highly-abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

# A. Initial Maintenance - Immediately After Installation







- 1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit and debris.
- 2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on the container.





3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.



4. Apply a minimum of two coats of a high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish to temporarily protect the floor until regular maintenance procedures can begin. The use of a high-quality stain-resistant sealer such as Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer beneath the polish should be considered in areas of high traffic, high soil load and areas where staining potential is high.

# A. Initial Maintenance - Preparation for Commercial Traffic





1. Machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and a scrubbing pad (3M blue/green or equal), or equivalent brushes. If the floor is badly soiled and/or scratched, strip it using the same procedure but substituting a properly diluted stripping solution such as Armstrong S-490 Commercial Floor Stripper. NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.



2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.



3. Apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. If the floor has been stripped, the application of a stain resistant sealer such as Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer, prior to the application of polish, is recommended in areas that will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents.

# B. Daily/Regular Maintenance







1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.



2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.





 Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis depending upon traffic and soil levels in the space. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

## C. Periodic Maintenance







1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing pad (red for light scrub, blue/green for a deep scrub) or equivalent brushes.



Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.





3. If there is sufficient (3 to 5 coats) polish remaining on the floor, buff, spray buff or burnish to restore gloss.



4. If needed, additional coats of floor polish may be applied at this time.

### D. Restorative Maintenance - Stripping

NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.





 Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly to floor with mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet if necessary.



2. Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent scrub brush to break up the polish film. **Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.** 





3. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. **TIP: Drizzling** fresh clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with more thorough removal.



4. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.



5. Apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong® S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. The use of a high-quality stain-resistant sealer such as S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer beneath the polish should be considered in areas of high traffic, high soil load and areas where staining potential is high.

# **Special Considerations**

**FEATURE TILE™:** Feature Tile, like solid-colored floors of any composition, shows scratches and soiling more readily than patterned materials. They have been designed for use as decorative bands, borders and spot accent colors in combination with other Armstrong 1/8″ Standard EXCELON® and EXCELON® Tile. Feature Tile is not suitable for us as an overall floor color and is not recommended for this use. When first installed, the plain-colored surface may reveal a light dusty or powdery film and some directional surface markings. These are common to the production of this type of product, but the markings will be eliminated with regular cleaning and polishing, and they will not affect the performance of the floor.

**STONETEX®:** Although Stonetex presents a monolithic or solid-colored image, the speckled pattern enables it to look better longer than Feature Tile or other non-patterned vinyl composition tile. Stonetex may require more frequent maintenance than a typical vinyl composition tile with a more prominent pattern.

# Slip-Retardant Sheet

### SAFEGUARD™ | SAFEGUARD Spa™

Because SAFEGUARD and SAFEGUARD Spa are designed for slip retardance, floor polish is not recommended. Most floor polishes will adversely affect the slip-retardant properties of these floors. They should not be buffed or burnished.

#### For Best Results:

- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not use floor polish to increase the gloss of this floor. Applying polish will adversely affect its slip-retardant characteristics.
- SAFEGUARD and SAFEGUARD Spa's uniquely textured surfaces require close attention be paid to maintenance.
- SAFEGUARD and SAFEGUARD Spa should be maintained with scrubbing brushes as machine pads are unable to reach into the textured surface to remove dirt, particles and residues.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes or stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least four days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond and/or seam treatments.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

# A. Initial Maintenance - Immediately After Installation







- 1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit and debris.
- 2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on the container.





3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

### A. Initial Maintenance - Preparation for Commercial Traffic







 If necessary, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing brush. Floor machine pads are unable to reach into the textured surface to remove dirt particles and residues. Do not use stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes. Their use could damage the floor.



2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.

# B. Daily/Regular Maintenance







1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.



2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.





 Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis depending upon traffic and soil levels in the space. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

### C. Periodic Maintenance







1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing pad.



2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.

# D. Restorative Maintenance - Stripping

NOTE: Stripping is the process of removing existing layers of sealer and finish and should only be performed when routine daily/periodic procedures are no longer effective. The use of high-quality maintenance products such as Armstrong® commercial floor care products and adherence to a well-planned maintenance program will greatly reduce the need for stripping.

Since floor polish is not to be used on SAFEGUARD™ and SAFEGUARD Spa™, stripping will not be required. However, stripper could be used for the removal of heavily embedded soil.

# Slip-Retardant Tile

### SAFETY ZONE™

In order to achieve slip-retardance, SAFETY ZONE flooring employs an embossed surface embedded with grit. This uniquely textured surface requires that close attention be paid to maintenance. Fortunately, the Fast Start Factory Finish makes initial maintenance quick and easy and does not require removal after installation. The ability to use conventional commercial floor polishes helps to minimize the added complication of cleaning an embossed surface. Do not use too much floor polish because it will reduce the slip retardant characteristics of the tile's surface. As a guideline, maintaining 4 to 5 coats at all times should be sufficient.

### For Best Results:

- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least four days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond.
- The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.
- SAFETY ZONE should be maintained with scrubbing brushes as machine pads are unable to reach into the textured surface to remove dirt, particles and residues.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes or stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

### A. Initial Maintenance - Immediately After Installation







- 1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit and debris.
- 2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on the container.



3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.



4. Apply a minimum of two coats of a high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong® S-480 Commercial Floor Polish to temporarily protect the floor until regular maintenance procedures can begin. The use of a high-quality stain-resistant sealer such as Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer beneath the polish should be considered in areas of high traffic, high soil load and areas where staining potential is high.

### A. Initial Maintenance - Preparation for Commercial Traffic







1. Machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and a scrubbing brush. If the floor is badly soiled and/or scratched, strip it using the same procedure but substituting a properly diluted stripping solution such as Armstrong S-490 Commercial Floor Stripper. NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.



2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.



3. Apply 2 to 3 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. If the floor has been stripped, the application of a stain resistant sealer such as Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer, prior to the application of polish, is recommended in areas that will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents.

# B. Daily/Regular Maintenance







1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.



2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.





 Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis depending upon traffic and soil levels in the space. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

# C. Periodic Maintenance







 When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing pad (red for light scrub, blue/green for a deep scrub) or equivalent brushes.



2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.



3. If needed, additional coats of floor polish may be applied at this time.

### D. Restorative Maintenance - Stripping

NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.





 Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly to floor with mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet if necessary.



2. Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent scrub brush to break up the polish film. **Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.** 





3. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. **TIP: Drizzling** fresh, clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with more thorough removal.



4. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.



5. Apply 4 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong® S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. The use of a high-quality stain-resistant sealer such as S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer beneath the polish should be considered in areas of high traffic, high soil load and areas where staining potential is high.

# **Static Dissipative Tile**

### SDT™



If electrical certification of an installation is required, do not perform any maintenance procedures or connect the grounding strips until after the certification has been completed.

SDT requires polishing for protection, ease of maintenance, appearance retention and optimum electrostatic discharge performance. USE ONLY ARMSTRONG S-392 STATIC DISSIPATIVE POLISH. Using other polishes or sealers may interfere with the electrical properties and/or the appearance of this flooring.

#### For Best Results:

- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash or machine scrub the floor for at least four days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond.
- Do not strip the floor within the first 30 days after installation as it may affect the electrical performance properties of the tile.
- Aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers should never be used on Static Dissipative Tile as they may affect the product's electrical performance.
- Excessive and/or prolonged exposure to surface liquid may interfere with the bond of SDT to the subfloor. If a surface spill does occur, it must be contained and removed immediately.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes or stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

# A. Initial Maintenance - Immediately After Installation







- 1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit and debris.
- 2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on the container.





3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.



4. Apply a minimum of three coats of Armstrong S-392 Static Dissipative Polish to temporarily protect the floor until regular maintenance procedures can begin.

### A. Initial Maintenance - Preparation for Commercial Traffic







1. Machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and a scrubbing pad (3M blue/green or equal), or equivalent brushes. If the floor is badly soiled and/or scratched, strip it using the same procedure but substituting a properly diluted stripping solution such as Armstrong S-490 Commercial Floor Stripper. Do not strip the floor within the first 30 days after installation.
NOTE: Aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers should NEVER be used on Static Dissipative Tile as they may affect the product's electrical performance.



2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.



3. Apply 3 to 5 coats of Armstrong S-392 SDT Floor Polish. Allow at least 60 minutes drying time between applications. Do not allow traffic on the floor for 6 to 8 hours after final coat of polish (overnight if possible). Do not perform any additional **wet** maintenance procedures until the last coat of polish has cured a minimum of 72 hours.

## B. Daily/Regular Maintenance







1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.



2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.





3. Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis depending upon traffic and soil levels in the space. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

### C. Periodic Maintenance







1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing pad (red for light scrub, blue/green for a deep scrub) or equivalent brushes.



2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.



3. Spray buff the floor to restore gloss and peak electrical performance. Spray a diluted solution of S-392 (one part S-392 to two parts water) onto the floor. Before the liquid can dry, buff it with a floor machine capable of 170 to 1100 rpm, equipped with a buffing pad or brush (3M white pad or equal, or equivalent brush).



4. Heavy-traffic areas may require extra coats of S-392 (at full strength) on a more frequent basis. If needed, additional coats of floor polish may be applied at this time.

## D. Restorative Maintenance - Stripping

NOTE: Do not strip the floor within the first 30 days after installation. Aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers should never be used on Static Dissipative Tile as they may affect the product's electrical performance.





 Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly on floor. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet if necessary.



 Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent scrub brush to break up the polish film. Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.



3. Remove dirty stripping solution. **TIP: Drizzling fresh clean rinse water** onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with more thorough removal.



4. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.



5. Apply 3 to 5 coats of Armstrong S-392 SDT Floor Polish. Allow at least 60 minutes drying time between applications. Do not allow traffic on the floor for 6 to 8 hours after final coat of polish (overnight if possible). Do not perform any additional **wet** maintenance procedures until the last coat of polish has cured a minimum of 72 hours.

# **Installation Accessories**

### **RUBBER TILE | TREADS**

The formulation of Armstrong rubber products contains self-releasing waxes that will migrate to the surface and help to produce a natural luster. It takes about a month for these waxes to migrate enough to attain a satisfactory luster. The rubber product may have a tendency to "track" and require additional maintenance during this break-in period.

If additional luster is desired, Armstrong recommends using a cleaning and maintenance emulsion which contains a small amount of synthetic wax or wax-like additive.

### For Best Results:

- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub or strip the floor for at least the first four days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive cure and bond.
- Do not use strong solvent-containing cleaners or other harsh chemicals such as turpentine or acetone.
- Do not use stripping solutions like those commonly used on vinyl floor coverings.
- Do not use black, brown, blue/green, red or beige maintenance pads, or other types of abrasive pads such as steel wool.
- Do not use cleaning or polishing machines that exceed 350 rpm.
- The use of floor finishes is NOT recommended for Armstrong rubber tile and treads.
- During the break-in period, do not "over clean" or use harsh detergents (high pH), which may reduce the emergence of the natural waxes.
- If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

### A. Initial Maintenance and Preparation for Commercial Traffic - Immediately After Installation

The removal of any adhesive on the face of the tile should be completed by the flooring contractor while the adhesive is fresh. If adhesive residue is still uncured or soft, remove with mineral spirits or warm water and a soft, clean cloth. If adhesive residue has been allowed to cure, removal will be very difficult. The following steps may be helpful:

- Apply mineral spirits with a clean cloth.
- Allow to stand for five minutes.
- Gently chip off residue with a wooden or plastic spatula. Do not use steel wool or other types of abrasive pads or cleaners.
- Wipe dry and repeat if necessary.

Some dullness in the product's finish may result but will disappear with normal maintenance.







- Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit and debris.
- 2. Remove any ground-in soil and any residual manufacturing mold release agent by applying a properly diluted neutral (pH of 7-8) cleaning solution such as JohnsonDiversey Profi or equivalent. (Do not flood the floor.)
- 3. Allow the solution to stand for 5-10 minutes or follow the maintenance product manufacturer's recommendations. DO NOT ALLOW THE SOLUTION TO DRY. Then scrub as follows:





- Large installations Use a single or double brush floor scrubbing machine or automatic scrubber (150-300 rpm) equipped with a 22-gauge flagged nylon bristle brush or other scrubbing brush suitable for use on rubber flooring.
- Small installations Use a deck brush or floor scrubbing machine as described above.

NOTE: It is important to use a "flagged nylon" (split ends or sanded ends of fibers) cleaning brush with open spaces and flexible brush ends to clean the high and low surfaces of Armstrong® rubber tile without stripping the natural migrating waxes off of the studs. For recommended wet cleaning brushes contact:

Carlisle Sanitary Maintenance Products - Phone: 800-654-8210

Malish Corporation - Phone: 800-321-7044





4. Remove cleaning solution with a mop or wet vacuum.



- 5. Rinse with clean, cold water to remove residual spots or streaks and allow to dry completely.
- 6. There are two options for added luster:





1) The floor may be buffed with a floor machine (speed not to exceed 350 rpm) using a polishing brush suitable for use on rubber flooring. Do not heel the machine.



- 2) Apply a combination cleaner and maintainer such as JohsonDiversey WiWax or equivalent as directed on label.
  - Allow the solution to stand or soak for 5-10 minutes, agitate with the mop or scrub as needed, then remove the excess solution with a mop. DO NOT RINSE.
  - Let the floor dry completely.



 When dry, the surface may be buffed to a uniform luster with a rotary floor machine (rpm not to exceed 350) using a polishing brush recommended for use on rubber flooring. The additives in the JohnsonDiversey WiWax or equivalent will help in providing surface protection and gloss until the self-contained wax reemerges.

### B. Continuing Regular Maintenance







 Sweep, dust mop or vacuum daily to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface. Use walk-off mats that are as wide as the doorway and long enough to trap dirt and moisture before traffic reaches the resilient floor. Remember to clean walk-off mats regularly.





2. As needed, using a properly diluted, neutral (pH 7-8) detergent solution such as JohnsonDiversey Profi or equivalent, agitate or scrub as required using a mop, deck brush or single disc machine/automatic scrubber equipped with a 22-gauge flagged nylon bristle brush or other suitable scrubbing brush.



3. Rinse with clean water and allow to dry.



4. When dry, the floor may be buffed to a uniform luster with a small rotary floor machine (rpm not to exceed 350) and a polishing brush suitable for use on rubber flooring. Small areas may be buffed with a clean towel, by hand, or with the trowel wrapped around a broom.

NOTE: To maintain the desired gloss, the application of JohnsonDiversey WiWax or equivalent as directed above in Initial Maintenance and Preparation for Commercial Traffic may be used as needed or desired. This should only be done on floors that have been properly cleaned.

# Color-Integrated Vinyl and Rubber WALL BASE

### A. Maintenance

- 1. Wash with a neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner diluted to 3 to 4 ounces per gallon in water, using a sponge or clean cloth.
- 2. If a higher gloss or protective finish is required, apply two coats of a high-quality commercial floor polish, such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish.

# **Commercial Hardwood**

PREMIER PERFORMANCE™ | VALENZA™ COLLECTION | HERITAGE CLASSICS™ COLLECTION | CENTURY FARM™ | METRO CLASSICS™ | BECKFORD™

# **Permion Finishing System**

#### For Best Results:

- Do not apply wax to this floor.
- Do not use oil-treated dust mops.
- Place mats at all entrances to help prevent dirt and other debris from being tracked onto the floor. Rugs and mats should be slip resistant with a backing that is breathable and will not discolor the floor. All mats should be vacuumed daily.
- Use protective castors/castor cups (non-marking rubber) or felt glides on the legs of furniture, racks, chairs and tables etc. to prevent scratching, scuffing and other damage to the hardwood floor.
- Recognizing that hardwood floor dimensions will be slightly affected by varying levels of humidity within your building, care should be taken to control humidity levels within the 35–55% range. To protect your investment and to assure that your floors provide lasting satisfaction, we have provided our recommendations below.
  - Heating Season (Dry): A humidifier is recommended to prevent excessive shrinkage in hardwood floors due to low humidity levels. Wood stoves and electric heat tend to create very dry conditions.
  - Non-Heating Season (Humid, Wet): Proper humidity levels can be maintained by use of an air conditioner, dehumidifier, or by turning on your heating system periodically during the summer months. Avoid excessive exposure to water from tracking during periods of inclement weather. Do not obstruct in any way the expansion joint around the perimeter of your floor.

### A. Initial Maintenance

- 1. Remove any adhesive residue or petroleum based products with low odor mineral spirits. Urethane adhesives should be removed with mineral spirits.
- 2. Following installation, the floor should be swept, dust mopped or vacuumed to remove any grit or debris that could scratch the floor.
- 3. Thoroughly clean the floor with Armstrong Hardwood & Laminate Floor Cleaner spray.
- 4. Spray the floor cleaner directly on the floor or on a clean cloth dust mop. Do not allow excess liquid to remain on the surface. Do not use dirty mops or those that contain the residue of dust attractant compounds. Dust mop the floor as normal, misting the materials periodically while proceeding throughout the installation.

### B. Routine Maintenance (daily)

- 1. Following a regular maintenance schedule, sweep, dust mop or vacuum to remove any grit or debris that could scratch the floor.
- Clean the floor as needed with Armstrong Hardwood & Laminate Floor Cleaner.

## C. Periodic Maintenance (weekly-monthly)

- 1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor to remove any grit or debris that could scratch the floor.
- 2. Clean the floor as needed with Armstrong Hardwood & Laminate Floor Cleaner.
- 3. Buff the floor using a medium high speed buffer (175-750 rpm) and white/buff colored buffing pads.
  Apply Armstrong Hardwood & Laminate Floor Cleaner to the surface in the path of the buffing machine using a misting bottle while proceeding throughout the installation.

#### D. Restorative Maintenance

### Floor Repair

Minor damage can be repaired with an Armstrong touch-up kit or filler. Major damage will require board replacement, which can be done by a professional floor installer.

## Refurbishing/Reconditioning

From time to time, traffic patterns may appear in the areas of high traffic or areas with many pivot points (cash, wrap, etc.). When necessary, the finish can be recoated using a number of different coating systems.

### **Chemical Bonding Systems**

• The floor is cleaned and a bonding agent is sprayed/buffed on the surface. Once the material is dry, one or more coats of commercial finish are applied.

### **Mechanical Bonding Systems**

• The floor is cleaned and lightly abraded with an abrasive pad. One or more coats of commercial finish are applied.

### **Scratches**

For light scratches or color loss on Hartco Acrylic Impregnated floors, apply Armstrong Spray Tone. To repair deep scratches on Hartco Acrylic Impregnated floors, lightly abrade with 00 steel wool or 220 grit sandpaper; then apply Armstrong Spray Tone. Repairs may also be made by replacing individual slates or units.

### Rubber Heel Marks, Crayon, Gum or Asphalt Deposits

Dampen a clean cloth with low odor mineral spirits and rub to remove.

# **Commercial Laminate**

### PREMIUM LUSTRE COLLECTION | PREMIUM COLLECTION | TRADITIONAL COLLECTION

Commercial Laminate installations do not require commercial cleaning and buffing machines and do not require more than a light damp mop to clean.

It is generally a good idea to use 100% silicone caulk in areas of rooms where excessive moisture may be present.

#### For Best Results:

- Do not use soap-based detergents or "mop and shine" products, as these may leave a dull film on your floor.
- Do not use floor machines.
- Do not clean this floor with abrasive cleansers, abrasive scrubbing pads, steel wool, or scouring powder.
- Do not wax or polish.
- Laminate flooring, like other types of smooth floors, can become slippery when wet. Immediately wipe up wet areas from spills, foreign substances, or wet feet.
- Remove tough spots like shoe polish, tar and asphalt driveway sealer with Armstrong Adhesive Cleaner or nail polish remover containing acetone (follow use instructions on label). Then wipe with a damp cloth.
- Place a natural or colorfast mat at outside entrances to collect tracked-in dirt and absorb excess moisture.
- For added protection, use Armstrong floor protectors on chairs and other furniture. The heavier the item, the wider the floor protector should be.
- Protect from damage caused by vacuum cleaner beater bars and metal caster wheels.
- When vacuuming, we recommend using the wand attachment on the vacuum.
- Because metal rolling casters can damage the floor, we do not recommend them. If rolling casters are used, we recommend only soft wheels wide enough to support the load.

# Daily/Regular Maintenance

- 1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum frequently to remove loose dust, grit and dirt.
- 2. Damp mop with Armstrong Hardwood & Laminate Floor Cleaner. Simply spray and mop using a terry cloth or sponge mop.

# Common Problems, Causes & Solutions

Problem	Causes	Solutions		
	Too much or too little floor polish applied in one coat.	Carefully follow manufacturer's directions.		
	Dirty mop used to apply polish.	Clean mops or applicators frequently; use only mops dedicated to polishing and polish application.		
	Soiled floor.	Thoroughly clean and rinse floor before applying finish.		
Streaks in Polish	Inadequate drying time; polish recoated too quickly.	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for drying time and allow more time during high humidity.		
	Alkaline residue on floor.	Rinse floor thoroughly with clear water after scrubbing or stripping.		
	Polish frozen.	Strip and rinse thoroughly; reapply polish.		
	Polish contaminated. Leftover finish poured back into container or saved from previous use.	Do not proceed with finishing. Replace polish.		
Deliate in Table	Inadequate drying time.	Allow floor to dry completely before opening to traffic. Follow manufacturer's recommendations for drying time and allow more time during high humidity.		
Polish is Tacky	Polish recoated too quickly.	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for drying time and allow more time during high humidity.		
	Too much cleaning chemical was used	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for proper usage and dilution.		
	Silicone based products (stainless steel cleaners, furniture polishes, glass cleaners, lubricants, vinyl cleaners) and disinfectant products getting on floor due to aerosol over-spray or accidental spills.	Spray cleaners on rag or applicator prior to use to reduce the chance of over-spray hitting the floor. To remove over-spray, scrub floor thoroughly. If still slippery, strip area and repolish.		
	Improper dilution of cleaner or disinfectant.	Follow manufacturer's recommendation for proper dilution. Use chemical dispensers if available.		
Slippery Floors	Improperly treated dust mops being used, usually oil treated.	Use only recommended dust mops or refer to label directions when treating dust mops.		
	Ice-melting compounds on floor.	Clean contaminated floor thoroughly with clean water or cleaner to remove film (normally at entrances and at the end of runners). Use mats and runners, and clean them occasionally. Control amount of ice-melting chemicals used.		
	Dirt and grit on floor.	Use entrance mats and increase dust mop frequency.		
	Inadequate drying time.	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for drying time and allow more time during high humidity.		
Swirl Marks in Polish	Polish soft due to moisture from below.	Address moisture issue; choose a harder or moisture-resistant polish.		
LOUSH	Improper floor pad selection.	Follow pad and/or polish manufacturer's recommendations.		
	Polish not dry before buffing/burnishing.	Allow proper drying time before buffing/burnishing.		

Problem	Causes	Solutions		
Rapid Black	Little or no protective polish; polish and/or cleaner too high in pH; polish and/or cleaner too aggressive.	Strip and rinse thoroughly; apply and maintain the minimum 3 to 5 coats of the recommended polish.		
Marking	Floor polish is too soft.	Switch to a more scuff-resistant polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish.		
	Old floor polish/finish not completely removed (incompatibility of coatings).	Strip and rinse thoroughly; reapply polish.		
	Stripping solutions dried and/or not thoroughly rinsed after stripping.	Strip and rinse thoroughly; reapply polish.		
	Dirty mop used to apply polish.	Clean mops or applicators frequently; use only mops dedicated to polish application.		
	Polish applied before floor or previous coat dried (finish not sticking to floor).	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for drying time and allow more time during high humidity.		
Floor Polish Powdering or Failing to Adhere to Floor	Surface of polish force-dried.	Strip and rinse thoroughly; reapply polish, allowing adequate drying time for each coat. Never direct fans at floor finish during drying process. If fans are used, aim upward for air circulation.		
	Inadequate grit and soil control (no walk-off mats).	Install walk-off mats; clean walk-off mats; sweep and vacuum frequently.		
	Mismatched polish and machine speed.	Switch to recommended polish, buffing pad and machine speed.		
	Floor pad too abrasive.	Follow polish and/or flooring manufacturer's recommendations		
	Room temperature too hot or too cold or humidity too high or too low.	For optimal results, maintain room temperature between 60° and 90°F (16° and 32°C) and humidity between 40% and 80% RH.		
	Excessive alkaline moisture permeating through tile from subfloor.	Investigate and solve moisture problems.		
	Frozen polish (may bead up on floor during application).	Do not proceed with polishing. Replace polish.		
	Polish contaminated. Leftover polish poured back into container or saved from previous use.	Do not proceed with polishing. Replace polish.		
	Insufficient coats of polish applied.	Apply additional coats of polish.		
	Polish applied too thinly or too heavily.	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for application.		
	Polish recoated too quickly.	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for dryin time and allow more time during high humidity.		
Poor Gloss	Wrong scrubbing pads used (usually too aggressive).	Use approved pads and follow polish and/or flooring manufacturer's recommendations.		
	Excessive amount of sand and grit on floor.	Use entrance mats and runners of sufficient length and width. Increase dust mop frequency.		
	Improper cleaner dilutions.	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for proper dilution.		
	Dirty equipment used.	Always use clean equipment and mops.		

Problem	Causes	Solutions		
Scuffing and Scratching of	Wrong scrubbing pads used.	Follow flooring and/or pad manufacturer's recommendations.		
	Excessive dirt and grit on floor.	Use entrance mats, increase dust mopping frequency, and dust mop thoroughly before cleaning.		
Polish/Finish	Not scrubbing often enough.	Adjust cleaning frequency accordingly.		
	Floor polish not resistant to scuffs and scratches.	Use a high-quality floor polish as recommended by polish manufacturer.		
	Furniture placed too soon after polishing.	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for drying time and allow more time during high humidity.		
Furniture Sticking	Furniture left in place while polish is applied.	To release stuck furniture, tape the legs near the floor, hitting firmly in a horizontal direction. Be sure to protect legs to avoid scratching or marring. Do not attempt to lift furniture straight up before loosening.		
	Polish not properly cured/dried.	Allow floor to dry completely before applying additional coats.		

# **Resistance to Staining and Reagents**

0: No Stain

1: Slight

2: Moderate 3: Severe

BI: Bleaching D: Dulling S: Softening R: Reagent left a residue

	LINOLEUM With NATURCote™	SHEET HOMOGENEOUS  MEDINTONE", MEDINTECH®, MEDLEY"	MEDINTECH®	SHEET INLAID  POSSIBILITIES®  Petit Point™	Connection CORLON®	SHEET HETEROGENEOUS  PERSPECTIVES®, TIMBERLINE®,TRANSLATIONS®	LIGHT COMMERCIAL ABODE™	LVT NATURAL CREATIONS®
Organic Solvents								
Acetone	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Chloroform	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Ethyl Acetate Ethyl (Denatured) Alcohol	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Ethyl (Denatured) Alcohol Ethyl Ether	0	0, D 0, D	0, D 0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Ethylene Glycol (Antifreeze)	0	0	0, 5	0	0	0	0	0
Formaldehyde - 10%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gasoline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Isopropyl Alcohol	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Kerosene	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Methylene Chloride	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Methyl ethyl ketone (M.E.K.)	0, D	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Mineral Spirits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Perchloroethylene	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Toluene	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Trichloroethylene	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Turpentine	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Xylene	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Alkali (Bases)								
Ammonium Hydroxide - 30%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Potassium Hydroxide - 15%	0, D	0	0	3	0, D	0, D	0, D	0
Sodium Hydroxide - 50%	0, D	0	0	0	0, D	0, D	1, D	0
Acids								
Acetic Acid - 28%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acetic Acid - Glacial	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Hydrochloric - 38%	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	1, D	0
Lactic Acid - 10%	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Nitric Acid - 15%	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Phosphoric Acid - 85%	0	0, D	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0
Sulfuric Acid - 40%	0	0	0	0, BI	0	0	0	0
Sulfuric Acid - 10%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salt Solutions								
Calcium Chloride - Sat'd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Copper Sulfate - 10%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ferric Chloride - 10%	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Silver Nitrate - 1%	0	0	0	1	0	0	1, D	0
Medical Stains & Reagents							,	
Aniline Blue - 2.5%	0	0	0	0	0	0	1, D	0
Auramine Rhodamine	2	2	2	3	2	3	3	1
Basic Fuchsin	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	1
Betadine® Skin Cleanser	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	0
Betadine Solution - 10%	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	0
Bromcresol Green	2	1	1	2	2	0	3	1
Carbol Fuchsin	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	1
Eosin - 1%	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	1
Gentian Violet - 2%	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	2
Glutaraldehyde	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Iodine Tincture	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Iodine Gram Stain	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	1
lodoform - 1%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lugol's Solution	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Merthiolate Tincture	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	2
Methylene Blue	2	2	2	2	2	2	1, D	1
Picric Acid - 1%	3	2	2	3	2	2	3	1
Potassium Permanganate - 0.5%	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Tincture of Benzoin	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3	3, R
Urea Solution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wright's Blood Stain	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2
Embalming Chemicals								
Pretresol - Pre-injection	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Kelcavex - Cavity	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	R	0
Kelspecial® - Arterial	0	0	0	0	0	0	D, R	0
Presinol - Arterial	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Disinfectants and Cleaners								
Clorox®	0	0, BI	0, BI	0	0	0	D. R	0
Comet® Bathroom Cleaner	0	0	0	0	0	0	R	0
Hydrogen Peroxide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lysol® Liquid Disinfectant	0	0	0	0	0	0	R	0
Food Service	-	-			-	-		-
Catsup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coffee - Hot Black	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cola Drink	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
French Dressing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mustard	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	1
Red Food Color	2	2	2	2	2	1	3, D	2
Red Wine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Soy Sauce	0	0	0	0	0	0	o o	0
Spaghetti Sauce	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tea - Hot Black	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tomato Paste	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Office								
Ball Pen Ink	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	2
Carbon Paper Smudge	1	2	2	0	0	0	2	0
Fountain Pen Ink	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lead Pencil	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0
Permanent Black Marker	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Photo Copy Toner (Powder)	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Red Crayon	2	3	3	2	2	2	2	2
Red Tempura Paint	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
Oils								
Beef Tallow - Hot	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canola Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cottonseed Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brake Fluid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dextron Transmission Fluid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mineral Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Olive Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SAE #10 Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30 wt. Non-Detergent Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Used Motor Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous	U	ı		U			, and the second	
Asphalt Driveway Sealer	2 D	3, R	3 P	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, D	3, R
Aspnait Driveway Sealer Blue Chalk	3, R		3, R		3, H 0			
	0	1 2	1	0		0	0	1
Black Rit Dye	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	1
Eye Shadow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hair Color	3	3	3	3	3	2	3	2
Lipstick	0	1	1	2	1	2, R	2	0
Perfume	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Red Candle Wax	2, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	2, R	2, R	3, R	2, R
Red Nail Polish	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R
Shoe Polish - Liquid Brown	0	1	1	0	0	0	3	1
Shoe Polish - Paste Brown	2, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	1, R	3, R	3, R

Samples were tested as manufactured (no additional surface treatments). All samples were exposed to reagents for four hours (uncovered), then cleaned with a neutral commercial cleaner and cotton cloth. A key for interpreting results is found above. It is important to note that in some cases residual stain, residues and surface dulling may be further reduced or eliminated with different

or more aggressive cleaning procedures and/or cleaning agents than the common method used for this multi-product comparison. For further details on appropriate cleaning methods and care for specific products, please consult the care and maintenance guidelines for the specific product at armstrong.com/flooring or contact Armstrong at 1.877.276.7876, press 2, 2, and 3 at the

prompt. Betadine® is a registered trademark of Purdue Products, L.P. Kelspecial® is a registered trademark of Kelco Supply Company. Clorox® is a registered trademark of The Clorox Company. Comet® is a registered trademark of The Comet Products Corporation. Lysol® is a registered trademark of The Comet Products Corporation.

# Resistance to Staining and Reagents

0: No Stain 1: Slight 2: Moderate 3: Severe

BI: Bleaching D: Dulling S: Softening R: Reagent left a residue

	LIGHT	COMMERCIAL LAMINATE MEDIUM	DARK	BBT <sup>®</sup> MIGRATIONS™	VCT  EXCELON®  ARTEFFECTS®  Standard EXCELON®	SAFEGUARD™	SPECIALTY SLIP-RETARDANT* SAFEGUARD Spa™	SAFETY ZONE™	SPECIALTY ESD SDT™	ACCESSORIES Rubber Tile / Treads
Organic Solvents		0								0
Acetone Chloroform	0	0	0	0, BI 0, BI	0, S, D 0, S, D	0 0, Bl	0	0, S, D 0, S, D	0, S, D 0, S, D	0, D
Ethyl Acetate	0	0	0	0, BI	0, S, D	0	1, R	0, S, D	0, S, D	0
Ethyl (Denatured) Alcohol	0	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Ethyl Ether Ethylene Glycol (Antifreeze)	0	0	0	0	0, D 0	1 0	0	0	0	0
Formaldehyde - 10%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gasoline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0, D
Isopropyl Alcohol Kerosene	0	0	0	0 0, Bl	0, D 0	0	0	0	0	0 2
Methylene Chloride	0	0	0	0, BI	0, S, D	0, BI	2	0, S, D	0, S, D	0, D
Methyl ethyl ketone (M.E.K.)	0	0	0	0, BI	0, S, D	0	0	0, S, D	0, S, D	0, D
Mineral Spirits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2 0, D
Perchloroethylene Toluene	0	0	0	0, BI 0, BI	0, D 0, S, D	0	0	0, S 0, S	0, D 0, S, D	0, D
Trichloroethylene	0	0	0	0, BI	0, S, D	0	0	0, S	0, S, D	0, D
Turpentine	0	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0, D
Xylene	0	0	0	0, BI	0, S, D	0	0	0, S	0, S, D	0, D
Alkali (Bases) Ammonium Hydroxide - 30%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0, D	0
Potassium Hydroxide - 15%	0	0	0	0	1, D	1	0	1	3	0, D
Sodium Hydroxide - 50%	0	0	1, BI	0	0	0	0	1	3	0
Acids Acetic Acid - 28%	0	0	0	0. D	0, BI	0	0	0	0, D	1, D
Acetic Acid - 28% Acetic Acid - Glacial	0	0	0	0, D	1, D	0	0	0	0, 0	1, D
Hydrochloric - 38%	1	1, BI	2, BI	0, D	0, BI	0	0	0	0	0, D
Lactic Acid - 10%	0	0	0	1, BI	0, Bl, R	0	0	0	0, R	1, D
Nitric Acid - 15% Phosphoric Acid - 85%	0	1, BI 0	2, BI 1, D	0 1, Bl	0, BI 0, BI, R	0	0 0, D	0 0, D	0, D, R 0, Bl, R	1, D 1, D
Sulfuric Acid – 40%	1	0	1, D 0	1, BI 1, BI	0, Bl, R 0, Bl, R	0	0, D	0, D	0, Bl, R	1, D
Sulfuric Acid - 10%	0	0	0	1, BI	0, Bl, R	0	0	0, D	0, D	0, D
Salt Solutions										
Calcium Chloride - Sat'd Copper Sulfate - 10%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Copper Sulfate - 10% Ferric Chloride - 10%	0	1	0	1 2	1 2	0	0	0 2	0 2	1
Silver Nitrate - 1%	0	0	ō	0	2	o o	0	2	3	1
Medical Stains & Reagents										
Aniline Blue - 2.5% Auramine Rhodamine	2	0	0	1 2	1 2	1 2	0	1 2	1 2	1
Basic Fuchsin	3	1	0	3	2	2	2	2	2	0
Betadine® Skin Cleanser	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	1	2	1
Betadine Solution - 10%	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	2	1
Bromcresol Green Carbol Fuchsin	0	0	0	1 3	1 3	1 2	1 2	1 3	2 2	0
Eosin - 1%	1	0	0	1	1	2	1	2	2	1
Gentian Violet - 2%	3	1	0	3	3	3	3	2	3	1
Glutaraldehyde	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
lodine Tincture	0	0	1	3	3	3	2	3	3	3 2
lodine Gram Stain lodoform - 1%	0	0	0	2	2 0	2	1	2	2	0
Lugol's Solution	0	0	0	3	3	1	2	3	3	3
Merthiolate Tincture	1	0	0	2	3	3	1	2	3	2
Methylene Blue	1	0	0	2	2 3	1 2	2	2	3	2 3
Picric Acid - 1% Potassium Permanganate - 0.5%	1	0	1	2	2	2	1	2	3	0
Tincture of Benzoin	1	1	2, R	2, R	3, R	2	2	3, R	3, R	3, R
Urea Solution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wright's Blood Stain	1	1	0	2	3	3	2	3	3	1
Embalming Chemicals Pretresol - Pre-injection	0	0	0	0. D	0. D	0	0	0	0. D	0. D
Kelcavex - Cavity	0	0	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0, D	0, D
Kelspecial® - Arterial	0	0	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0	0, D
Presinol - Arterial  Disinfectants and Cleaners	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	1	2	0, D
Clorox®	0	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Comet® Bathroom Cleaner	0	0	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0	0, D
Hydrogen Peroxide	0	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0, D
Lysol® Liquid Disinfectant Food Service	0	0	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0	0, D
Catsup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0, D
Coffee - Hot Black	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cola Drink	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
French Dressing Mustard	0	0	0	0 2	0 2	0 2	0	0 2	0 2	0, D
Red Food Color	0	0	0	2	1	3	1	2	2	0
Red Wine	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0
Soy Sauce	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spaghetti Sauce Tea - Hot Black	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1 0	1 0, D
Tomato Paste	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0, D
Office										
Ball Pen Ink	3	2	1	3	3	2	2	3	3	2
Carbon Paper Smudge Fountain Pen Ink	0	0	0	2 2	2 2	2	1	0	1 2	2 2
Lead Pencil	0	0	0	2	1	2	1	0	0	2
Permanent Black Marker	2	0	0	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Photo Copy Toner (Powder)	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Red Crayon	0	0	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	0
Red Tempura Paint Oils			0				J	1	0	0
Beef Tallow - Hot	0	0	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0, D
Canola Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0, D
Cottonseed Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0, D
Brake Fluid	0	0	0	0, D 0	0, D 0	0	0	0	0	0, D 1, D
Dextron Transmission Fluid		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0, D
Dextron Transmission Fluid Mineral Oil	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0, D
Mineral Oil Olive Oil	0	0			0	0	0	0		0, D
Mineral Oil Olive Oil SAE #10 Oil	0	0	0	0					0	
Mineral Oil Olive Oil SAE #10 Oil 30 wt. Non-Detergent Oil	0 0 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0, D
Mineral Oil Olive Oil SAE #10 Oil 30 wt. Non-Detergent Oil Used Motor Oil	0	0	0			0	0			
Mineral Oil Olive Oil SAE #10 Oil 30 wt. Non-Detergent Oil	0 0 0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0, D
Mineral Oil Olive Oil SAE #10 Oil 30 vt. Non-Detergent Oil Used Motor Oil Miscellaneous Asphalt Driveway Sealer Blue Chalik	0 0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 1 1	0 1	1 1	0 1 1	0 1 3, R 1	0 1 3, R 1	0, D 1, D 0 1
Mineral Oil Oilve Oil SAE #10 Oil 30 wt. Non-Detergent Oil Used Motor Oil Miscellaneous Asphalt Driveway Sealer Blue Chalk Black Rit Dye	0 0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 1 1 1	0 1 1 1 3	1 1 3	1 1 3	0 1 3, R 1 2	0 1 3, R 1 3	0, D 1, D 0 1
Mineral Oil Olive Oil SAE #10 Oil 30 wt. Non-Detergent Oil Used Motor Oil Miscellaneous Asphalt Driveway Sealer Blue Chalk Black Rit Dye Eye Shadow	0 0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 1 1 1 3	0 1 1 3 0	1 1 3 0	0 1 1 3 0	0 1 3, R 1 2	0 1 3, R 1 3	0, D 1, D 0 1 1
Mineral Oil Oilve Oil SAE #10 Oil 30 wt. Non-Detergent Oil Used Motor Oil Miscellaneous Asphalt Driveway Sealer Blue Chalk Black Rit Dye	0 0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 1 1 1	0 1 1 1 3	1 1 3	1 1 3	0 1 3, R 1 2	0 1 3, R 1 3	0, D 1, D 0 1
Mineral Oil Olive Oil SAE #10 Oil 30 vt. Non-Detergent Oil Used Motor Oil Miscellaneous Asphalt Driveway Sealer Blue Chalik Black Rit Dye Eye Shadow Hair Color Lipstick Perfume	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 1 1 1 3 1 1 0, BI	0 1 1 3 0 3 2	1 1 3 0 3	0 1 1 3 0 2 1	0 1 3, R 1 2 0 3 1	0 1 3, R 1 3 0 3 2	0, D 1, D 0 1 1 0 1 0 1
Mineral Oil Oilve Oil SAE #10 Oil 30 wt. Non-Detergent Oil Used Motor Oil Miscellaneous Asphalt Driveway Sealer Blue Chalk Black Rit Dye Eye Shadow Hair Color Lipstick Perfume Red Candle Wax	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 1 1 1 3 1 1 0, Bi	0 1 1 1 3 0 3 2 1 2,R	0 1 1 3 0 3 2 1	0 1 1 3 0 2 1 0	0 1 3, R 1 2 0 3 1 0 3, R	0 1 3, R 1 3 0 3 2 1 3, R	0, D 1, D 0 1 1 0 1 1 0 2, R
Mineral Oil Olive Oil SAE #10 Oil 30 vt. Non-Detergent Oil Used Motor Oil Miscellaneous Asphalt Driveway Sealer Blue Chalik Black Rit Dye Eye Shadow Hair Color Lipstick Perfume	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 1 1 1 3 1 1 0, BI	0 1 1 3 0 3 2	0 1 1 3 0 3 2 1	0 1 1 3 0 2 1	0 1 3, R 1 2 0 3 1	0 1 3, R 1 3 0 3 2	0, D 1, D 0 1 1 0 1 0 1

# Equipment



### Automatic floor machine

A self-contained, single- or multiple-disc floor machine that dispenses cleaning solution, scrubs the floor, and takes up the spent solution in a single operation, leaving the floor clean and dry. Available in a variety of sizes, automatic floor machines can be equipped with either brushes or pads.



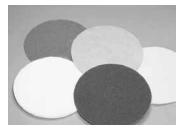
#### Floor machine

A single-disc machine that can be equipped with either pads or brushes. It can be used for scrubbing, buffing and stripping.



#### Floor machine brush

A circular brush with bristles of varying stiffness and abrasiveness, depending on whether it's to be used for scrubbing, buffing or stripping. Bristles are made of natural or synthetic fibers or gritimpregnated nylon. Always follow flooring manufacturer's guidelines for choosing the floor machine brush with the appropriate stiffness and abrasiveness.

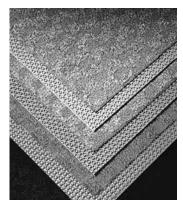


### Floor machine pad

A nonwoven nylon, polyester, or natural fiber disc up to 1" thick. Each disc has various types and sizes of intertwined fibers, some of which may have grit particles bound to the fiber surface. Coarseness of the pad determines its use: least coarse for buffing, with increasing coarseness for scrubbing and stripping. Pads are color-coded to designate their coarseness and use. Lighter-color pads tend to be less abrasive, with darker-color pads being the most abrasive. Pad manufacturers generally follow these guidelines:

- Natural fiber burnishing
- White polishing
- Beige buffing
- Red spray-buffing and light scrubbing
- Blue (medium abrasive)
- Green (medium abrasive) scrubbing and stripping
- Brown (extremely abrasive)
- Black (extremely abrasive)

ARMSTRONG DOES NOT RECOMMEND THE USE OF BROWN OR BLACK PADS ON ANY OF OUR RESILIENT FLOORS.



# Walk-off mat

A sheet of material placed at building entrances to remove gritty soil from the soles of shoes. Good mats should also trap soil so it does not get picked up by subsequent traffic. As a general rule, mats should be as wide as the doorway and ideally 8' to 12' long.



### Ultra high-speed buffer

Usually a single-disc buffer that operates in the 1100 to 2000 plus rpm range. It allows for quick buffing and burnishing, thus reducing labor costs. It should be operated only by properly trained maintenance personnel. It is to be used only on precleaned floors with enough polish (three to five coats) to prevent the pad or brush from coming in contact with the actual flooring surface.



### **High-speed buffer**

A floor machine designed for buffing and spray-buffing at speeds of 300 to 1100 rpm. (For machines in the 1100 to 2000 plus rpm range, see Ultra high-speed buffer.)



#### Wet-vac

A vacuum cleaner that picks up aqueous solutions. It's particularly useful when scrubbing or stripping a floor.

Equipment photography supplied courtesy of FLO-PAC Corporation, Minuteman International, Inc., 3M, The Kent Company, Castex Incorporated and Windsor Industries, Inc.

Notes		

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