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There are three methods of installation suitable for Mohawk Residential sheet vinyl flooring:

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**The installation method used is dependent upon the day-to-day activities and the overall floor dimensions.**

1. Releasable Full Spread Installation Method using Pressure Sensitive Adhesive (*most common*)
2. Loose-Lay Installation (*in areas 25 square yards or less and no more than 1 seam*)
3. Permanent Full Spread Installation Method – NOTE: This method must be used for all Specialty Retail and ADA compliant installations as well as any areas requiring rolling loads.

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### Releasable Full Spread Installation Method using Pressure Sensitive Adhesive

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#### Materials Required for Installation:

- 3/8" short nap paint roller
- Roberts 2310 Pressure Sensitive Releasable Adhesive
- Roberts 7500 Universal Seam Sealant
- Acrylic Double Face Tape for Vinyl Floors
- Sharp Utility Knife
- Straight edge
- Push broom
- Henry 336 Primer (if priming the substrate is necessary)

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### Acceptable Underlayment:

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#### Wood Underlayment

Wood underlayment panels require a double layer construction and must be underlayment grade as specified and warranted by the manufacturer. Always fasten underlayment panels in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Any failure of the underlayment or flooring as a result of the underlayment is NOT the responsibility of Mohawk. Any porous wood underlayment must be primed. The following are acceptable forms of underlayment:

- Concrete
- VCT (well bonded, on and above grade) with all existing wax removed
- Ceramic (well bonded) with a skim coat
- Terrazzo (well bonded)
- Self-leveling and patching compounds (latex fortified Portland cement based only)
- Resilient floor (no more than 2 layers, well bonded, non-cushioned – residential applications only) all wax removed
- Radiant heat floors (*not exceeding 85°F [29°C] and approved by the manufacturer for the use of their product with resilient vinyl flooring applications*)
- Gypcrete can be utilized when necessary due to radiant heat and in high rise buildings. Gypcrete must be sealed using Henry 336 Primer to stabilize the surface for adhesive bond. All issues with gypcrete cracking, crumbling, powdering and any other issues resulting in the release of adhesive bond are NOT warranted by Mohawk.
- OSB (underlayment grade)

OSB underlayment panels must be underlayment grade as specified and warranted by the manufacturer. Underlayment panels and joints must be fastened and reinforced according to manufacturer's instructions. Completely sand the floor with a floor sander, so that the floor is smooth and flat. Note: The chips in OSB overlap. Without sanding properly, OSB has high and low spots throughout the floor that could telegraph through the vinyl.

Surface must be primed using Henry 336 Primer.

- Particle board (underlayment grade)

Particle board underlayment panels must be underlayment grade as specified and warranted by the manufacturer.

Surface must be primed using Henry 336 Primer.



## Floor Preparation:

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Floor must be clean, smooth, flat and dry. Remove all foreign substances such as wax, grease, dirt, construction markings and contaminants, and any substance or chemical that would interfere with a good bond. Fill all holes and cracks with a latex fortified Portland cement-based patching compound. Sand high spots to eliminate the possibility of telegraphing. Prime floor if needed with Henry 336 Primer to prevent over absorption of adhesives and to ensure a better bond of the adhesive to the subfloor.

Moisture levels at the time of installation of concrete slabs during and after installation must be 5 lbs. or less per 1000 square feet per 24 hours using an anhydrous calcium chloride test according to ASTM F-1869, and pH must be between 5 and 9; or, if using ASTM F-2170 In-Situ Probes should be less than 75% relative humidity.

**Inspection of flooring material prior to installation is required.** Any defects should be immediately reported to the retail store from which the flooring was purchased before installation. Mohawk will not be responsible for labor costs to repair or replace material with defects that were apparent before or noticed at the end of an installation.

The job site and all flooring material and adhesive must be kept between 65° F and 85° F (18°C and 29°C) for 24 hours before, during and after installation.

## Releasable Installation Method using Pressure Sensitive Adhesive Steps

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### Step 1

Prepare substrate surface to be clean, smooth, flat and dry. Under cut all wooden door jambs to maintain a 1/8" relief gap.

### Step 2

Place acrylic double face tape at all doorways where a transition strip is needed, next to sliding doors, in front of tubs and shower stalls, and similar areas where an expansion gap will not be covered with trim. Place double face acrylic tape around all floor vents to eliminate air migrating under vinyl causing bubbles. Do not tape along walls or around perimeter of room, as this is not perimeter install flooring.

### Step 3

Align the pattern with the most dominant wall to achieve the best appearance in the room. Using a sharp utility knife, trim away excess material along the walls, at cabinets, etc., leaving approximately 2" of vinyl at these areas to be trimmed off later (*rough cut*). Never install cabinets on top of sheet goods installed with releasable adhesive.

### Step 4

IF A SEAM IS REQUIRED, PLEASE FOLLOW THE "SEAMING INSTRUCTIONS IN A RELEASEABLE FULL SPREAD INSTALLATION METHOD WITH PRESSURE SENSITIVE ADHESIVE."

### Step 5

Make relief cuts at corners and projections to allow the material to lay flat before the final cuts are made. Final trimming should be done by cutting in with a utility knife or trimmer, leaving a 1/8" to 1/4" expansion gap. The gap allows for sub-floor movement caused by changes in atmospheric conditions. The material should not touch the wall, corners or objects at any point or bubbles or wrinkles may occur. The material must lay flat to stay flat. Final cuts must be made prior to applying adhesive.

### Step 6

Fold back material one half at a time and roll on a consistent layer of 2310 Pressure Sensitive Releasable Adhesive with the 3/8" short nap paint roller or trowel with 1/16"x1/32"x1/32" U notch trowel.

### Step 7

Before placing the material in the adhesive, make sure the adhesive is completely dry (*must be dry and tacky to the touch*). There should be no transfer of adhesive to material. (*A fan can be used to accelerate drying time.*) If the adhesive is not completely dry before installation of material, the adhesive will continue to release gasses causing bubbles under the vinyl material.

### Step 8

Position the material in place so that no shifting can occur. Do not lift the vinyl into place because it may shift slightly and wrinkle.

### Step 9

Starting in the center of the floor, remove air from under material using a push broom (*broom method*). Do not use any type of heavy flooring roller, i.e. 75 or 100 pound. Do not twist material when placing it onto the adhesive.

### Step 10

Repeat steps 6-8 for the remaining portion of the flooring material.

### Step 11

Use quarter round or base board to cover the exposed expansion gap. When installing quarter round or any moldings, make sure that they are fastened only to the wall, and do not pinch the material at any point.

\* Material not installed in accordance with Mohawk recommended guidelines, including all problems caused by the use of non-recommended adhesive, seam sealer, underlayment and/or improper preparation of the substrate are not covered under the Mohawk warranty.



## Seaming Instructions in a Releasable Full Spread Installation Method using Pressure Sensitive Adhesive

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1. After adhesive is rolled on and completely dry, position the flooring by over-lapping the seam edges. *(Make sure to match patterns.)*
2. With a straight edge and a sharp utility knife, cut through both layers of flooring material *(double-cut)* at the designated match point. Make sure the utility knife blade is held in an upright position for a clean 90 degree cut.
3. Remove and discard waste material.
4. Fold back about 8" of the vinyl on one side of the seam and apply a small bead of 7500 Seam Sealant to one edge of the vinyl that is on the floor.
5. Tuck the seam edges together and wipe off excess bond/sealer with a clean, damp cloth.
6. Use a resilient flooring type hand roller *(or wallpaper seam roller)* to squeeze out any remaining sealer from the seam. Immediately clean seam with a damp cloth followed by a clean, dry cloth.
7. Protect the seam and allow it to dry *(approximately 6 hours)*.

### Additional Instructions/Notes:

- Always inspect the flooring thoroughly before installation.
- DO NOT slide or roll heavy appliances or furniture over or across the flooring. Always lift objects and place them on the flooring or reposition appliances and furniture using hardboards or sliders between the object and flooring while gently repositioning them.
- In-floor heat/AC registers may rest on the vinyl floor. Leave space under registers that are attached to the floor or wall. They should not pinch the flooring material. Be sure to allow a larger opening around the screw to enable movement.
- Apply caulk next to bathtubs, showers, sliding doors or similar areas. For bathroom installations, it is not necessary to remove the toilet. Make relief cuts around the perimeter of the toilet and make sure the vinyl flooring is lying flat before trimming off the excess material. Apply caulk around the toilet, next to bathtubs and showers to prevent moisture from getting under the vinyl. Note: if there is a ceramic sanitary cove and no place to install trim mold, you can apply caulk around the walls.
- Make sure furniture legs have large surface, non-staining plastic floor protectors or non-staining felt pads. The protectors should be at least one inch in diameter and rest flat on the floor. The heavier the item, the wider the floor protector should be. Replace small, narrow metal or domed glides with flat glides that sit flat on the floor.

## Loose-Lay Installation Instructions

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**Loose-Lay Installation method is only appropriate for up to 25 square yards and only 1 seam.**

NOTE: Areas with rolling traffic, heavy pivot points, high traffic and stairs/steps/landings are not recommended for Loose-Lay application.

### Materials Required for Installation:

- Acrylic Double Face Tape for Vinyl Flooring
- Sharp Utility Knife
- Straight edge
- Push broom
- 7500 Seam Sealant
- If a seam is required, you will also need either a vinyl or wallpaper seam roller.

### Acceptable Underlayment:

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- Hard, flat, clean, sound surfaces, such as wood, concrete, vinyl, etc.

## Floor Preparation:

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Floor must be clean, smooth, flat and dry. Remove all foreign substances such as wax, grease, dirt, construction marks and contaminants, and any substance or chemical that would affect the performance of the product.

Inspection of flooring material prior to installation is required. Any defects should be immediately reported to the retail store from which the flooring was purchased before installation. Mohawk is not responsible for labor costs to repair or replace material with defects that were apparent before or noticed at the end of an installation.

The job site and all flooring material and adhesive (*if adhesive is necessary for certain areas of the Loose-Lay*) must be kept between 65° F and 85° F (18°C and 29°C) for 24 hours before, during and after installation.

### Loose-Lay Installation Instructions:

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1. Prepare substrate for the surface to be clean, smooth, flat and dry. Under cut all door jambs to maintain a 1/8" relief gap. (*If metal jamb, must leave 1/8" expansion gap and caulk before completing job*)
2. Align the pattern with the most dominant wall to achieve the best appearance in the room. Using a sharp utility knife, trim away excess material along the walls, at cabinets, etc., leaving approximately 2" of vinyl at these areas to be trimmed off later (*rough cut*). Do Not install cabinets on top of loose lay installations.
3. Place acrylic double face tape at all doorways where a transition strip is needed, next to sliding doors, patio door sills, in front of tubs and shower stalls and similar areas where an expansion gap will not be covered with trim. Place acrylic double face tape around all floor vents to eliminate air migrating under vinyl causing bubbles. Do NOT tape along walls or around perimeter of room.
4. Apply an "X" of acrylic double-face tape under appliances and pivot points, making sure not to overlap the tape.
5. Make relief cuts at corners and projections to allow the material to lay flat before the final cuts are made. Final trimming should be done by cutting in with a utility knife or trimmer, leaving a 1/8" to 1/4" expansion gap around the perimeter of the room and cabinets. The gap allows for sub-floor movement caused by changes in atmospheric conditions. The material should not touch the wall, corners or objects at any point or bubbles or wrinkles may occur. The material must lay flat to stay flat.
6. Use the push broom method to thoroughly remove the air from under the vinyl. Make certain all air is removed.
7. Use quarter round or base board to cover the exposed expansion gap. When installing quarter round or any moldings, make sure that they are fastened only to the wall and do not pinch the material at any point.

### Seaming in a Loose-Lay Installation:

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1. Position the flooring by over-lapping the seam edges. (*Make sure to match patterns.*)
2. With a straight edge and a sharp utility knife, cut through both layers of flooring material (*double cut*) at the designated match point. Make sure the utility knife blade is held in an upright position for a clean 90 degree cut.
3. Remove and discard waste material.
4. Carefully fold back about 6" - 8" of the vinyl along both edges. Apply a strip of double face tape where the seam edges come together. Press tape firmly to floor. Remove backing from the top of the tape and carefully place back one edge over the tape.
5. While the other edge is still folded back, apply a small bead of M7 Universal Seam Sealant to the edge of the vinyl that is on the floor.
6. Tuck the seam edges together and wipe off excess bond/sealer with a clean, damp cloth.
7. Use a resilient flooring type hand roller (*or wallpaper seam roller*) to squeeze out any remaining sealer from the seam. Immediately clean seam with a damp cloth followed by a clean, dry cloth.
8. Protect the seam and allow it to dry (*approximately 6 hours*).

### Additional Instructions/Notes:

- Always inspect the flooring thoroughly before installation.
- DO NOT slide heavy appliances or furniture over or across the flooring. Always lift objects and place them on a hard board between the flooring and object and gently reposition them.
- In-floor heat/AC registers may rest on the vinyl floor, but leave space under registers that are attached to the floor or wall. They should not pinch the flooring material. Be sure to allow a larger opening around the screw to enable movement.
- Apply caulk next to bathtubs, showers, sliding doors, patio doors, around metal door jambs or similar areas.
- For bathroom installations, it is not necessary to remove the toilet. Make relief cuts around the perimeter of the toilet and make sure the vinyl flooring



is lying flat before trimming off the excess material. Apply caulk around the toilet, next to the bathtubs and showers to prevent moisture from getting under the vinyl. NOTE: if there is a ceramic sanitary cove and no place to install trim mold, you can apply caulk around the walls.

- Make sure furniture legs have large surface, non-staining plastic floor protectors or non-staining felt pads. The protectors should be at least one inch in diameter and rest flat on the floor. The heavier the item, the wider the floor protector should be. Replace small, narrow metal or dome-shaped glides with smooth, flat glides that are in flat contact with the floor.
- Never tape around the perimeter of the room.
- Never apply Mohawk flooring to a wet adhesive (if adhesive is needed for certain areas of the Loose-Lay). This could cause permanent bond or wrinkling and possibly void the warranty.

## Permanent Full Spread Installation Method

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### Materials Required for Installation:

- 1/16" X 1/32" X 1/32" U notch trowel
- Roberts 2310
- Roberts 7500 Seam Sealant
- Henry 366 Primer
- Sharp Utility Knife
- Straight edge
- Plastic putty knife
- 2 clean cloths and appropriate cleaner

## Acceptable Underlayment:

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- Wood underlayment

Wood underlayment panels require a double layer construction and must be underlayment grade as specified and warranted by the manufacturer.

Always fasten underlayment panels in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Any failure of the underlayment or Mohawk flooring as a result of the underlayment is NOT the responsibility of Mohawk. Any porous wood underlayment must be primed.

- Concrete – See Grade Levels below:

### Grade Levels

**Suspended:** An acceptable suspended floor is a concrete or wood substrate with a minimum of 18" (460mm) of well-ventilated air space beneath it. Mohawk recommends that a moisture vapor barrier be placed on the ground below the air space.

**On-Grade:** An acceptable on-grade floor is a concrete substrate in direct surface contact with the ground at the surrounding ground level. The concrete slab should be protected from moisture penetration and incorporate a proven moisture vapor barrier.

**Below-Grade:** An acceptable below-grade floor is a concrete substrate partially or completely in contact with the ground below the average surrounding ground level. The concrete slab should be protected from moisture penetration and incorporate a proven moisture vapor barrier.

- VCT (well bonded, on and above grade)
- Ceramic (well bonded)
- Terrazzo (well bonded)
- Self-leveling and patching compounds (latex fortified Portland cement based only)
- Resilient floor (no more than 1 layers, well bonded, non-cushioned – residential applications only)
- Radiant heat floors (*not exceeding 85°F [29°C] and approved by the manufacturer for the use of their product with resilient vinyl flooring applications*)
- OSB (underlayment grade)

OSB underlayment panels must be underlayment grade as specified and warranted by the manufacturer. Underlayment panels and joints must be fastened and reinforced according to manufacturer's instructions. Completely sand the floor with a floor sander, so that the floor is smooth and flat.

Note: The chips in OSB overlap. Without sanding properly, OSB has high and low spots throughout the floor that could telegraph through the vinyl.

Surface must be primed using Henry 366 Primer.



- Particle Board (underlayment grade)  
Particle board underlayment panels must be underlayment grade as specified and warranted by the manufacturer.  
Surface must be primed using Henry 366 Primer.

## Unacceptable Surfaces:

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- Inter-flex and any perimeter bonded products
- Carpet
- Any floating floor system
- Cork
- Resilient tile installed below grade
- Cushion-back vinyl

Mohawk will not warrant or accept responsibility of any kind for flooring failures related to the use of unacceptable substrates and surfaces.

## Floor Preparation:

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Floor must be clean, smooth, flat and dry. Remove all foreign substances such as wax, grease, dirt, construction markings, paints, sealers and contaminants, and any substance or chemical that would interfere with a good bond. Fill all holes and cracks with a latex fortified Portland cement-based patching compound. Mohawk only recommends the use of latex fortified Portland cement-based products as a satisfactory patching or leveling compound.

Mohawk recommends priming extremely porous floors with Henry 366 Primer to prevent over absorption of adhesives, dust containment, and to ensure a better bond of the adhesive to the subfloor/underlayment.

Moisture Testing: It is the responsibility of the flooring contractor and the installer to confirm all concrete substrates, both old and new, for moisture transmission using the Calcium Chloride Moisture Test according to ASTM F-1869. Moisture vapor transmission should not exceed the recommended levels of 5 lbs. or less per 1,000 sq. ft. in 24 hours. This test should be performed and documented prior to installation. A second testing option determines relative humidity in concrete floor slabs using In-Situ Probes, which should be less than 75% RH per ASTM F-2170 before, during and after installation.

**PH LEVELS:** PH must be between 5 and 9

Inspection of flooring material prior to installation is required. Any defects should be immediately reported to the retail store from which the flooring was purchased before installation.

Mohawk will not be responsible for labor costs to repair or replace material with defects that were apparent before or noticed at the end of an installation. The job site and all flooring material and adhesive must be kept between 65° F and 85° F (18°C and 29°C) for 24 hours before, during and after installation.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If removal of existing resilient floor covering is required, follow all recommended Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) work practices at [www.rfci.com](http://www.rfci.com).

## Permanent Full Spread Installation Steps:

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### Step 1

Align the pattern with the most dominant wall. Using a sharp utility knife, trim away excess material along the walls, cabinet and other permanent objects, leaving approximately 2" of material to be trimmed off later.

### Step 2

Make relief cuts at corners to allow the material to lay flat before the final cuts are made. Final trimming does not require a 1/8" to 1/4" expansion gap when using M640 Pressure Sensitive Releasable Adhesive as this is a permanent installation.

### Step 3

Fold back half of the material and apply Roberts 2310 Adhesive to the substrate using the appropriate trowel. If a seam is required, leave an 18" dry zone at the edge of the seam. Then follow the Seaming Instructions in the Permanent Full Spread Residential Installation section found below.

### Step 4

Do not immediately place the material into wet adhesive. To avoid bubbling, allow time for the adhesive to flash before positioning the material.

### Step 5

Slide the material in place and remove air and vapors under the material using a vinyl floor roller over the entire adhered vinyl.

### Step 6

Repeat steps 3-5 for the remaining half of the flooring material.

## Seaming Instructions in a Permanent Full Spread Residential Installation:

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1. After adhesive is troweled on and allowed to flash, position the flooring by over-lapping the seam edges. *(Make sure to match patterns.)*
2. With a straight edge and a sharp utility knife, cut through both layers of flooring material *(double-cut)* at the designated match point. Make sure the utility knife blade is held in an upright position for a clean 90 degree cut.
3. Fold back both sides of the seam area and apply the Roberts 2310 Adhesive to the dry zone. Allow the adhesive to flash before placing the material into the adhesive.
4. Place one side of vinyl into the adhesive and roll using a seam roller.
5. Apply small bead of 7500 Seam Sealant long the edge of the installed vinyl.
6. Place the edge of the uninstalled vinyl against the edge of the installed vinyl and press into place.
7. Remove excess sealer by wiping the seam area using a clean, dry cloth followed immediately with a clean cloth dampened with appropriate cleaner.
8. Using a clean cloth, repeat until all residue is removed from the surface of the vinyl and protect the seam for six hours minimum.

## Additional Instructions/Notes:

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- Always inspect the flooring thoroughly before installation.
- DO NOT slide heavy appliances or furniture over or across the flooring. Always lift objects and place them on a hard board between the flooring and object and gently reposition them.
- Use caulk next to bathtubs, showers, sliding doors, patio doors, around metal door jambs or similar areas.
- For bathroom installations, it is not necessary to remove the toilet. Make relief cuts around the perimeter of the toilet and make sure the vinyl flooring is lying flat before trimming off the excess material. Apply permanent flexible caulk around the toilet, next to the bathtubs and showers to prevent moisture from getting under the vinyl. Note: if there is a ceramic sanitary cove and no place to install trim mold, you can apply silicone caulk around the walls.
- Make sure furniture legs have large surface, non-staining plastic floor protectors or non-staining felt pads. The protectors should be at least one inch in diameter and rest flat on the floor. The heavier the item, the wider the floor protector should be. Replace small, narrow metal or dome-shaped glides with smooth, flat glides that are in flat contact with the floor.

## How to Treat Stains, Spills & Scuffs

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Follow the remedies in order. Unless instructed otherwise, use a clean, white cloth or towel with products recommended for vinyl flooring. Always rinse the affected area with clean water after treatment.

The Stain or Spill – acids, alkalis, blood, catsup, mustard, food, fruit, fruit juices, candy, cleaners, strong soaps, dye, dye markings, urine and feces, grass, iodine, mercurochrome and rust

### The Remedy

- First, remove as much solid material as possible.
- Scrub area with full strength cleaner.
- Rub the area with a 10 to 1 dilution of water to liquid bleach.
- Rub the area with isopropyl alcohol.
- If rust stain does not respond, use lemon juice or a cream of tartar solution.

The Paint & Solvent Spills – dry cleaning fluids, lacquer and latex paint, nail polish, solvents, oil-based paints, wood stains and varnish

### The Remedy

- If substance is dry, gently peel it from the floor. Avoid sharp instruments that could scratch floor.
- Scrub area with non-abrasive cleaner.
- Rub lightly with odorless mineral spirits or paint thinner.

**NOTE:** Do not use acetone or nail polish remover!



Substances That Won't Wipe Up – adhesives, chewing gum, oil, grease, candle wax and tar

**The Remedy**

- First, remove as much solid material as possible.
- Carefully remove excess with a spoon or fingernail.
- Scrub area with non-abrasive cleaner.
- Rub lightly with odorless mineral spirits, isopropyl alcohol or lighter fluids.

Scuffs & Smudges – rubber heel marks, shoe polish, scuffs and smudges

**The Remedy**

- Rub the scuff with fingertip, rubber will come right off. The friction from the rubbing will remove rubber.
- Scrub area with non-abrasive cleaner.
- Rub lightly with isopropyl alcohol or lighter fluid.

**CAUTION!**

Isopropyl alcohol, lighter fluid, odorless mineral spirits and paint thinner are flammable solvents. Carefully read and follow cautionary information on their respective labels. Keep traffic off treated area for 30 minutes.