

PLEASE FOLLOW THESE PROCEDURES FOR KEEPING YOUR FLOOR LOOKING ITS BEST.

### **Immediately After Installation**

- Because your floor adhesive needs time to thoroughly dry after installation, we recommend that you do not scrub or wet wash your floor for five days.
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- Immediately after installation, wipe dirt and scuff marks off your floor with a clean, white, damp cloth.
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- When the floor is dry, apply 3 to 5 coats of Armstrong Shinekeeper\* Long-Lasting Floor Polish or Satinkeeper Low Gloss Floor Finish, following the instructions below under Polishing Your Floor. Allow a minimum of 30 minutes for drying time between coats. (On humid days, drying may take much longer.) Note: Vinyl composition tile is coated with Fast Start Factory Finish, which does **not** require removal after installation. It is compatible with floor polishes.
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- **NOTE:** For Armstrong Natural Options and Natural Creations, it is necessary to scrub the surface to prepare the flooring for polish; this can be done five days after installation. Scrub with Once 'n Done\* Floor Cleaner, using 1/4 cup per gallon of water and a scrubbing pad (blue/green, or equal). When the floor is dry, apply 3 to 5 coats of Armstrong Shinekeeper\* Long-Lasting Floor Polish or Satinkeeper Low Gloss Floor Finish, following the instructions below under Polishing Your Floor.
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- Optional: Application of 1 or 2 coats of S-495 Sealer is optional but rarely needed in a residential setting. If used, the S-495 Sealer must be applied before application of Shinekeeper or Satinkeeper polish. The S-495 Sealer should be applied with a clean mop or applicator (note: the typical residential sponge mop may result in a visually unacceptable appearance).

### **Regular Maintenance**

- Sweep or vacuum frequently to minimize dust and grit. If you have an upright vacuum, use the wand attachment since the beater bar may scratch the polish. This will extend the life of each application of polish.
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- When necessary, wash with Once 'n Done\* Floor Cleaner, using 1/4 cup per gallon of water. Wash your floor in small segments and do not let water stand on the floor. Water can temporarily soften the polish and allow scratching. However, softened polish will dry and return to normal in about 24 hours.
- Special note for Safety Zone: When washing Safety Zone, use a soft nylon scrub brush and rinse after washing. Do not use a mop on Safety Zone because it may tear when used on this surface. If a nylon brush does not seem to bring up the residue, you will need to use a stiff-bristle brush with Once 'n Done. Rinse, and remove excess moisture with a wet vac. If you use the stiff-bristle brush, you will need to apply another two coats of polish after washing. Be sure the floor is thoroughly dry before applying the polish.

### **Polishing Your Floor**

- These floors do not have a no-wax wear layer and must be polished. Polish protects your floor and is the key to keeping it looking beautiful.
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- When your floor shows wear, it is time for another layer of polish. Wash your floor thoroughly with Once 'n Done before applying polish. Only polish the worn areas to reduce polish buildup.
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- Apply Shinekeeper or Satinkeeper with a dampened sponge or sponge mop. Pour some polish into a clean bucket. NEVER POUR POLISH DIRECTLY ONTO THE FLOOR. Dip your sponge into the polish and wring it out so it does not drip. Spread the polish evenly over 3 or 4 square feet at a time, going over each area only once to avoid streaking. The polished segment should appear wet, not puddled.
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- Most of the time you will only need one coat (after the initial 3 to 5 coats). However, if you do need another coat, allow ample drying time between each coat, with 30 minutes as a minimum.

### **Removing Old Polish**

- Removing or "stripping" old polish should be done only when absolutely necessary. One way to tell if your floor needs stripping is if the brightness and colors of the floor are dull, even though the floor appears shiny.
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- Removing old polish is a slow process, so allow time to do the job correctly.
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- Use Armstrong New Beginning Extra-Strength Cleaner and Wax Stripper\*, designed to be used straight from the bottle. Spread New Beginning over a 3' x 3' area and allow it to soak for 5 minutes. (Doing a larger area or allowing a longer soaking time will allow the solution to begin to dry.) After 5 minutes of soaking, scrub the area vigorously with a scrubbing pad or stiff-bristled scrub brush. Immediately soak up the milky solution with a sponge and rinse thoroughly with generous amounts of clean water, using a separate sponge. After the rinse water is mopped up, move on to the next area.
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- After each area is dry it should look dull and faded. If a spot seems shiny or bright, it has not been completely stripped and must be stripped again or the new polish will have an uneven appearance.
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- After stripping, allow your floor time to dry thoroughly before repolishing with 3 to 5 coats of Shinekeeper or Satinkeeper.
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### **Helpful Hints**

- If you have dark colors in your floor, you may notice whitish spots from liquids which were spilled and not quickly wiped up. Don't rub at these spots, and do not walk on them. The absorbed water will evaporate and the appearance will return to normal in about 24 hours.
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- High humidity can cause the polish to soften slightly. Heavy objects like tables and chairs may become stuck in the polish (this can also occur if a new coat of polish is not allowed to dry thoroughly). To move furniture which is stuck, gently tap the foot sideways with a heavy object wrapped in a towel. Floor protectors can minimize this problem if you live in a humid area.
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- When moving appliances and furniture, lay a plywood panel on your floor and "walk" the appliance across it.
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- Never use soap-based detergents, including dishwashing and laundry detergents on your floor. Soap causes a dulling film.
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- If using Once 'n Done\* Floor Cleaner trigger spray as an overall floor cleaner, the mop, sponge or cloth must be rinsed thoroughly to prevent any dirty residue buildup.
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### **Stain Removal**

- Most stains can be removed by stripping the polish from the stained area, which will also remove the stain. After stripping, repolish the area. If you have stripped the polish and the stain remains, please call the Armstrong Consumer Solution Center at 1 800 233-3823.

\* !WARNING: Eye and Skin Irritant