

Forbo floor care: Sphera SD | EC sheet vinyl

The Forbo Sphera SD | EC conductive vinyl collections are easy to clean and maintain, thanks to their unique 'SMART' control surface treatment.

General advice

Protect newly laid floors. All newly laid floors should be covered and protected from all other trades during the contract with a suitable non-staining protective covering. Use protective feet on chairs and tables to reduce scratching. Castor wheels should be of soft material suitable for resilient floor coverings (according to EN425).

Initial clean before use

Newly installed floors should not be wet cleaned within 3 days of installation.

Remove all surface debris, dust and dirt from the floor and then clean with a neutral floor cleaning solution. For larger areas, a scrubber dryer, or a rotary machine (150-180 rpm) with a 3M red pad or equivalent may be used. Remove soiled water from the surface using an absorbent wipe, mop, or wet vacuum. Then rinse with clean water and allow the floor to dry.

On clean room construction sites e.g. Pharmaceutical, Biotech facilities, operating theatres, cleaning may not be required. If required, in such cases remove all surface debris and dust from the floor by vacuuming or dust mop. Dry buff the floor with a vacuum rotary machine (150 to 180rpm) and a 3M red pad or equivalent.

Important note for conductive installations:

Do not apply any wax or emulsion floor finishes in ESD protected area as these may adversely affect the conductive properties of the floor.

Recommended Floor care products

Note: The use of acidic or high alkaline cleaning products, degreasers, solvents and ceramic tiles cleaners or similar chemical based cleaners are not recommended for cleaning Forbo PVC and linoleum resilient floorcoverings. The use of those cleaning products may cause damage to the floorcovering and will void the product warranty.

Cleaning products with a pH 7.0 - 8.5 neutral cleaner such as Forbo's Monel is considered safe to use on all Forbo PVC and linoleum resilient floorcoverings.

Mineral turps can be used to remove adhesive residue followed by rinsing with neutral detergent and water mix.

Forbo do not recommend using any type of builder's plastic, carpet protector film, rubber underlays or corfluke to protective Forbo PVC floorcoverings because of possible plasticiser migration staining.

Floorcovering protection prior to or post building process; Forbo recommend a non-staining, moisture and paint resistant, 1.15 mm thick paper similar as, but not restricted to Ram Board. www.ramboard.com.

Regular cleaning

The frequency of regular cleaning and the appropriate method required, will depend on the amount of traffic, soiling levels, desired appearance, and hygiene standards.

Remove dust and loose dirt by vacuum cleaning, sweeping or dust mop.

Remove spots, stains and spillages with a damp mop and a neutral floor cleaning solution.

If required:

Spray clean the floor with a rotary machine (150-180 rpm), a 3M red pad or equivalent and neutral floor cleaning solution (This is the most appropriate cleaning method for raised access floors).

Periodic maintenance

The following maintenance actions should be used when needed to maintain a satisfactory level of appearance.

Remove dust and loose dirt by vacuum cleaning, sweeping or dust mop.

Remove spots, stains and spillages with a damp mop and a neutral floor cleaning solution and **either**: Spray clean the floor with a rotary machine (150 to 180rpm) and a 3M red pad or equivalent (for heavily soiled areas only, a blue or green pad may be used) using a pH neutral floor detergent. **Or** Clean the floor with a scrubber drier (150 to 180rpm) and a 3M red pad or equivalent using a pH neutral floor cleaning solution.



Best Practice: Tips for effective floor care

Cautionary Note: 3M pad system blue or green pads are not required for normal cleaning and maintenance. 3M pad system brown or black pads should not be used on Sphera SD | EC for normal cleaning and maintenance. In addition, any pads with enhanced abrasion are not recommended.

Machine speeds

For machine cleaning low speed (150 to 180rpm) machines are recommended. For dry burnishing high speed (300-500rpm) machines are recommended.

Use Entrance Systems

As much as 80% of dirt entering a building is brought in by foot traffic. Entrance flooring systems of an appropriate size (ideally more than 6lm) and quality should be used. Forbo Coral or Nuway entrance flooring systems, are independently proven to remove and retain up to 95% of all dirt and moisture entering a building by foot traffic; reducing maintenance costs and maximizing appearance retention of adjacent flooring products as well as reducing slip risk. As with any dirt removal system all entrance flooring systems should be regularly cleaned to release the dirt which has been removed.

Important note for conductive installations:

Do not use floor maintenance products containing wax or polymers in ESD protected areas as these may adversely affect the conductive properties of the floor.

Effective maintenance

Regular cleaning is more beneficial and cost effective than occasional deep cleaning.

Use recommended cleaning solutions. High quality cleaning solutions and equipment ensures efficient maintenance and should represent only a small proportion of maintenance costs.

Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for cleaning solutions.

Always follow the Health and Safety guidance provided.

Frequently Asked Questions

How often should I clean my floor?

The optimum frequency for cleaning and maintenance is determined by the nature and usage of the building and how the floor is used. When producing a cleaning and maintenance schedule, it is good practice to consider the situation of the floor first: e.g. is it near an entrance to the building or on an upper floor? Will it collect dry or moist soil? What level of traffic will it be subjected to? Is there a lift for heavy equipment?

Do I need to polish my floor?

Do not apply any wax or emulsion floor finishes in ESD protected areas as these may adversely affect the conductive properties of the floor.

Note: Polish or buffable floor maintenance products may only be used on Sphera SD | EC in areas where conductive properties are not required.

How do I remove stains?

Remove stains as soon as they are discovered. Most stains can be safely removed using a dry (paper) towel, water and/or neutral cleaning solution (such as Forbo's Monel).

High alkaline or low acidic cleaning solutions, abrasive powders, solvents or cleansers should not be used as they can be harmful to both people and to the floor.

If any doubt exists test cleaning materials on a sample piece or in an inconspicuous area.



FLOORING SYSTEMS

Buffing tips

Dry buffing enhances gloss; helps remove black marks and repairs scratches.
Be sure to buff with a clean buffing pad.
Take good care of your pads. Check and flip when they get soiled.
Wash, rinse and hang to dry after use.

Cleaning pads, machine speeds and floor care products

Pad codes

The colour codes indicating grades of pads may vary depending on the manufacturer/country.

Task	3M Pad colour
For regular spray cleaning	Red
For periodic maintenance	Red

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Additional help and information

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