

# Taking care of your Flotex

Thank you very much for buying Forbo Flotex. We want to make sure that you're happy with your flooring for many years to come. Your Flotex floor will maintain its good looks provided some simple cleaning procedures are followed.

## Every day cleaning

For best results vacuum regularly with an upright vacuum cleaner. It's a good idea to set the brush adjustment on the lowest setting so that the brush actually touches the pile. When vacuuming, push forward at normal speed and pull back at half speed. This gives the brush time to sweep out any fluff etc that may have been pushed between the fibres. Pet hair should be removed with a damp cloth.

## Clean away



### Scrape

Scrape off as much of the spillage as possible into a paper towel or cloth. Use a paint scraper or blunt utensil.



### Scrub

Pour a liberal amount of hot water onto the area. Add a small amount of detergent (approximately 1 teaspoon of detergent to 5 litres of water). Use a suitable carpet shampoo or detergent. Then scrub using a stiff brush and scrape the dirty solution into an absorbent cloth.



### Rinse

Rinse thoroughly with clean water. Scrape the excess water into an absorbent cloth and leave to dry.

## General rules

Remember, a little detergent goes a long way. Rinsing is extremely important – always ensure that all detergent has been removed.

If a stain comes back, either the spillage has not been properly removed or there may be detergent residue left behind.

Soak with warm water then scrape, scrub, rinse. For larger areas use a hot water extraction machine.

## Wet cleaning

Flotex benefits from the occasional wet clean. This can be carried out with a machine such as Vax or hot-water extraction machine available from dry cleaners and DIY machine hire shops.

The recommended detergent supplied with these machines is suitable for use on Flotex. However, it should only be used in a very weak solution; about one part detergent to one hundred parts water. You should always rinse Flotex with clean water after using any detergent.

Mopping or wiping is not recommended as this only cleans the top of the pile.

## Dealing with spillages

Accidents will happen! Remove spillages as quickly as possible using the following guidelines:-

### Wet spillages

Includes fatty foods, cooking oil, water-based drinks, non-fatty sauces, oil, petrol and paraffin.

- If possible, remove the spillage as soon as it occurs.
- If the spillage has dried, pour on hot water and allow to soak for 5–10 minutes before attempting to remove it.
- For small areas use the scrape, scrub, rinse routine using a weak detergent solution or suitable carpet cleaner (1 teaspoon detergent to 5 litres of water).
- For larger areas see the previous wet cleaning section.

### Dry spillages

Includes washing powder, dry powder paint and spices.

- Lift off any excess spillage.
- Vacuum/brush thoroughly.
- DO NOT use water. This will simply activate bleaching or colouring agents and could result in permanent staining.

### Mud

- Allow to dry then vacuum
- Then refer to scrape, scrub, rinse routine or wet cleaning section.

### Waxes

- Scrape off excess.
- Use suitable dry cleaning fluid, then rinse.

### Tar, solidified fat

- Use suitable dry cleaning fluid.
- Then refer to scrape, scrub, rinse routine or wet cleaning section.

### Paint

- Scrape off excess.
- Water based: Wash with detergent solution
- Spirit based: Use suitable dry cleaning fluid, methylated/white spirit.
- Rinse.

### Alcoholic drinks

- Scrape off excess
- Wash with weak detergent solution or methylated/white spirit.
- Rinse

### Ball-Point ink, Shoe polish

- Use methylated spirit or white spirit.
- Wash with weak detergent solution.
- Rinse.

### Chewing gum, sweets, plasticine, modelling clay

- Freeze with suitable freezing agent and break off brittle pieces.
- If necessary, wipe sparingly with suitable dry cleaning fluid.

## WARNING

Flotex can be permanently damaged by strong acids, strong alkalis, some solvents or materials containing them. It can also be stained by dyes, foodstuffs and other materials containing dyes or strong colourants. Bleach and substances containing bleach, oxidising and reducing agents may also damage and/or discolour Flotex.

Damage may be minimised by immediately diluting the spillage with water, then removing with an absorbent material or extraction machine. Urine can also stain Flotex if not cleaned effectively.

### Vinyl carpet protector:

Not recommended, can damage Flotex.

### Burns:

Cigarettes or other hot objects can melt the nylon pile, resulting in permanent damage.

### Stilettoes, uncapped chairs:

As with any floor covering, stiletto heels, uncapped chairs and other articles applying high point loads can damage Flotex.



If you have any queries on fitting, cleaning, repairing or maintaining Flotex, please call **0800 0935 846** for assistance.

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