

Forbo Flooring Cleaning and Maintenance advice:

Forbo Flooring Cork Linoleum is has a flexible factory applied surface finish which should not be removed. The finish is part of the linoleum and the perfect base for your ongoing use of the floor. Forbo Monel is recommended for initial and ongoing cleaning of Cork linoleum

Forbo Monel is a detergent based combined cleaning and maintenance product that can be used with all Forbo floor coverings. Like linoleum, Monel is made entirely from natural ingredients.

A diluted solution (125ml/5l water) of Monel is applied by mop to provide a protective surface film (Monel Film). This film absorbs wet dirt, which will is then removed at the next maintenance action. By consistent and regular application of the Monel method, the original satin gloss is retained. This contributes to the natural appearance of the floor and makes minor distortions less visible.

Initial clean before use

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

Vacuum or sweep the floor to remove all debris, dirt and dust and clean the floor with a mop and neutral floor cleaner. Pick up dirty water with a wiper and mop or wet vacuum, rinse with clean water and allow floor to dry.

Note: if cement dust is present add approximately 2% of Citric or Acetic acid.

*To give your new Cork linoleum floor the best start, Apply **Monel** film with Monel solution and mop and allow the floor to dry before use.*

Regular cleaning:

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

- Remove dust and loose dirt by vacuum cleaning, sweeping or mopping.
- Remove spots, stains and spillages with a damp mop and a neutral floor cleaner.

. As required

- Apply **Monel** film with Monel solution and mop
- Allow floor to dry

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 mopping.
- Scrub the floor with a neutral floor cleaner and a scrub brush
- Rinse with clean water and allow floor to dry.
- Apply a fresh Monel Film and allow the floor to dry before use

Please note:

- Do not use a synthetic fibre pads on Cork linoleum as this will harm the surface structure.
- In heavily soiled areas, allow the neutral detergent to soak for some minutes before scrubbing
- Do not use Monel undiluted
- If machine cleaning is required for larger areas, use a standard speed (150-180rpm) rotary machine, or a cylindrical brush machine, fitted with soft brushes

Best practice: Tips for effective floor care

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)

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 (in commercial situation, 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 94% of all dirt and moisture entering a building by foot traffic; reducing maintenance costs and maximising 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.

Cleaning

- Regular cleaning is more beneficial and cost effective than occasional deep cleaning.
- Use recommended cleaning products. High quality cleaning products and equipment ensure efficient maintenance and represent only a small proportion of maintenance costs.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for cleaning products.
- Always follow the Health and Safety guidance provided.

Proper use of Floor Care Chemicals

The improper use of high pH maintenance products may damage resilient flooring. Frequent treatment or inadequate rinsing may cause cracking, shrinking, and/or discoloration. Cork linoleum should never be cleaned with high pH chemicals because permanent damage may occur.

Abrasive powders or cleansers should not be used.

Frequently Asked Questions

How often should I clean my floor?

The optimum frequency for cleaning and maintenance is determined by the way 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? Remember that light may need to be cleaned more frequently.

Do I need to polish my floor?

Monel is manufactured to preserve the natural satin appearance of the floor.

If a polish is required consult with your chosen supplier for suitability and application advice. It is advisable to try an application of the on a sample piece of material before applying to the whole floor.

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, detergent, white spirit or alcohol (in that order). Do NOT use highly alkaline products (ammonia, soda) or strong solvents such as acetone as they can be harmful to both people and to your floor.

Marks caused by	Removed with
Chocolate, grease, egg, coffee, juice, etc.	Neutral floor cleaner in lukewarm water
Bitumen, oil, rubber, soot	Cleaners' white spirits
Chewing-gum	Cool with cold spray or ice cubes and carefully scrape.
Rust	Oxalic or citric acid in lukewarm water

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

Do not use synthetic cleaning or scouring pads for stain removal.

Cleaning machines and pads

If machine cleaning is required, do not use synthetic fibre pads.

A standard speed (150 to 180rpm) fitted with a soft brush may be used on Cork linoleum. Alternatively a contra rotating cylindrical brush scrubbing machine fitted with equivalent soft brushes may also be used.

Recommended Floor care products

For regular cleaning use a pH neutral detergent such as M2 Care Ultra, a pH neutral anti-bacterial cleaning solution. Monel can also be used as cleaning solution 25ml/5L water. When applied as a maintenance film Monel should be diluted 125ml/5L water.

Do not use Monel undiluted.

Both of the example products above are available from the Wrennalls Group. Please tel. 01772 435739 for further information.

Other floor care products may be used on Forbo resilient floor coverings. If alternative products are to be used consult with your regular supplier for more information and guidance.

Contact us:

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