

Forbo floor care: Flotex flocked flooring

The unique construction of Flotex is what allows it to release soiling like no other textile flooring can. Unlike the looped and twisted fibres of conventional carpet tile, the smooth straight fibres of Flotex do not trap particles of soil, allowing them to be removed without difficulty during cleaning.

General advice

Protect newly laid floors. All newly laid floors should be covered and protected from all other trades during the construction with a suitable non-staining protective covering.

Use protective feet on chairs and tables to avoid excessive localised pile pressure.

Floor care products

Typically, Flotex only requires water for cleaning, but in certain circumstances a residue free carpet cleaner like **Sabco Professional Clean-It** should be used for spot cleaning and for periodic cleaning and/or remove and stubborn residuals use Flotex Fix-It concentrate. Available from Sabco - please contact 1800 066 522 for further information.

Other floor care products may be used on Forbo textile floor coverings. If alternative products are to be used consult with your regular cleaning supplier for more information and guidance. The incorrect use of cleaning solutions may cause damage and/or discolouration. Overuse or inadequate rinsing of cleaning solutions may compromise the performance of the floor. 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.

Note: Do not use bleach on or near Flotex, instead use chlorine-free hospital grade disinfectant. Damage caused to Forbo floors from the improper use floor care chemicals and equipment is not covered under Forbo warranty.

Routine floor care

Routine cleaning is typically performed a minimum of once a day, depending on the application, type of traffic and hours of operation.



1. Remove all surface debris by vacuuming using a dual motor upright vacuum with a rotating brush. Make several passes with the vacuum cleaner to ensure that all loose dirt is removed.

Note: Flotex requires basic routine care to keep it clean and prevent the accumulation of dirt and soil. Proper cleaning, such as daily vacuuming and routine self-contained water extraction can reduce contamination to virtually non-existent levels. Identify sources of soiling and react to spills immediately before they dry.



2. Spot clean as necessary using the **Scrape, Scrub and Rinse** cleaning method..

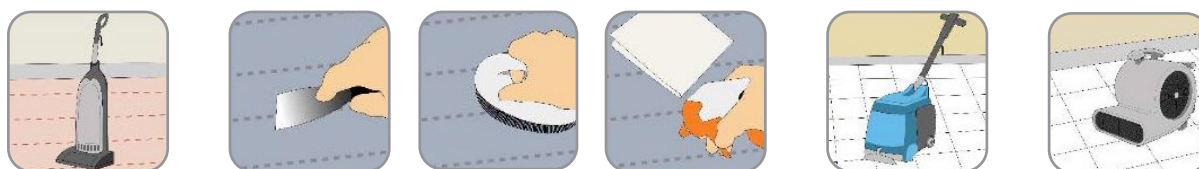
Scrape, scrub and rinse cleaning method



1. **SCRAPE** up spills and Spots using a spatula or blunt edge scraper and wipe excess soil onto a cloth.
2. Apply a liberal amount of clean water or diluted Sabco Clean-It solution to the spot
3. **SCRUB** the area using a dull putty knife or 5-in-1 tool. Don't be afraid to use aggressive scrubbing to remove set-in spills or Spots. A stiff nylon brush can be used to remove scuff marks or other set in Spots.
4. Recover the water and the remains of the spill or stain into a paper towel or cloth. Keep scraping until the spill or stain is completely removed. A spotter machine may be used to perform rinsing and recovery of the spill or stain.
5. If the spill or stain is not completely removed, use Flotex Fix-It to remove residual and stubborn stains. The most common problem when caring for Flotex is the over use of cleaning chemicals. The build-up of chemicals and cleaners will de-luster the Flotex fibres and leave a dull appearance. Chemical build-up also attracts dirt faster and speeds soiling. Dilute chemicals in strict accordance with the manufactures recommendations. Repeat Step 4.
6. **RINSE** the area thoroughly with clean water to ensure that any cleaning solution is completely removed.
7. Allow the floor to dry thoroughly before allowing traffic. Provide good ventilation or use a floor mounted air blower if necessary.

Interim cleaning

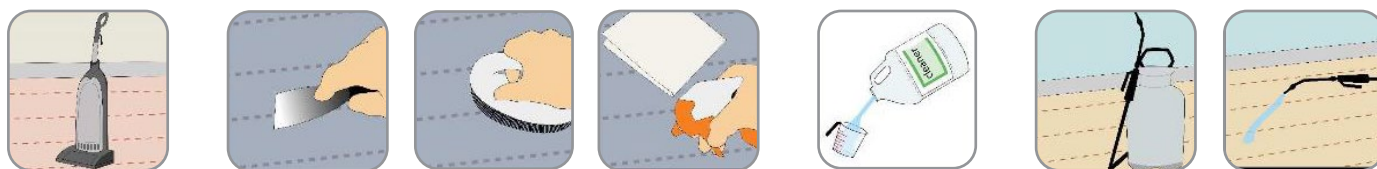
Cleaning performed as needed, depending on the application, type of traffic and hours of operation. The following processes should be followed when the routine cleaning is not removing the soil from the floor.



1. Remove all surface debris by vacuuming using a dual motor upright vacuum with a rotating brush
2. Spot clean as necessary using the Scrape, Scrub and Rinse cleaning method.
3. Use a 3 in 1 extractor or cylindrical carpet scrubber machine, preferably with counter-rotating brushes, using clean water only. Set the brushes to ensure maximum agitation and contact with the fibres.
4. Follow each wet pass with a minimum of two dry passes.
5. Best practice is to allow the floor to dry for a minimum of 3 hours. Use a floor mounted air blower if necessary. If traffic is allowed on the floor before it has completely dried, the fibres are more susceptible to attract soil, requiring additional cleaning to achieve the desired result.

Restoration cleaning

Restoration cleaning is important to maintain Flotex®. Periodically following the steps below will aid in the overall appearance of the floor. A good indication that restoration cleaning is required is when interim cleaning is not removing the soil from the floor.



1. Remove all surface debris by vacuuming using a dual motor upright vacuum with a rotating brush
2. Spot clean as necessary using the 'Scrape, scrub and rinse' cleaning method
3. Mix a cleaning solution by diluting Flotex Clean-It solution in accordance with manufacturers recommendations
4. Apply the cleaning solution to the floor with a pump sprayer. Allow the solution to dwell on the floor for 5 - 10 minutes. Additional dwell time may be necessary for heavily soiled floors.

Please ensure that the entire floor is completely wet before moving onto the next step. If the floor is not wet enough the friction between the nylon fibres of Flotex and the brush can cause the machine to become uncontrollable.



5. Scrub the floor using diluted Sabco Clean-It according to manufacturer's recommendation using either a rotary, 3 in 1 or cylindrical carpet scrubber
6. Remove water by using extraction equipment and repeat if necessary with fresh water
7. Best practice is to allow the floor to dry for a minimum of 3 hours. If traffic is allowed on the floor before it has completely dried, the fibres are more susceptible to attract soil, requiring additional cleaning to achieve the desired result. Use a floor mounted air blower if necessary.

NOTE: Weather, traffic and geographical location will influence the required frequency of this procedure. For example, in areas where there are large amounts of soil and sand it will likely be necessary to perform this procedure more frequently. In dry climates, or where there is less dirt traffic, it may not be necessary to perform this procedure as frequently.

Best Practice: Tips for effective floor care

Use entrance matting system

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 entrance flooring, 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.

Effective maintenance

Regular cleaning is more beneficial and cost effective than occasional deep cleaning. Allowing soiling and staining to build up within the textile fibres, may lead to permanent damage and discolouration.

Use recommended cleaning solutions such as Clean-It. 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?

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 diluted Sabco Clean-it solution. 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.

Note: Do not use bleaching agents as these may damage the product and affect the colour

Stain removal cleaning guide:

Wet Spillage – For small areas and small accidents use the scrape, scrub, rinse procedure.

Dry Spillage – Lift off any excess spillage and vacuum thoroughly

Chewing Gum – Use a proprietary chewing gum remover suitable for nylon textile flooring

Stain has Returned – May be detergent residue or not fully rinsed after cleaning. Soak with warm water and use scrape, scrub, rinse procedure or use Flotex Fit-It cleaning solution. Repeat until all detergent residues are removed.

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

Watch our Flotex cleaning demo video: <https://youtu.be/QEVXpup6kV8>

For further information, please contact us on 1800 224 471 or email info.au@forbo.com.

