

# Forbo Floor Care - Marmoleum

## Forbo Flooring Cleaning and Maintenance advice:

Forbo Flooring Marmoleum collections are easy to clean and maintain, thanks to Topshield pro, an innovative and durable factory finish which should not be removed.

The Topshield pro finish is part of the linoleum and the perfect base for your ongoing use of the floor.

## Initial clean before use

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

Remove all debris, dirt and dust off the floor and clean the floor with a neutral floor cleaner, like Forbo Monel.

For larger areas a scrubber dryer or a rotary machine (150-300 rpm) with a 3M red pad (5000) or equivalent may be used. Pick up dirty water with a wiper and mop or wet vacuum, rinse with clean water and allow floor to dry.

If required dry or spray buff the floor with a rotary machine (150-300 rpm) and 3M red pad (5000) or equivalent.

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

The floor is now ready for use, and does not require any further treatment or finish application.

If the application of additional finishes is being considered refer to FAQ's later in this guide.

## 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.

## 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.
- Remove spots, stains and spillages with a damp mop and a neutral floor cleaner.
- Use mechanical cleaning, like Spray Buffing the floor with a rotary machine (150-300 rpm) and a 3M red pad (5000) or equivalent using a buffable floor maintainer to remove gloss irregularities and provide an even appearance.

## Cautionary note:

Only the 3M pad red pad is required for normal cleaning and maintenance. 3M pad system brown or black pads or any pads with enhanced abrasion (e.g diamond) should not be used on Marmoleum for normal cleaning and maintenance. Use of these types of pad could change the appearance, surface structure and affect the slip resistance of the floor. Before deviating from any of Forbo's published recommendations, please contact Forbo Technical support for assistance.

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 vinyl and linoleum resilient floor coverings. The use of those cleaning products may cause damage to the floor covering and will void the product warranty.

- Cleaning products with a pH (alkalinity) 7.0-8.5 neutral cleaner is considered safe to use on all Forbo vinyl and linoleum resilient floor coverings.
- Mineral turps can be used to remove adhesive residue followed by rinsing with neutral detergent and water mix.
- Floor covering 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.



# 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 (ideally more than 6lm) and quality should be used. Forbo Coral 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 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.

### 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. Marmoleum flooring 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 and uni-colours may need to be cleaned more frequently.

### Do I need to polish my floor?

The advanced Topshield pro finish applied on Forbo Flooring Marmoleum does not require the use of polish.

### 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 scrape.
Rust	Oxalic or citric acid in lukewarm water

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

### Buffing tips

- Spray or 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 machines and pads

### 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

**Note:** Blue or green pads are not required for normal cleaning and maintenance. When heavy soil is present and the use of a blue pad is employed a slight increase in sheen differential may be noticed. Brown or black pads should not be used on Marmoleum products

### Machine speeds

For machine cleaning 150 to 300 rpm is perfectly suitable.

### Conductive Marmoleum Ohmex

Look for separate advice for these floors e.g. to maintain conductivity of an Ohmex-floor only cleaning and maintenance products that do not reduce the conductivity of the flooring should be used.

### Recommended Floor care products

Forbo Flooring Systems recommends the use of a neutral cleaner such as Forbo Cleaner or Forbo Monel. For spray buffing use a pH neutral floor maintainer.

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

**For more information on how you can enjoy the floor for a long time go to [www.forbo-flooring.com.au/topshieldpro](http://www.forbo-flooring.com.au/topshieldpro)**

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