What is Ambering?

Ambering is the slight yellow hue to Marmoleum when it is first removed from the packaging. This is a natural phenomenon that happens with Marmoleum and is completely normal.

Linseed oil, a natural oil extracted from flax seeds and one of the main ingredients in Marmoleum is what causes this yellow hue. This very important ingredient in Marmoleum provides several unique characteristics:

- Linseed oil, along with wood flour, makes the floor naturally anti-static, repelling dust, making Marmoleum easy to clean.
- When exposed to air and light, the linseed oil oxidizes from within the Marmoleum and continues for the life of the product. This makes the material harden over time and become more durable.

As time passes, the ambering will fade as Marmoleum is exposed to light, but its unique characteristics will not. The process may take as little as a few hours in bright sunlight, but it can take longer with artificial light. Areas that are not exposed to any light will retain the yellow hue until they are exposed to light. If an area of Marmoleum is covered for an extended period, it’s possible the yellow hue will re-appear. Don’t be alarmed – it will fade once again when it’s exposed to light.

Because this is a natural occurrence in the product, there is no set time frame for the yellow hue to fade. This is not a material defect. It’s actually a sign that Marmoleum is revealing its unique and valuable characteristics! Performing floor care procedures will not inhibit the process. It’s just takes a little bit of time and understanding what great benefits this process brings to Marmoleum!

All colors of Marmoleum are subject to ambering, however it can be more noticeable in certain colors. Light blues, greens, greys and beiges will display a more visible yellow hue than darker colors. To discover the true color of Marmoleum, follow these few simple steps:

1. Take a piece of Marmoleum and cover one half with heavy paper, cardboard or another piece of Marmoleum.
2. Place these pieces in direct sunlight for approximately 1 hour.
3. After the time has passed, remove the cardboard or heavy material and see the visual difference first hand.

*Left side of samples show material before the ambering has dissipated and the right side shows material after the ambering has dissipated.