

Marmoleum and vinyl manual floor care system using monel detergent

Forbo Monel is a residual soap film detergent which requires basic floor care tools when maintaining Marmoleum and vinyl in areas of high traffic concentration, abrasive sand and grit or where the floorcoverings will receive minimal maintenance due to time restrictions and where limited use of appropriate cleaning machines is necessitated.



Regular Cleaning of Marmoleum

1. Wipe with dust mop, fringe scissor type mop or vacuum cleaner with a vacuum wand fitted with a brush suction head.
2. Do not use a flat metal or plastic vacuum wand head as the mechanical action of the wand being moved over the floor surface could abrade or scratch the Marmoleum if grit is trapped between the wand head and the area being cleaned.
3. Remove contaminants and spots by mixing a solution of Monel water mix and wet spray the area, scrub clean with a doodle bug / deck scrubber fitted with a **RED** cleaning pad. If this action does not succeed in removing the spot dampen a clean white rag with Mineral Turpentine and gentle rub the spot area. Rinse off with Monel and clean water mix.

Periodic Cleaning

1. Clean the Marmoleum with mop and twin bucket mop system (one bucket for contaminated water one bucket for clean water) and Monel water mix. Change contaminated cleaning water at intervals of approximately 30 m2 of floor area.
2. Pick up the dirty contaminated water with a wipe, mop or wet vacuum.
3. Rinse with clean water and clean mop.
4. Apply a fresh film of Monel water mix with a clean mop and allow the floor to dry.

Occasional Maintenance

1. Scrub manually or machine with Monel (125 ml in 5 litres of clean cold water) using a soft to medium scrubbing brush, **RED** pad or soft brush fitted to an appropriate cleaning machine.
2. Pick up the dirty contaminated water with a wipe, mop or wet vacuum
3. Rinse with clean water and a mop.
4. Apply a fresh film of Monel water mix and allow floor to dry.

Key Principles

1. Where possible, PREVENT sand, grit and dirt reaching the Marmoleum and other floorcoverings by installing Forbo Coral barrier mats at all main external doorways.
2. Use MINIMUM MOISTURE and aim for MAXIMUM SOIL REMOVAL. Clean dry what can be cleaned dry; it is safer and more cost effective.
3. PREVENTION is better than cure. Good initial preparation of Marmoleum and vinyl will set a high standard of appearance which will be cost effective to maintain and which will enhance the life cycle of the product.
4. LEAVE NO RESIDUAL ALKALINITY. Many cleaning chemicals are alkaline; however, probably more cleaning problems are created by alkaline residue than by any other factor.
5. NO CONTAMINATION of equipment. Colour code mops to ensure that cross contamination of maintenance materials and cleaning products does not occur.

Helpful Hints

1. To help remove rust marks cut a lemon in half, squeeze the lemon juice onto the mark and let soak for a few minutes, rub the wetted mark with a clean rag to help agitate the mark, once removed rinse over with clean water.
2. To help remove scuff marks attaching a new tennis ball to a broom handle (saves bending down) then gentle rub the scuff mark until it is removed.
3. To help neutralise the smell of urine in toilets mix one cup – 250 mm of white vinegar in 5-8 litres of warm water and wet scrub the area, rinse off with clean water. Perform this task as necessitates.
4. To neutralise alkaline residue after using floor stripper or using high alkaline cleaning chemicals, mix one cup – 250 mm of white vinegar in 5-8 litres of clean water and wet rinse the area. Mop up any wet residue and let the area dry.
5. Neutral alkaline (pH) is 7. Forbo recommend neutral detergents that are pH 7 (neutral) to a range when mixed with clean water not to exceed 8.5 pH.
6. To remove any Monel build up from the floor; simply mix neutral detergent in warm water and wet mop or wet scrub the floor with a **RED** pad fitted to a swing cleaning machine. Pick up any contaminate water with a wet vacuum or mop, rinse with clean water and let dry.
7. The Forbo Monel film can be lightly buffed to give a slightly shinier appearance by using a low speed buffing machine fitted with a white buffing pad. **Do not** use any type of **high speed buffing machine** on Monel as the Monel is a modified soap residue which can be easily damaged and removed by this process.
8. Always check that chairs and table legs have felts or plastic end stoppers on the bottom. Unprotected metal chair legs may damage your floor. Mobile petition boards generally don't come with felt or plastic feet. Over time when exposed to moisture from wet mopping, the powder coated feet of these petition boards may bleed their colour into the floor. Please add felts or plastic furniture feet to these mobile petition boards. **Do not use rubber items on vinyl floorcoverings as most types of rubber will stain.**
9. As a general rule when using cleaning brushes; test the rigidity/hardness of the brush by moving it slowly down your forearm. If the brush leaves a red mark or chafe it is too hard to be used for manual or mechanical cleaning of Forbo Marmoleum or vinyl floorcoverings.
10. As a general rule contaminated cleaning water should be changed every 30 m² of floor area.

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