

The Forbo Colorex conductive vinyl collections are easy to clean and maintain, thanks to their highly durable pressed vinyl construction.

## 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. For larger areas a scrubber dryer or a rotary machine (150-180 rpm) with a 3M red pad or equivalent may be used (if the floor is heavily soiled, a blue or green pad may be used). Pick up dirty water with a wiper and mop or wet vacuum, rinse with clean water and allow floor to dry. Dry buff the floor with a rotary machine (150 to 180rpm) and a red pad to restore normal gloss levels.

On clean room construction sites e.g. Pharmaceutical, Biotech facilities, operating theatres, deep or abrasive cleaning may not be required. In such cases remove all debris, dirt and dust off the floor by vacuuming or light damp mopping. Allow the floor to dry. Dry buff the floor with a rotary machine (150 to 180rpm) and a red pad.

In either of the above situations, if a higher gloss finish is required dry burnish with a white or beige pad.

**Important note for conductive installations:** Do not apply any wax or emulsion floor finishes in ESD protected area as these may adversely affect the conductive properties of the floor.

## 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:

- Spray clean the floor with a rotary machine (150-180 rpm), a 3M red pad or equivalent and neutral floor cleaner (This is the most appropriate cleaning method for raised access floors).

## 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 and **either**:
- Spray clean the floor with a rotary machine (150 to 180rpm) and a 3M red pad or equivalent (for heavily soiled areas a blue or green pad may be used) using a pH neutral floor detergent.

Or

- Clean the floor with a scrubber drier (150 to 180rpm) and a 3M red pad or equivalent (for heavily soiled areas a blue or green pad may be used) using a pH neutral floor detergent.
- If required, to restore gloss levels dry buff the floor with a rotary machine (150 to 180rpm) and a red pad.

Difficult scuff marks may be removed by dry buffing with a rotary machine (150 to 180rpm) and a red pad, or by manual scrubbing with a deck scrubber, a blue pad and a suitable neutral cleaning solution. **Important note for conductive installations:** Do not use floor maintenance products containing wax or polymers in ESD protected areas as these may adversely affect the conductive properties of the floor.

# 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 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.

### Use of Floor Care Chemicals

The improper use of cleaning chemicals may cause damage and/or discolouration. Overuse or inadequate rinsing of cleaning chemicals may compromise the performance of the floor. 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?

### Do I need to polish my floor?

Do not apply any wax or emulsion floor finishes in ESD protected areas as these may adversely affect the conductive properties of the floor. Polish or buffable floor maintenance products may be used on Colorex in areas where conductive properties are not required.

### 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
Asphalt, 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

- 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 pads, machine speeds and floor care products

### 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
For heavily soiled areas	Blue or Green

**Note:** Brown or black pads should not be used on Colorex for normal cleaning and maintenance.

### Machine speeds

For machine cleaning low speed (150 to 180rpm) machines are recommended. For dry burnishing high speed (300-500rpm) machines are recommended

### Recommended Floor care products

For spray cleaning use a pH neutral detergent such as M2 Care Ultra, a pH neutral anti-bacterial cleaning solution. Where spray buffing is permissible/desirable use a pH neutral floor maintainer, for example M2 Daily. 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 Flooring resilient floor coverings. If alternative products are to be used consult with your regular supplier for more information and guidance.

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