

Forbo Flooring Cleaning and Maintenance advice:

The unique construction of Forbo Flotex® sheet and tile flooring is what allows it to release soiling like no other textile flooring can. Unlike the looped and twisted fibers of a conventional carpet pile, the smooth straight fibers of Flotex® do not trap particles of soil, allowing them to be removed without difficulty during cleaning. Most spills can be cleaned with plain water.

Initial clean before use

Newly installed floors should not be wet cleaned within 3 days of installation. Remove all surface soil, debris, sand and grit by vacuuming using an upright vacuum with a mechanically driven rotating brush. Make several passes with the vacuum cleaner to ensure that all loose dirt is removed. Vacuum action should be fast forward and slow backward. Spot clean if necessary.

Regular Cleaning

The frequency of regular cleaning method will depend on the amount of traffic, soiling levels, desired appearance, and hygiene standards.

- Vacuum using an upright vacuum with a mechanically driven rotating brush.
- Spot clean if necessary.

As required:

As part of regular cleaning, periodic use of a mechanical carpet cleaning machine is recommended such as:

- Hot water spray extraction machine
- 3 in 1 machine

Additionally, a cylindrical counter rotating brush machine (using brushes suitable for nylon fibres) may be used for small areas, spillage control or interim cleaning of lightly soiled traffic lanes.

Rinse floors thoroughly with clean water and allow the floor to dry before use.

Note: Deep cleaning should be carried out using the hot water spray extraction or 3 in 1 machines.

Spot Cleaning

Most spills will respond to the use of clean warm water, or the use of a neutral, non-foaming, carpet detergent. Where required for heavier or stubborn spills, the scrape scrub, rinse procedure below may be used.

Scrape, scrub, rinse procedure

1. Scrape up as much of the spillage as possible using a blunt edged scraper or spatula.
2. Apply a liberal amount of water, scrub with a hard bristled brush and scrape up the dirty liquid into a cloth.
3. Rinse with clean water. Scrape out as much of the liquid as possible into an absorbent cloth, using a blunt edged scraper or spatula.
4. If the spill or stain is not completely removed, repeat points 2 & 3 above using a neutral, non-foaming, carpet detergent or general purpose spotter cleaner to the affected area.
5. Rinse floors thoroughly with clean water and allow the floor to dry before use.

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 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.

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 colours may need to be cleaned more frequently.

How do I remove stains?

Remove stains as soon as they are discovered. Most stains can be safely removed using the spot cleaning advice given above. Do NOT use bleaching agents or strong solvents as they can be harmful to both people and to your floor.

Problem:	Try:
Wet Spillage	For small areas and small accidents use the scrape, scrub, rinse procedure.
Dry Spillage	Lift off any excess spillage Vacuum thoroughly
Chewing Gum	Use steam, solvent or proprietary freezing agent
Stain has Returned	May be detergent residue or not fully rinsed after cleaning. Soak with warm water and use scrape, scrub, rinse procedure. Repeat until all detergent residues are removed.

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

Recommended Floor care products:

Only pH neutral, non-foaming, carpet detergents suitable for nylon fibres should be used such as M2 Care Ultra, a pH neutral anti-bacterial cleaning solution. 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 Flotex floor coverings. If alternative products are to be used consult with your regular supplier for more information and guidance.

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

Contact us:

Web: www.forbo-flooring.co.uk
Email: info.flooring.uk@forbo.com
Telephone: 0800 0282 162
Fax: 01772 646912