

Armstrong

Care and Maintenance of Genuine Linoleum Floors

Polishing Genuine linoleum

Without polish, a genuine linoleum floor appears faded and dull and is more susceptible to soiling, staining, and permanent damage. New linoleum has a thin coat of factory-applied sealer, so that only 2-3 coats of Genuine Linoleum Floor Polish may produce an acceptable level of gloss and protection. A freshly stripped linoleum floor will likely require a minimum of 3 coats of polish for acceptable gloss and protection. A proper linoleum polish will be easy to apply, provide full protection from traffic and spills, and be removable with stripping detergents, which won't damage the linoleum. Armstrong Genuine Linoleum Floor Polish is designed to meet these requirements.

- Pour the Genuine Linoleum Floor Polish into a clean bucket. Never pour polish directly onto the floor. It produces negative side effects, such as, uneven gloss appearance caused by a higher gloss where the polish was poured, and streaking caused by softening of the previous coats of polish.
- Use a clean applicator that has been dampened with clean water. A clean sponge mop is a common choice for polish application. Some people prefer to apply polish with a hand held sponge or cloth.
- Dip the applicator into the polish in the bucket, then, wring it out approximately half way.
- With light pressure, wipe the applicator across an area 3-4 feet square using simple straight motions. Try not to go over the same spot more than once or twice. Rubbing back and forth over the same spot too often can cause the previous layers of polish to soften and develop marks that look like paint brush strokes. The marks will not go away and will be plainly visible when the polish dries. The only way to eliminate such streaks is to strip the polish and start over again. Proper application of a coat of polish will appear uniformly wet, but not puddled.
- Adequate drying time is also very important. As noted in the Genuine Linoleum Floor Polish instructions below, never allow less than 30 minutes of drying time for each coat of polish. If the floor being polished is located in an area of high humidity or if the current weather conditions exhibit high humidity, the polish will take substantially longer to dry. Even when the polish feels dry to the touch, it still contains moisture that will take many hours to evaporate. If another coat of polish is applied too soon or the application is too heavy (thick) or the applicator is rubbed over the area too many times with too much pressure, streaking will occur. The possibility of causing streaks rises with the number of coats of polish in a given period of time. After the last coat of polish is applied, wait as long as possible before allowing foot traffic on the floor. Try for at least 60 minutes. Wait even longer, if possible, before replacing furniture. The polish will take approximately 24 hours to reach maximum toughness, so, exercising some extra care at this stage should minimize scuffs and scratches to the new polish coating.