

XIII

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Commercial Maintenance Procedures

XIII. Commercial Maintenance Procedures

A. GENERAL MAINTENANCE INFORMATION FOR RESILIENT FLOORING

Why is Floor Care Necessary?

Following your flooring's recommended maintenance program improves its appearance and protects the floor by reducing wear and abrasion, which ultimately increases the service life of the flooring. It also contributes to a safe and healthy environment by minimizing potential slip and fall hazards and improving indoor air quality and cleanliness in the building. Walk-off mats, sweeping, mopping, polishing, and buffing protect more than just the floor – they protect the building owner's investment as well.

STAGES OF THE FLOOR CARE MAINTENANCE LIFE CYCLE

Initial

Initial maintenance defines those procedures that are to be performed on newly installed flooring. The extent of initial maintenance will depend on the level of cleanliness in which the installed floor covering was left.

Daily/Regular

As the name suggests, these are the procedures that are conducted on a frequent, daily, or routine basis. They are generally less aggressive procedures and consist primarily of dry soil and grit removal (vacuuming, dust mopping, sweeping) and damp or wet mopping. Daily/Regular maintenance is perhaps the most important aspect of a maintenance program and is designed to keep the floor at a consistent level of appearance. In high traffic environments, performing these simple procedures more frequently can extend the time between and need for more aggressive and costly periodic or restorative procedures.

Periodic

Periodic maintenance generally consists of more aggressive procedures that go beyond dry soil removal and damp or wet mopping. They incorporate machine scrubbing (with or without the application of floor finish), buffing, spray buffing, burnishing, or some combination of these procedures. Periodic maintenance will address traffic-laning and the overall appearance and gloss of the floor. In high traffic areas, these periodic procedures may be part of the Daily/Regular stage.

Restorative

Restorative maintenance is the most aggressive of all procedures. It typically involves stripping and refinishing of the floor and requires the largest investment of time, labor, and money. It is performed when Regular or Periodic maintenance no longer provides the desired level of appearance.

SAFETY TIPS

Since wet floors may be slippery, post “Wet Floor” or “Caution” signs before and during wet cleaning procedures and until the floor is thoroughly dry. Tape off aisles and other areas if necessary (example: 24-hour stores).

- Clean up spills and immediately remove gum, labels, stickers, and other substances to minimize/eliminate slip hazards.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment such as eyewear, gloves, and footwear.
- Inspect floor machines, making sure they are in good working condition according to the manufacturer’s recommendation.
- If possible, notify facility staff and occupants before conducting maintenance.
- Follow cautions and warnings provided by the manufacturer on all maintenance product containers.
- Dispose of residual cleaning products and containers per your local disposal guidelines.
- Refer to all maintenance products’ Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS).

1. FLOOR CARE FUNDAMENTALS

Preventative Maintenance

Grit Control

Controlling grit and soil is crucial to prolonging the attractive appearance of any floor. Grit or soil is any material – including dirt, stones, sand, and clay – that is deposited onto the floor by normal commercial traffic. The best way to control grit is by using appropriate walk-off mats.

Recommended walk-off mats should:

- Have a high-friction, open surface design to knock grit particles from the bottoms of shoes and then trap the particles.
- Be used at every entrance, inside and outside, and should be at least as wide as the doorway and 8' to 12' long.
- Have a backing that won’t stain the floor.
- Be cleaned and vacuumed regularly, and shaken and/or hosed off frequently.

Although walk-off mats will retain a substantial amount of this grit and soil, some particles will still find their way into the building. Regular vacuuming, sweeping, and dust-mopping will help control this type of grit.

Furniture Rests (feet, glides, casters, etc.)

Proper selection and care of furniture rests is important in the maintenance and appearance retention of all types of floor coverings. Following are some guidelines to consider:

- The contact area should be large enough to distribute the load evenly, without damaging the floor.

- The contact area should be smooth, flat to provide full contact, and free of small protrusions, irregularities, roughness, depressions, mold lines, embedded dirt, grit, etc.
- All edges should be slightly rounded to prevent damage if briefly turned on edge.
- Rests should be manufactured from non-staining materials.
- Rests should be properly maintained. Worn, damaged, or missing furniture rests should be replaced.
- Furniture, appliances, equipment, and other objects should be properly leveled so that all rests are fully and firmly on the floor at all times.

Heat-welded Seams

If not completed following the installation phase of heat-welded sheet flooring, apply a thin, even application of a commercially available, high-quality multi-purpose top coating such as Mohawk Ultra Bond Waterborne Clear Finish Marker (Satin or Matte Finish). This will help reduce the porosity and seal the top surface of the weld. This is most important when using one of the No Polish maintenance options. When maintaining a product without the use of floor polish, it may be necessary to periodically recoat the welded seams.

Maintenance Chemicals

Neutral Floor Cleaner

A neutral floor cleaner is mild (pH of 6 to 8) detergent that does not contain any strongly alkaline material. Neutral cleaners remove soil (not floor polish) and are used for damp mopping, spot mopping, scrubbing, and general floor cleaning.

General Purpose Cleaner

Stronger and more alkaline than neutral cleaners, general purpose cleaners are used in high traffic environments that might require the removal of more stubborn soils. Proper use and care should be taken as they can remove floor finish.

Disinfectants

Quaternary ammonium compounds (“quats”) are commonly-used disinfectants in healthcare infection control programs. For the most part, when properly used and diluted, they will have little or no effect on most floor coverings. Phenolic disinfectants tend to be caustic and are corrosive enough to damage floor finishes and sensitive resilient flooring.

Floor Sealer

Sealers, usually acrylics, are applied between the floor and the finish/polish to help fill the pores and smooth the surface. Sealers provide a base that promotes adhesion and increases the gloss of the finish/polish that is applied over it. Some sealers also provide stain resistance.

Floor Polish/Finish

Floor polishes and finishes are temporary coatings that enhance the appearance and protect the flooring surface to which they are applied. They are used for protection of the floor against abrasive wear and scratches from dust, dirt, grit, and debris, and also help to protect the floor from damage caused by spills.

Spray Buffing Solution

These specially formulated compounds are sprayed onto and buffed into the floor to renew the surface by filling in scratches and irregularities in the floor finish. Sometimes, diluted floor finish is used.

Floor Stripper

Strippers are highly alkaline (pH ≥ 10), deep penetrating chemicals, which, when properly diluted with water, loosen and remove sealers and finishes. They may also be used for the removal of heavily embedded soil.

Mop-on/mop-off strippers do not require machine scrubbing. The use of mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub, and/or no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors that are less than 2 years old, because they may affect the adhesive bond. The use of these highly solvenated or highly concentrated strippers can also be detrimental to linoleum and other specialty flooring products.

Cleaning the Floor

Damp Mopping/Spot Mopping

This procedure involves the removal of fine dust, grit, and spills from the floor surface with a mop dampened with a neutral detergent solution. Damp mop isolated spots and spills. Performed daily, this procedure helps to control grit and can reduce time and money spent on more intensive maintenance.

Wet Mopping

A floor cleaning method, which utilizes a detergent solution to wet the floor, is used primarily to remove soils not evacuated by sweeping or dust mopping. While wet, a mildly abrasive tool, such as a cotton or sponge mop, is used to agitate the surface. If required, rinse the floor thoroughly after washing it.

Scrubbing

The process of washing a floor by wetting it with detergent solution, then using a moderately abrasive nonwoven pad or appropriate brush, either by hand or attached to a low-speed floor machine, to vigorously agitate the wet surface. This procedure is used when a floor is heavily soiled and less aggressive cleaning methods have been unsuccessful. Always rinse thoroughly after scrubbing.

Rinsing

The process of removing residual cleaning/stripping solutions using clean, cool water. Change rinse water frequently. A stripping procedure may take multiple rinsings.

Wet Vacuuming

Using a vacuum cleaner designed to pick up aqueous solutions. It is particularly useful when scrubbing, stripping, or rinsing a floor.

Stripping the Floor

Stripping is the process of removing existing layers of old site-applied sealers and/or finishes from the flooring surface. A standard stripping chemical is diluted and applied to the floor with a mop or solution applicator and allowed to dwell. This solution penetrates the finish and re-emulsifies it into a semi-liquid state. Abrasive agitation is needed to completely remove the finish using a floor machine.

Stripping Tips:

- Proper dilution is critical to optimum performance.
- Stripping solutions for linoleum should not exceed a pH of 10.
- Stripping of newly installed Armstrong floors is not required nor recommended.
- This process is performed in the restorative stage of the maintenance life cycle and should only be performed when routine daily/periodic procedures are no longer effective.
- Stripping is used primarily with the polish maintenance option.
- When using the spray buff maintenance option, stripping may become necessary with the long-term build-up of spray buff solution (polish).
- Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor as it will become more difficult to remove. Failure to completely remove stripping solution residue may result in inadequate bonding of the floor finishes.
- Drizzling fresh, clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with a more thorough removal.
- The proper use of quality maintenance products and adherence to a well-planned maintenance program will greatly reduce the need for stripping.

NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub/no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than 2 years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.

Polishing/Finishing the Floor

There are three primary reasons for polishing a floor:

Protection

Polish will protect the flooring from the damaging effects of abrasive wear, the embedment of soils, many stains, and the leaching effect of frequent cleaning.

Appearance

The use of floor polish (finish) will impart an enhanced appearance and provide a uniform gloss.

Ease of Maintenance

The use of polish may allow for the floor to be more easily cleaned.

High-quality, water-based acrylic polishes are the most commonly used type of field-applied finishes for protecting and enhancing commercial resilient floors. S-480 Commercial Floor Polish, designed for durability and resistance to detergent solutions (except stripping solutions), offers a broad-spectrum response to a variety of maintenance procedures and equipment. Because there are numerous types of floor polishes available, it is important that they are properly selected to match the maintenance program.

NOTE: Static Dissipative Tile requires the use of S-392 SDT Polish.

Maintaining an acceptable gloss level is achieved by buffing, spray-buffing, or burnishing.

Supplemental coats of polish should be applied as appearance and gloss level dictate. To maintain optimal appearance and protection in high traffic and high soil areas (such as lobbies, chair-slide areas in classrooms and cafeterias, elevators, and supermarket checkout lanes), polish may need to be applied more frequently to maintain the minimum protective layer.

NOTES:

1. Prior to the application of floor polish, all dust, dirt, grit, and debris must be removed.
2. Always allow adequate drying time between coats. Drying normally takes 30 to 45 minutes, depending on the polish and site temperatures, humidity, and air circulation conditions.
3. Generally, no more than 4 coats of finish should be applied in a 24-hour period.
4. If a sealer is recommended or required, it must be applied before the polish. (See Sealing The Floor, below.)

Sealing the Floor

Generally, sealing a floor is optional. Sealers are usually used on older floors to improve maintenance characteristics and on floors where additional stain resistance is desired. Sealers may also promote adhesion. However, if the polish manufacturer recommends the use of a sealer, that recommendation should be followed.

Generally 2 coats of a sealer are sufficient to provide the desired protection. Sealers by themselves are generally not recommended as a walking surface. They must be top-coated with a floor polish. Resilient flooring sealers are generally applied by the same techniques used when applying floor polishes.

S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer is designed to provide a proper base for S-480 Commercial Polish, as well as to offer the added benefit of increased stain resistance.

Buffing Techniques

Buffing is the process of making the flooring surface smooth and glossy by friction. Care must be taken to combine the proper pads or brushes with the proper machine speed and the recommended polish or finish to produce the desired result. The revolutions per minute (rpm) of buffing machines and the selection of pads or brushes should be as recommended by the polish/finish/pad or brush manufacturer. Different types of buffing techniques include:

Spray-Buffing

Spray buffing is the process of applying and buffing the floor with a specially formulated spray buffing solution. This procedure is especially useful in high traffic areas. The solution is sprayed on the floor and then immediately buffed with a machine until dry. This

process levels and fills scratches and reduces the need for stripping while enhancing the floor's gloss level. Depending on the finish and the floor, spray buffing is performed at machine speeds of 175 to 1,000 rpm.

Dry-Buffering/Burnishing

This is the process of buffing a clean, dry flooring surface with a machine. Dry-buffing will restore or increase gloss; however, care must be taken to avoid damaging the surface. Conventional dry-buffing is typically done at 175-1,500 rpm. Ultra High Speed (UHS) burnishing is a similar process with typical machine speeds of 2,000 rpm or higher.

Equipment

Floor Machines

Automatic Floor Machines

- Self-contained machine that dispenses, scrubs and takes up cleaning solution in a single-pass operation
- Typically electric or battery powered
- Single or multiple disks
- Riding, robotic, or walk-behind
- 175-300 rpm range
- Typically used for cleaning and scrubbing

Single-Disc Floor Machine

- Manually operated swing machine
- Used for scrubbing, buffing and stripping
- Comes in various sizes (13" to 23" disc)
- Typically 175 rpm
- Usually electric

High-Speed Buffers

- Typically used for buffing and spray-buffing
- Typical speeds of 300 to 1,100 rpm
- Range in size from 13" to 23" discs

Ultra High Speed Buffer/Burnisher

- Used for quick buffing and burnishing, thereby reducing labor costs
- Usually a single-disc
- Operate in the 1,100 to 2,000-plus rpm range
- Propane, battery or electric
- Various sizes

Wet-vac

- A vacuum cleaner that picks up maintenance solutions
- Typically used when scrubbing or stripping a floor with a single disc swing machine
- Unlike an automatic machine, this would be done in a separate operation

Machine Pads

- A nonwoven nylon, polyester, or natural fiber disc up to 1" thick. Each disc has various types and sizes of intertwined fibers, some of which may have grit particles bound to fiber on the surface
- For scrubbing, stripping, and buffing
- The coarseness of the pad determines its use: least coarse for buffing, with increasing coarseness for scrubbing and stripping. Pads are color-coded to designate their coarseness and use. Lighter colored pads tend to be less abrasive, with darker colored pads being the most abrasive. Pad manufacturers generally follow these guidelines:
 - Natural fiber – burnishing
 - White – polishing
 - Beige – buffing
 - Red – spray-buffing and light scrubbing
 - Blue/Green (medium abrasive) – scrubbing and stripping
 - Brown (extremely abrasive) – not recommended for Armstrong resilient flooring
 - Black (extremely abrasive) – not recommended for Armstrong resilient flooring

Machine Brushes

- Used as an alternative to pads
- A circular brush with bristles of varying stiffness and abrasiveness, depending on whether it is to be used for scrubbing, buffing, or stripping. Bristles are made of natural or synthetic fibers or grit-impregnated nylon.
- Always follow brush manufacturer's guidelines for choosing the floor machine brush with the appropriate stiffness and abrasiveness.
- Advantageous on embossed surfaces and slip-resistant flooring

Mops

Dust Mops

- Used under dry conditions for the removal of loose surface soil, grit, and dirt
- Available in widths from 12" to 72"
- Alternatives include vacuums, brushes and brooms

Wet Mops

- Available in various sizes (16oz., 20oz., 24oz., 32oz., etc.)
- Usually cotton, rayon or blends of cotton, rayon and other synthetics
- Looped end or cut end
- Used in wet methods for the application and removal of maintenance solutions and rinse water

Specialty Mops

- T-shirt and chamois for use on slip-retardant products

Finish Mops

- Designed to absorb, release and spread floor finishes (polish)
- May be cotton, rayon, blends or microfiber

Microfiber Mops

- Composed of tiny (micro) fibers which provide more surface area
- Used for cleaning and/or finish application
- Use less maintenance solution than traditional mops

Petroleum and Antioxidant Staining

Antioxidants used in the manufacture of rubber and petroleum from exterior asphalt sealants and/or spills tracked in on shoes and casters may cause permanent discoloration to any resilient floor. The stain gradually appears over time. The use of a polish/finish will help minimize these types of stains.

Spills

Clean spills as soon as they occur to minimize slip and fall potential and impact on health, the environment, and the floor. Use the proper cleaning solutions; use only what is necessary and dispose of solution properly. Ensure occupants know whom to contact if a spill occurs.

Stain Removal

Stains should always be removed as soon as possible in order to prevent or minimize permanent discoloration. Use the least aggressive cleaner possible (water, neutral cleaner, etc.). More stubborn stains may require the use of a general purpose cleaner or a floor stripper. (For Linoleum, any maintenance solutions must be 10 pH or less.)

2. COMMERCIAL FLOOR CARE PRODUCTS

Product	Uses	VOC Content	Dilution Range	Spread Rate	Selection
S-392 Static Dissipative Tile Polish	EXCELON SDT Static Dissipative Tile	<1%	---	1,500 – 2,000 sq. ft./gallon	1-gallon
Features					
Metal cross-linked acrylic co-polymer that dries bright					
Can damp mop or spray buff					
Does not require buffing					
Strips easily					
Pleasant fragrance					
Benefits					
Helps floor keep its shine, even after repeated cleanings					
Added flexibility for increased convenience					
Save time and money					
Save additional time and money					
No harsh chemical odors					
Meets the ASTM D2047 standard for slip resistance on dry floors					
Can be used in a commercial setting					

Product	Uses	VOC Content	Dilution Range	Spread Rate	Selection
S-480 Commercial Floor Polish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Armstrong commercial vinyl floor coverings except SAFEGUARD, SAFEGUARD Spa and EXCELON SDT • Asphalt and rubber tile • Linoleum • Ceramic – although not of much value on glazed ceramic • Slate and terrazzo, although other products are designed for better results • DO NOT USE FOR: Wood and marble 	<1%	---	1,500 – 2,000 sq. ft./gallon coat depending on surface characteristics of floor	1-gallon 5-gallon
Features					
Metal cross-linked acrylic co-polymer that dries bright					
High durability					
18% solids					
Dries bright					
Excellent buffing response					
Readily strippable					
Meets the ASTM D2047 standard for slip resistance on dry floors					
Benefits					
Helps floor keep its shine, even after repeated cleanings					
Long lasting protection					
Easy application and excellent leveling					
Help for areas where buffing is not applicable or desired					
For spray-buff repairs or high-speed burning programs (up to 2,000 rpms)					
Compatible products for increased convenience					
Designed for use in a commercial setting					

Product	Uses	VOC Content	Dilution Range	Spread Rate	Selection
S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vinyl • Linoleum • Terrazzo, ceramic and brick • DO NOT USE FOR: Wood or cork 	5% undiluted; 0.2% when used as directed at highest dilution (6 oz./gallon)	Up to 64:1	---	1-gallon 5-gallon
Features					
Neutral floor cleaner		Benefits			
High efficiency		Less harsh than competitive cleaners			
For damp-mopping and moderate to heavy scrubbing		Allows dilution as low as 64 : 1			
Won't strip polish		Added flexibility for increased convenience			
Pleasant fragrance		Great for cleaning between polishing treatments			
Low foaming formula		No harsh chemical odor			
		Great for automatic floor machines			

Product	Uses	VOC Content	Dilution Range	Spread Rate	Selection
S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial resilient flooring 	<1%	---	1,500 – 2,000 sq. ft./gallon/coat	1-gallon 5-gallon
Features					
Stain resistant		Benefits			
Water-based acrylic emulsion		Protects porous or well-worn floor surfaces			
16% solids		Provides an excellent base for S-480 Commercial Floor Polish			
Semi-permanent		For easy application and excellent leveling			
High durability		Resistance to conventional polish stripping			
		Long lasting protection			

B. COMMERCIAL RESILIENT MAINTENANCE

Product	Factory Finish	Maintenance Options				Pads or Brushes
		No Polish – Low Maintenance Options		Traditional		
		Spray Buff	Dry Buff	No Buff	Polish	
Luxury Vinyl Tile						
NATURAL CREATIONS Mystix, EarthCuts, ArborArt NATURAL CREATIONS with I-Set Parallel	Urethane	✓		✓	Optional	Brushes Recommended See 1
Heterogeneous Vinyl Sheet						
REJUVENATIONS Ambigu, TimberLine, Ston- eRun	Urethane	✓		✓	Optional	Brushes Recommended See 1
Homogeneous Vinyl Sheet						
MEDINTECH, MEDINTONE, MEDLEY, ROYAL	Urethane	✓	✓		Optional	Either
Inlaid Vinyl Sheet						
POSSIBILITIES, Connection CORLON	Urethane	✓	✓		Optional	Either
Light Commercial Vinyl Sheet						
ABODE	Urethane	✓			Optional	Brushes Recommended

(Continued on next page.)

Linoleum – LinoArt Sheet and Tile with NATURCote II						
MARMORETTE, RHYTHMICS, COLORETTE, LINORETTE, GRANETTE (Sheet & Tile)	Urethane	✓	✓	✓	Optional	Either
Bio-Flooring						
STRIATIONS BBT Tile, MIGRATIONS BBT Tile	Acrylic				✓	Either
Vinyl Composition Tile						
RAFFIA, ARTEFFECTS, ChromaSpin, Classics, Companion Square, Stonetex, MultiColor, Imperial Texture, Rave, Feature Tile/Strips	Acrylic				✓	Either
Specialty Flooring						
SAFETY ZONE	Acrylic				✓ See 2	Brushes Recommended See 1
SDT (Static Dissipative Tile)	Acrylic				✓ See 3	Either
RUBBER TILE	None	✓				Brushes Recommended

See individual product pages for specific maintenance recommendations†.

1. Due to the textured surfaces on these products, the use of scrubbing brushes is highly recommended. Do not use stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes as they may damage the floor.
2. The uniquely textured surface of SAFETY ZONE requires that close attention be paid to maintenance. Using conventional commercial floor finishes makes maintenance of the embossed surface easier. Do not use too much floor finish because it will reduce the slip-retardant characteristics of the tile's surface. **As a guideline, maintaining 4 to 5 coats at all times should be sufficient.**
3. Use only Armstrong S-392 Static Dissipative Polish. Using other polishes or sealers may interfere with the electrical properties.

MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RESILIENT FLOORING

The following are general guidelines for maintaining Armstrong commercial flooring products. They are based on general experience using established methods and cleaning materials. It is important that these guidelines are read carefully as many of the products offer the end-user maintenance options. Ultimately, the local site conditions will determine what specific maintenance procedures and frequencies are needed. It is the responsibility of the maintenance provider to establish the maintenance program(s) that meet the demands of the space(s) and needs of the facility.

All resilient floor coverings require maintenance. How frequently the floors must be maintained depends largely on the factors described below. Following regular and well-planned maintenance programs protects the floor by reducing wear, preserves the floor's attractive appearance, and ultimately increases its service life.

C. HOW TO DETERMINE/TAILORE A MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Before establishing a maintenance program, there are a number of factors which must be considered in order to determine the most appropriate, cost-effective methods to use. It is critical that the maintenance methods for each floor and area be chosen only after careful evaluation with regard to the following:

Type of Flooring

It is important to know the type of floor before cleaning. Rubber or linoleum could be confused with vinyl or luxury vinyl tile (LVT) could be confused with wood or laminate.

Resources/Equipment/Chemicals/Personnel/Budget

Are well-trained maintenance personnel available?

Are the appropriate pieces of equipment (scrubbers, buffers, mops, pads, etc.) available?

Are the appropriate chemicals available?

What is the budget?

† Always refer to the Armstrong Guaranteed Installation Systems, manual (F-5061), Maintenance Recommendations & Procedures for Commercial Resilient Flooring (FP7440F8663), or armstrong.com/commercialflooring for maintenance information

End-User's Expectations

What is the desired gloss (high or low gloss)?

What is considered an acceptable level of appearance by the owner, customers, staff, or end-user?

Type of Facility & Location of Flooring

Entryways, lobbies, and pivot-point areas may require more protection and more frequent cleaning than lower traffic areas in other parts or upper levels of buildings.

Volume and Type of Traffic and Soil

Traffic types and volumes in entryways and corridors will vary greatly from those found at nurses' stations or in examination rooms. Dirt and grit carried in from the outside can differ significantly from the soils and chemical spills found in a laboratory or emergency room.

Special Traffic/Footwear

Areas subjected to frequent rolling loads provide a different environment than a children's play area or corridor in an elementary school.

Color/Design of Flooring

Color and pattern can have a significant impact on a floor's appearance and when properly chosen, may help mask soiling and staining. Mid-tones are better choices than light or dark colors. Busier/high contrast patterns will hide soiling and staining better than solid/monolithic ones.

D. MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS BY PRODUCT

LinoArt Linoleum Sheet and Tile with NATURcote II

MARMORETTE | RHYTHMICS | GRANETTE | COLORETTE | LINORETTE

Armstrong linoleum sheet and tile products are manufactured with NATURCote, a protective, high performance urethane finish that provides improved maintenance characteristics and maintenance options for the end-user.

For Best Results:

- Do not wet wash, machine scrub or strip the floor for at least five days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond and/or seam treatments.
- Use a proper walk-off mat program to control and reduce the amount of loose grit and soil coming into the building.
- Proper selection and care of furniture rests (feet, glides and casters) is important in the maintenance and appearance retention of all types of floor coverings. Protect the flooring from damage by using high-quality, non-staining protective rests for chairs, tables and other furniture, fixtures and equipment.
- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Maintenance solutions used on linoleum should not exceed a pH of 10 because linoleum is made primarily of natural raw materials (linseed oil, cork, jute and natural resins). The use of highly alkaline or solvenated solutions or abrasive materials may damage linoleum.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes or stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- On heat welded seams apply a thin, even application of a commercially available, high-quality multi-purpose top coating such as Mohawk Ultra Bond Waterborne Clear Finish Marker (Satin or Matte Finish). When using the No Polish Option, it may be necessary to periodically recoat the welded seam.
- If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

A. Initial Maintenance and Preparation for Commercial Traffic

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit, and debris.

2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on the container.

MAINTENANCE OPTIONS

Recognizing that end users prefer maintenance options, these products may be maintained using any of the procedures described below. Having completed Steps 1-2 above, choose a maintenance option based on your evaluation of the factors listed under “How to Determine Your Maintenance Program” and proceed as directed below.

1. Polish Option

- After completing Steps 1 and 2 under Initial Maintenance above, scrub the floor using a rotary machine or auto scrubber with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (pH 6 to 8), such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and a scrubbing pad (aggressiveness equivalent to 3M blue pad or equal). This will promote polish adhesion.
- Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
- Apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. In areas where the flooring will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents, the application of a stain resistant sealer such as Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer, prior to the application of polish, is recommended.

2. No Polish – Spray Buff Option

- After completing Steps 1 and 2 under Initial Maintenance above, scrub the floor using a rotary machine or auto scrubber with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (pH 6 to 8), such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and a scrubbing pad (aggressiveness equivalent to 3M blue pad or equal).
- Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
- Spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 1000 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution. This may be followed by dry buffing with a white pad

3. No Polish – No Buff Option

- After completing Steps 1 and 2 under Initial Maintenance above, scrub the floor using a rotary machine or auto scrubber with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (pH 6 to 8), such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and a scrubbing pad (aggressiveness equivalent to 3M red pad or equal)
- Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow floor to dry completely.

Your Armstrong linoleum flooring is now ready for commercial traffic.

B. Daily/Regular Maintenance

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit, and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.

2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.
3. Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis, depending upon traffic and soil levels in the area. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (pH 6 to 8) such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

C. Periodic Maintenance

1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (pH 6 to 8) such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing pad (3M red or equal for light scrub, 3M blue or equal for a deep scrub) or equivalent brush.
2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
3. Based on the selected maintenance option in Section A above, do one of the following:
 - If maintaining with the **Polish Option** and a sufficient base (3 to 5 coats) of polish remains, buff, spray-buff or burnish to restore gloss. If needed, additional coats of floor polish may be applied at this time
 - If maintaining with the **Spray Buff Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 1000 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution. This may be followed by dry buffing with a white pad.
 - If maintaining with the **No Buff Option**, periodic maintenance is complete.

NOTE: For the above Polish and Spray Buff options, at some point it may become necessary to remove polish build-up by stripping the floor. The use of high-quality maintenance products such as Armstrong commercial floor care products and adherence to a well-planned maintenance program will greatly reduce the need for stripping. Should stripping become necessary, follow the procedures outlined below.

D. Restorative Maintenance – Stripping

NOTE: Use only stripping chemicals designed for use on linoleum (10 pH or less).

1. Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly on floor with mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet if necessary.
2. Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent scrub brush to break up the polish film. **Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.**
3. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. **TIP: Drizzling fresh, clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with more thorough removal.**
4. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.

5. Based on the selected maintenance option in Section A above, do one of the following:
 - If maintaining with the **Polish Option** apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish.
 - If maintaining with the **Spray Buff Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 1000 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution. This may be followed by dry buffing with a white pad.

Linoleum Color Change

“Drying room yellowing” sometimes referred to as “seasoning bloom,” “drying room film” or “stove yellowing” is a natural phenomenon that occurs during the manufacturing process of all linoleum. As linoleum cures in the drying room, a yellowish cast may develop on the surface due to the oxidation of the linseed oil. This is not a product defect. Any change in the product’s appearance because of this yellow cast is temporary and disappears after exposure to either natural or artificial light. The time required for the yellow cast to disappear ranges from a few hours to several weeks, depending on the type and intensity of the light source. Typically, the yellow cast disappears more quickly with exposure to natural light. The application of floor finishes will not interfere with the dissipation of the yellow cast. Disappearance of the yellow cast will not occur on areas not exposed to light.

BioBased Tile

STRIATIONS | MIGRATIONS

Armstrong commercial BioBased Tile is coated with the Fast Start Factory Finish. Fortunately, the Fast Start Factory Finish makes initial maintenance quick and easy and does not require removal after installation. It is compatible with commercial floor polishes (such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish) and reduces the need to strip the tile. BioBased Tile requires polishing for protection, ease of maintenance and an attractive overall appearance.

For Best Results:

- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least five days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond.
- The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub, and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than 2 years old because these strippers may affect the adhesive bond.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes, or stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- It is important to protect the floor during the installation and construction phase. If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard, or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

A. Initial Maintenance – Immediately After Installation

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit, and debris.
2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following the warnings on the container.
3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.
4. Apply a minimum of 2 coats of a high-quality commercial floor polish (such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish) to temporarily protect the floor until regular maintenance procedures can begin. The use of a high-quality stain-resistant sealer such as S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer beneath the polish should be considered in areas of high traffic, areas of high soil load, and areas where staining potential is high.

B. Initial Maintenance – Preparation for Commercial Traffic

1. Machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent brush. If the floor is badly soiled and/or scratched, strip it using the same procedure but substituting a properly diluted stripping solution. **NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than 2 years old because these strippers may affect the adhesive bond.**
2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
3. Apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish, such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. If the floor has been stripped, the application of a stain resistant sealer (such as S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer) prior to the application of polish is recommended in areas that will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents.

C. Daily/Regular Maintenance

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit, and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.
2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.
3. Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis depending upon traffic and soil levels in the area. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

D. Periodic Maintenance

1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing pad (3M red or equal for light scrub, 3M blue, or equal for a deep scrub) or equivalent brush.
2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.
3. If there is sufficient polish (3 to 5 coats) remaining on the floor, buff, spray buff, or burnish to restore gloss.
4. If needed, additional coats of floor polish should be applied at this time.

E. Restorative Maintenance – Stripping

NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub, and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than 2 years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.

1. Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly to the floor with a mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet if necessary.

2. Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent scrub brush to break up the polish film. **Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.**
3. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. **TIP: Drizzling fresh, clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with a more thorough removal.**
4. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
5. Apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. The use of a high-quality stain-resistant sealer such as S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer beneath the polish should be considered in areas of high traffic, high soil load, and areas where staining potential is high.

Luxury Solid Vinyl

NATURAL CREATIONS: ArborArt | EarthCuts | Mystix

**NATURAL CREATIONS with I-Set Installation System: ArborArt | EarthCuts | Mystix
Parallel**

NATURAL CREATIONS and Parallel LVT tiles are manufactured with a protective urethane finish that provides improved maintenance characteristics and maintenance options for the end-user.

For Best Results:

- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least five days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond.
- The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than 2 years old because these strippers may affect the adhesive bond.
- Do not dry buff or burnish the unpolished surface of NATURAL CREATIONS or Parallel LVT. Floors which are to be dry buffed or high-speed burnished should have a sufficient base of polish (5 to 7 coats). Floors must also be clean and dry before burnishing. Any residual soil on the floor before burnishing will be ground into the finish, resulting in discoloration.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- The use of scrubbing brushes is recommended to reach into the textured surface to remove dirt, particles, and residues.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes or stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- It is important to protect the floor during the installation and construction phase. If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard, or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

NO POLISH, NO BUFFING MAINTENANCE SYSTEM

A. Initial Maintenance and Preparation for Commercial Traffic

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit, and debris.
2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following the warnings on the container.
3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

4. If necessary, scrub the floor using a rotary machine or auto scrubber with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and the appropriate scrubbing brush (aggressiveness equivalent to 3M red pad for light scrub, 3M blue pad or equal for a deep scrub).
5. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.

B. Daily / Regular Maintenance

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit, and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.
2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.
3. Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis, depending upon traffic and soil levels in the area. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution, such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

C. Periodic Maintenance

1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and the appropriate scrubbing brush (aggressiveness equivalent to 3M red pad for light scrub, 3M blue pad, or equal for a deep scrub).
2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.

ALTERNATIVE MAINTENANCE OPTIONS

Recognizing that some end-users may prefer other maintenance options, these products may also be maintained using floor polish (finish) or without polish using spray buff procedures as described below.

1. Polish Option

- After completing Steps 1 and 2 under Initial Maintenance above, scrub the floor using a rotary machine or auto scrubber with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and a scrubbing brush (aggressiveness equivalent to 3M red pad). This will promote polish adhesion.
- Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
- Apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. In areas which the flooring will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents, the application of a stain resistant sealer (such as S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer) prior to the application of polish is recommended.
- Regular and Periodic Maintenance should be performed as described above in Sections B and C.
- As needed, additional coats of floor polish should be applied. Additional coats should only be applied after scrubbing as described above in Section C – Periodic Maintenance.

2. Spray Buff Option

- After completing Steps 1 and 2 above under Initial Maintenance, scrub the floor using a rotary machine or auto scrubber with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and a scrubbing brush (aggressiveness equivalent to 3M red pad).
- Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
- Spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution.
- Regular and Periodic Maintenance should be performed as described above in Sections B and C.
- Spray buffing should only be conducted after scrubbing as described above in Section C – Periodic Maintenance.

NOTE: For the above two options, at some point it may become necessary to remove polish build-up by stripping the floor. The use of high-quality maintenance products such as Armstrong commercial floor care products and adherence to a well-planned maintenance program will greatly reduce the need for stripping. Should stripping become necessary, follow the procedures outlined below.

E. Restorative Maintenance – Stripping

NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than 2 years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.

1. Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly to the floor with a mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet if necessary.
2. Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing brush (aggressiveness equivalent to 3M blue pad) to break up the polish film. **Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.**
3. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. **TIP: Drizzling fresh, clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with a more thorough removal.**
4. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
5. Based on the selected maintenance option above, do one of the following:
 - If maintaining with the **Polish Option**, apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish, such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish.
 - If maintaining with the **Spray Buff Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution.

Heterogeneous Sheet

REJUVENATIONS | TimberLine | StoneRun | Ambigu

TimberLine, StoneRun and Ambigu are manufactured with a protective urethane finish that provides improved maintenance characteristics and maintenance options for the end-user.

For Best Results:

- On heat welded seams apply a thin, even application of a commercially available, high-quality multi-purpose top coating such as Mohawk Ultra Bond Waterborne Clear Finish Marker (Satin or Matte Finish). When using one of the No Polish Options, it may be necessary to periodically recoat the welded seam.
- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least five days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond.
- Do not dry buff or burnish the unpolished surface. Floors which are to be dry buffed or high-speed burnished should have a sufficient base of polish (5 to 7 coats). Floors must also be clean and dry before burnishing. Any residual soil present while burnishing will be ground into the finish, resulting in discoloration.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- The use of scrubbing brushes is recommended to reach into the textured surface to remove dirt, particles, and residues.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes or stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- It is important to protect the floor during the installation and construction phase. If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard, or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

NO POLISH, NO BUFFING MAINTENANCE SYSTEM

A. Initial Maintenance and Preparation for Commercial Traffic

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit, and debris.
2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following the warnings on the container.
3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution, such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

4. If necessary, scrub the floor using a rotary machine or auto scrubber with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and the appropriate scrubbing brush (aggressiveness equivalent to 3M red pad for light scrub, 3M blue pad or equal for a deep scrub).
5. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.

B. Daily/Regular Maintenance

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit, and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.
2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.
3. Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis, depending upon traffic and soil levels in the area. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution, such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

C. Periodic Maintenance

1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and the appropriate scrubbing brush (aggressiveness equivalent to 3M red pad for light scrub, 3M blue pad, or equal for a deep scrub).
2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow floor to dry completely.

ALTERNATIVE MAINTENANCE OPTIONS

Recognizing that some end users may prefer other maintenance options, these products may also be maintained using floor polish (finish) or without polish using spray buffing procedures as described below.

1. Polish Option

- After completing Steps 1 and 2 under Initial Maintenance above, scrub the floor using a rotary machine or auto scrubber with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and a scrubbing brush (aggressiveness equivalent to 3M red pad). This will promote polish adhesion.
- Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
- Apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. In areas in which the flooring will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents, the application of a stain resistant sealer such as S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer, prior to the application of polish, is recommended.
- Regular and Periodic Maintenance should be performed as described above in Sections B and C.
- As needed, additional coats of floor polish should be applied. Additional coats should only be applied after scrubbing as described above in Section C – Periodic Maintenance.

2. Spray Buff Option

- After completing Steps 1 and 2 under Initial Maintenance above, scrub the floor using a rotary machine or auto scrubber with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and a red scrubbing pad or equivalent brush.
- Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
- Spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution.
- Regular and Periodic Maintenance should be performed as described above in Sections B and C.
- Spray buffing should only be conducted after scrubbing as described above in Section C – Periodic Maintenance.

NOTE: For the above two options, at some point it may become necessary to remove polish build-up by stripping the floor. The use of high-quality maintenance products such as Armstrong commercial floor care products and adherence to a well-planned maintenance program will greatly reduce the need for stripping. Should stripping become necessary, follow the procedures outlined below.

C. Restorative Maintenance – Stripping

1. Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly to the floor with a mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet if necessary.
2. Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing brush (aggressiveness equivalent to 3M blue pad) to break up the polish film. **Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.**
3. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. **TIP: Drizzling fresh, clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with a more thorough removal.**
4. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
5. Based on the selected maintenance option above, do one of the following:
 - If maintaining with the **Polish Option**, apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish, such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish.
 - If maintaining with the **Spray Buff Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution.

Light Commercial

ABODE

ABODE is designed to be maintained by traditional residential and light-commercial resilient flooring maintenance options. These maintenance procedures are listed below. Select the maintenance procedure for your installation only after careful consideration as to its residential or light commercial end-use application. Following are some examples of end-use applications and their recommended maintenance procedures.

Product	Application	Recommended Maintenance Procedures
Military Housing & Assisted Living	Kitchens Bathrooms Residence Rooms Activity Rooms Group Dining Areas Corridors	Residential or Commercial Residential or Commercial Residential or Commercial Commercial Commercial Commercial
Hospitality	Guest Rooms Guest Bathrooms	Residential or Commercial Residential or Commercial
Light Commercial	Doctor/Dentist Offices Beauty Salons/Barber Shops Daycare Areas	Commercial Commercial Commercial

RESIDENTIAL MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES

Take a few moments to review some very important information that will help assure a longer, more attractive life for your floor.

For Best Results:

- Do not use detergents, abrasive cleaners, or “mop and shine” products as they may leave a dull film on your floor.
- Do not use paste wax or solvent-based polishes.
- Do not use a beater bar when vacuuming because it can damage the floor surface.
- Do not use highly abrasive scrubbing tools.
- Do not wash, scrub, or strip the floor for at least five days after installation. This prevents excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond and/or seam treatments.
- If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard, or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

- Use floor protectors (such as Armstrong Floor Protectors) on furniture to reduce indentation. As a general rule of thumb, the heavier the item, the wider the floor protector needed.
- Rolling casters can damage the floor. Therefore, we do not recommend them. If you choose to use them, the double wheel types are the best option.
- Place a walk-off mat at outside entrances to reduce the amount of dirt brought into your home. We do not recommend the use of rubber- or latex-backed mats because the chemical (antioxidant) used to keep the backing from becoming brittle can permanently stain your floor. We suggest a non-staining vinyl-backed mat or a woven rug that is colorfast. Most of these products are identified “colorfast” by the manufacturer. All Armstrong floor care products have been specifically developed to care for Armstrong floors. You may purchase Armstrong floor care products at your local flooring retailer.

A. Initial Maintenance

1. For 8 hours after seam application, protect the sealed seams on your flooring. This will ensure the proper seam bond. If your seams are disturbed before they are dry, permanent damage may result.
2. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit, and debris.
3. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on the container.
4. Damp mop with a properly diluted detergent solution, such as Armstrong Once 'n Done Resilient & Ceramic Floor Cleaner.

B. Daily/Regular Maintenance

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit, and debris. When vacuuming, use a non-powered wand attachment to avoid damaging the floor's surface.
2. Wipe up spills as soon as possible. Remove dried spills with Armstrong New Beginning Resilient Deep Cleaning Floor Stripper on a clean, white cloth.
3. Wash the floor regularly with properly diluted Armstrong Once 'n Done Resilient & Ceramic Floor Cleaner.
4. Use Armstrong New Beginning Resilient Deep Cleaning Floor Stripper for ground-in dirt.
5. Use Armstrong Shinekeeper Resilient Floor Finish to restore a like-new appearance if the floor is dulled from soap-based detergents, abrasive cleaners, or “mop and shine” products.

LIGHT COMMERCIAL MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES

For Best Results:

- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least five days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond.
- Do not dry buff or burnish the surface.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes, or stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard, or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

A. Initial Maintenance and Preparation for Light Commercial Traffic

1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit, and debris.
2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following the warnings on the container.
3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.
4. If necessary, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and the appropriate scrubbing pad (3M red or equal for light scrub, 3M blue or equal for a deep scrub) or equivalent brush. **NOTE: If the floor will be maintained with the Polish Option, the floor must be scrubbed with a floor machine fitted with a red scrubbing pad (3M red or equal).**
5. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.

Having completed Steps 1 through 5 under Initial Maintenance, choose a maintenance option based on your evaluation of the factors listed under "How to Determine Your Maintenance Program" (see Chap. VIII, Section C) and proceed as directed.

6. Maintenance options:
 - **Polish Option** – apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. In areas where the flooring will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents, the application of a stain resistant sealer (such as S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer), prior to the application of polish is recommended.
 - **Spray Buff Option** – spray buff the floor using a spray buff solution and the appropriate pad.

B. Daily/Regular Maintenance

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit, and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.
2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.
3. Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis, depending upon traffic and soil levels in the space. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution, such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

C. Periodic Maintenance

1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and the appropriate scrubbing pad (3M red or equal for light scrub, 3M blue or equal for a deep scrub) or equivalent brush.
2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
3. Based on the maintenance option selected, do one of the following:
 - If maintaining with the **Polish Option**, additional coats of floor polish may be applied at this time.
 - If maintaining with the **Spray Buff Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution. This may be followed by dry buffing with a white pad to increase the gloss.

D. Restorative Maintenance – Stripping

1. Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly to the floor with a mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet as necessary.
2. Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent scrub brush to break up the polish film. **Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.**
3. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. **TIP: Drizzling fresh, clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with a more thorough removal.**
4. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
5. Based on the maintenance option selected, do one of the following:
 - If maintaining with the **Polish Option**, apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish, such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish.
 - If maintaining with the **Spray Buff Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution. This may be followed by dry buffing with a white pad.

Homogeneous and Inlaid Sheet

MEDINTONE | MEDINTECH | MEDLEY | ROYAL* | SOLID*

POSSIBILITIES Petit Point | Connection CORLON

*Canadian exclusive

These products are manufactured with a protective urethane finish that provides improved maintenance characteristics and maintenance options for the end-user.

For Best Results:

- On heat welded seams apply a thin, even application of a commercially available, high-quality multi-purpose top coating such as Mohawk Ultra Bond Waterborne Clear Finish Marker (Satin or Matte Finish). When using one of the No-Polish Options, it may be necessary to periodically recoat the welded seam.
- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least five days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond and/or seam treatments.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes, or stiff-bristled, highly-abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- It is important to protect the floor during the installation and construction phase. If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard, or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

A. Initial Maintenance and Preparation for Commercial Traffic

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit, and debris.
2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following the warnings on the container.
3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.
4. If necessary, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing pad (3M red or equal for light scrub, 3M blue or equal for a deep scrub) or equivalent brush. **NOTE: If the floor will be maintained with the Polish Option, the floor must be scrubbed with a floor machine fitted with a red scrubbing pad (3M red or equal).**

5. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.

Having completed Steps 1 through 5, choose a maintenance option based on your evaluation of the factors listed under “How to Determine Your Maintenance Program” (see Chap. VIII, Section C) and proceed as directed below.

6. Maintenance options:

- **Polish Option** – apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish, such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. In areas where the flooring will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents, the application of a stain resistant sealer (such as S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer) prior to the application of polish is recommended.
- **Spray Buff Option** – spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution.
- **Dry Buff Option** – dry buff (maximum 1,500 rpm) with the appropriate pad until the desired luster is achieved. **If a higher gloss is desired, the application of a suitable floor finish is recommended.**

B. Daily/Regular Maintenance

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit, and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.
2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.
3. Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis, depending upon traffic and soil levels in the area. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution, such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

C. Periodic Maintenance

1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and the appropriate scrubbing pad (3M red or equal for light scrub, 3M blue or equal for a deep scrub) or equivalent brush.
2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
3. Based on the selected maintenance option above, do one of the following:
 - If maintaining with the **Polish Option** and a sufficient base (3 to 5 coats) of polish remains, buff, spray-buff, or burnish to restore gloss. If needed, additional coats of floor polish may be applied at this time.
 - If maintaining with the **Spray Buff Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution. This may be followed by dry buffing with a white pad.
 - If maintaining with the **Dry Buff Option**, dry buff (maximum 1,500 rpm) with the appropriate pad until the desired luster is achieved. **If a higher gloss is desired, the application of a suitable floor finish is recommended.**

D. Restorative Maintenance – Stripping

1. Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly to the floor with a mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet if necessary.
2. Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent scrub brush to break up the polish film. **Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.**
3. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. **TIP: Drizzling fresh, clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with a more thorough removal.**
4. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
5. Based on the maintenance option selected, do one of the following:
 - If maintaining with the **Polish Option**, apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish.
 - If maintaining with the **Spray Buff Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution. This may be followed by dry buffing with a white pad.
 - If maintaining with the **Dry Buff Option**, dry buff (maximum 1,500 rpm) with the appropriate pad until the desired luster is achieved. **If a higher gloss is desired, the application of a suitable floor finish is recommended.**

Vinyl Composition Tile

ARTEFFECTS | RAFFIA

**EXCELON: ChromaSpin | Stonetex | Companion Square | Feature Tile/Strips
Standard EXCELON: MultiColor | Imperial Texture | Imperial Texture Classics
Imperial Texture Rave**

Armstrong commercial vinyl composition tile is coated with the Fast Start Factory Finish. The Fast Start Factory Finish makes initial maintenance quick and easy and does not require removal after installation. It is compatible with commercial floor polishes (such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish) and reduces the need to strip the tile. Vinyl Composition Tile requires polishing for protection, ease of maintenance and an attractive overall appearance.

For Best Results:

- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least five days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond.
- The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub, and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than 2 years old because these strippers may affect the adhesive bond.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes, or stiff-bristled, highly-abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- It is important to protect the floor during the installation and construction phase. If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard, or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

A. Initial Maintenance – Immediately After Installation

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit, and debris.
2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following the warnings on the container.
3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

4. Apply a minimum of 2 coats of a high-quality commercial floor polish (such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish) to temporarily protect the floor until regular maintenance procedures can begin. The use of a high-quality stain-resistant sealer (such as S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer) beneath the polish should be considered in areas of high traffic and high soil load, and areas where staining potential is high.

B. Initial Maintenance – Preparation for Commercial Traffic

1. Machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent brushes. If the floor is badly soiled and/or scratched, strip it using the same procedure, but substituting a properly diluted stripping solution. **NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub, and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than 2 years old because these strippers may affect the adhesive bond.**
2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
3. Apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish, such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. If the floor has been stripped, the application of a stain resistant sealer (such as S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer) prior to the application of polish is recommended in areas that will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents.

C. Daily/Regular Maintenance

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit, and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.
2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.
3. Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis, depending upon traffic and soil levels in the area. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution, such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

D. Periodic Maintenance

1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and the appropriate scrubbing pad (3M red or equal for light scrub, 3M blue or equal for a deep scrub) or equivalent brush.
2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
3. If there is sufficient polish (3 to 5 coats) remaining on the floor, buff, spray buff, or burnish to restore gloss.
4. If needed, additional coats of floor polish may be applied at this time.

E. Restorative Maintenance – Stripping

NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub, and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than 2 years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.

1. Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly to the floor with a mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet if necessary.
2. Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent scrub brush to break up the polish film. **Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.**
3. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. **TIP: Drizzling fresh, clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with a more thorough removal.**
4. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow it to dry completely.
5. Apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish, such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. The use of a high-quality stain-resistant sealer (such as S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer) beneath the polish should be considered in areas of high traffic, areas of high soil load, and areas where staining potential is high.

Special Considerations

FEATURE TILE: Feature Tile, like solid-colored floors of any composition, shows scratches and soiling more readily than patterned materials. They have been designed for use as decorative bands, borders, and spot accent colors in combination with other Armstrong 1/8" Standard EXCELON and EXCELON Tile. Feature Tile is not suitable for use as an overall floor color and is not recommended for this use. When first installed, the plain-colored surface may reveal a light dusty or powdery film and some directional surface markings. These are common to the production of this type of product, but the markings will be eliminated with regular cleaning and polishing and they will not affect the performance of the floor.

STONETEX: Although Stonetex presents a monolithic or solid-colored image, the speckled pattern enables it to look better longer than Feature Tile or other non-patterned vinyl composition tile. Stonetex may require more frequent maintenance than a typical vinyl composition tile with a more prominent pattern.

Slip-Retardant Sheet

SAFEGUARD | SAFEGUARD Spa

Because SAFEGUARD and SAFEGUARD Spa are designed for slip retardance, floor polish is not recommended. Most floor polishes will adversely affect the slip-retardant properties of these floors. These floors should not be buffed or burnished.

For Best Results:

- On heat welded seams apply a thin, even application of a commercially available, high-quality multi-purpose top coating such as Mohawk Ultra Bond Waterborne Clear Finish Marker (Satin or Matte Finish).
- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not use floor polish to increase the gloss of this floor. Applying polish will adversely affect its slip-retardant characteristics.
- SAFEGUARD and SAFEGUARD Spa's uniquely textured surfaces require close attention be paid to maintenance.
- SAFEGUARD and SAFEGUARD Spa should be maintained with scrubbing brushes as machine pads are unable to reach into the textured surface to remove dirt, particles and residues.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes, or stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least five days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond and/or seam treatments.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- It is important to protect the floor during the installation and construction phase. If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard, or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

A. Initial Maintenance – Immediately After Installation

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit, and debris.
2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following the warnings on the container.
3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution, such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

B. Initial Maintenance – Preparation for Commercial Traffic

1. If necessary, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and the appropriate scrubbing brush. Floor machine pads are unable to reach into the textured surface to remove dirt particles and residues. Do not use stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes. Their use could damage the floor.
2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.

C. Daily/Regular Maintenance

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit, and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.
2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.
3. Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis, depending upon traffic and soil levels in the area. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

D. Periodic Maintenance

1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and the appropriate scrubbing brush.
2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.

E. Restorative Maintenance – Stripping

NOTE: Stripping is the process of removing existing layers of sealer and finish and should only be performed when routine daily/periodic procedures are no longer effective. The use of high-quality maintenance products such as Armstrong commercial floor care products and adherence to a well-planned maintenance program will greatly reduce the need for stripping.

Since floor polish is not to be used on SAFEGUARD and SAFEGUARD Spa, stripping will not be required. However, stripper could be used for the removal of heavily embedded soil.

Slip-Retardant Tile

SAFETY ZONE

In order to achieve slip-retardance, SAFETY ZONE flooring employs an embossed surface embedded with grit. This uniquely textured surface requires that close attention be paid to maintenance. The Fast Start Factory Finish makes initial maintenance quick and easy and does not require removal after installation. The ability to use conventional commercial floor polishes helps to minimize the added complication of cleaning an embossed surface. Do not use too much floor polish because it will reduce the slip retardant characteristics of the tile's surface. As a guideline, maintaining 4 to 5 coats at all times should be sufficient.

For Best Results:

- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least five days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond.
- The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub, and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than 2 years old because these strippers may affect the adhesive bond.
- SAFETY ZONE should be maintained with scrubbing brushes because machine pads are unable to reach into the textured surface to remove dirt, particles, and residues.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes, or stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- It is important to protect the floor during the installation and construction phase. If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard, or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

A. Initial Maintenance – Immediately After Installation

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit, and debris.
2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on the container.
3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution, such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

4. Apply a minimum of 2 coats of a high-quality commercial floor polish (such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish) to temporarily protect the floor until regular maintenance procedures can begin. The use of a high quality stain-resistant sealer (such as S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer) beneath the polish should be considered in areas of high traffic, areas of high soil load, and areas in which staining potential is high.

B. Initial Maintenance – Preparation for Commercial Traffic

1. Machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and a scrubbing brush. If the floor is badly soiled and/or scratched, strip it using the same procedure, but substituting a properly diluted stripping solution. **NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub, and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than 2 years old because these strippers may affect the adhesive bond.**
2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
3. Apply 2 to 3 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish, such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. If the floor has been stripped, the application of a stain resistant sealer (such as S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer) prior to the application of polish is recommended in areas that will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents.

C. Daily/Regular Maintenance

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit, and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.
2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.
3. Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis, depending upon traffic and soil levels in the space. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution, such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

D. Periodic Maintenance

1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and the appropriate scrubbing brush.
2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
3. If needed, additional coats of floor polish should be applied at this time.

E. Restorative Maintenance – Stripping

NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than 2 years old because these strippers may affect the adhesive bond.

1. Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly to the floor with a mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet if necessary.
2. Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing brush to break up the polish film. **Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.**
3. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. **TIP: Drizzling fresh, clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with a more thorough removal.**
4. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
5. Apply 4 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish, such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. The use of a high-quality stain-resistant sealer (such as S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer) beneath the polish should be considered in areas of high traffic, areas of high soil load, and areas in which staining potential is high.

Static Dissipative Tile

SDT



If electrical certification of an installation is required, do not perform any maintenance procedures or connect the grounding strips until after the certification has been completed.

SDT requires polishing for protection, ease of maintenance, appearance retention and optimum electrostatic discharge performance. **USE ONLY ARMSTRONG S-392 STATIC DISSIPATIVE POLISH.** Using other polishes or sealers may interfere with the electrical properties and/or the appearance of this flooring.

For Best Results:

- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash or machine scrub the floor for at least five days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond.
- **Do not strip the floor within the first 30 days after installation as it may affect the electrical performance properties of the tile.**
- Aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers should never be used on Static Dissipative Tile as these strippers may affect the product's electrical performance.
- Excessive and/or prolonged exposure to surface liquid may interfere with the bond of SDT to the subfloor. If a surface spill does occur, it must be contained and removed immediately.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes, or stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- It is important to protect the floor during the installation and construction phase. If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard, or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

A. Initial Maintenance – Immediately After Installation

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit, and debris.
2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on the container.

3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution, such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.
4. Apply a minimum of 3 coats of S-392 Static Dissipative Polish to temporarily protect the floor until regular maintenance procedures can begin.

B. Initial Maintenance – Preparation for Commercial Traffic

1. Machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent brush. If the floor is badly soiled and/or scratched, strip it using the same procedure but substituting a properly diluted stripping solution. Do not strip the floor within the first 30 days after installation. **NOTE: Aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub, and no-rinse strippers should NEVER be used on Static Dissipative Tile as these strippers may affect the product's electrical performance.**
2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
3. Apply 3 to 5 coats of S-392 SDT Floor Polish. Allow at least 60 minutes drying time between applications. Do not allow traffic on the floor for 6 to 8 hours after final coat of polish (overnight if possible). Do not perform any additional **wet** maintenance procedures until the last coat of polish has cured for a minimum of 72 hours.

C. Daily/Regular Maintenance

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit, and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.
2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.
3. Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis depending upon traffic and soil levels in the area. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution, such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

D. Periodic Maintenance

1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and the appropriate scrubbing pad (3M red or equal for light scrub, 3M blue or equal for a deep scrub) or equivalent brushes.
2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
3. Spray buff the floor to restore gloss and peak electrical performance. Spray a diluted solution of S-392 SDT Floor Polish (1 part S-392 to 2 parts water) onto the floor. Before the liquid can dry, buff it with a floor machine capable of 175 to 1,100 rpm, equipped with a buffing pad or brush (3M white pad or equal or equivalent brush).
4. Heavy-traffic areas may require extra coats of S-392 SDT Floor Polish (at full strength) on a more frequent basis. If needed, additional coats of floor polish should be applied at this time.

E. Restorative Maintenance – Stripping

NOTE: Do not strip the floor within the first 30 days after installation. Aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub, and no-rinse strippers should never be used on Static Dissipative Tile as these strippers may affect the product's electrical performance.

1. Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly to the floor with a mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet if necessary.
2. Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent scrub brush to break up the polish film. **Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.**
3. Remove dirty stripping solution. **TIP: Drizzling fresh, clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with a more thorough removal.**
4. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.
5. Apply 3 to 5 coats of S-392 SDT Floor Polish. Allow at least 60 minutes drying time between applications. Do not allow traffic on the floor for 6 to 8 hours after final coat of polish (overnight if possible). Do not perform any additional **wet** maintenance procedures until the last coat of polish has cured a minimum of 72 hours.

Installation Accessories

RUBBER TILE | STAIR TREADS

The formulation of Armstrong rubber products contains self-releasing waxes that will migrate to the surface and help to produce a natural luster. It takes about a month for these waxes to migrate enough to attain a satisfactory luster. The rubber product may have a tendency to “track” and require additional maintenance during this break-in period.

If additional luster is desired, Armstrong recommends using a cleaning and maintenance emulsion which contains a small amount of synthetic wax or wax-like additive.

For Best Results:

- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least five days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive cure and bond.
- Do not use strong solvent-containing cleaners or other harsh chemicals such as turpentine or acetone.
- Do not use stripping solutions like those commonly used on vinyl floor coverings.
- Do not use black, brown, blue, red, or beige maintenance pads or other types of abrasive pads such as steel wool.
- Do not use cleaning or polishing machines that exceed 350 rpm.
- The use of floor finishes is **not** recommended for Armstrong RUBBER TILE and STAIR TREADS.
- During the break-in period, do not “over clean” or use harsh detergents (high pH), which may reduce the emergence of the natural waxes.
- It is important to protect the floor during the installation and construction phase. If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard, or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

A. Initial Maintenance and Preparation for Commercial Traffic – Immediately After Installation

The removal of any adhesive on the face of the tile should be completed by the flooring contractor while the adhesive is fresh. If adhesive residue is still uncured or soft, remove with mineral spirits or warm water and a soft, clean cloth. If adhesive residue has been allowed to cure, removal will be very difficult. The following steps may be helpful:

- Apply mineral spirits with a clean cloth.
- Allow to stand for 5 minutes.
- Gently chip off residue with a wooden or plastic spatula. Do not use steel wool or other types of abrasive pads or cleaners.
- Wipe dry and repeat if necessary.

Some dullness in the product's finish may result but will disappear with normal maintenance.

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit, and debris.
2. Remove any ground-in soil and any residual manufacturing mold release agent by applying a properly diluted neutral (pH of 7 to 8) cleaning solution, such as Diversey Profi or equivalent. (Do not flood the floor.)
3. Allow the solution to stand for 5 to 10 minutes or follow the maintenance product manufacturer's recommendations. **DO NOT ALLOW THE SOLUTION TO DRY.** Then scrub as follows:
 - Large installations – Use a single or double brush floor scrubbing machine or automatic scrubber (150-300 rpm) equipped with a 22-gauge flagged nylon bristle brush or other scrubbing brush suitable for use on rubber flooring.
 - Small installations – Use a deck brush or floor scrubbing machine.

NOTE: It is important to use a “flagged nylon” (split ends or sanded ends of fibers) cleaning brush with open spaces and flexible brush ends to clean the high and low surfaces of Armstrong rubber tile without stripping the natural migrating waxes off of the studs. For recommended wet cleaning brushes contact:

Carlisle Sanitary Maintenance Products – Phone: 800 654 8210 or www.carlislefsp.com

Malish Corporation – Phone: 800 321 7044 or www.malish.com

4. Remove cleaning solution with a mop or wet vacuum.
5. Rinse with clean, cold water to remove residual spots or streaks and allow to dry completely.
6. There are two options for added luster:
 - a) The floor may be buffed with a floor machine (speed not to exceed 350 rpm) using a polishing brush suitable for use on rubber flooring. Do not heel the machine.

b) Apply a combination cleaner and maintainer such as Diversey WiWax or equivalent as directed on label.

- Allow the solution to stand or soak for 5 to 10 minutes, agitate with the mop or scrub as needed, then remove the excess solution with a mop. DO NOT RINSE.
- Let the floor dry completely.
- When dry, the surface may be buffed to a uniform luster with a rotary floor machine (not to exceed 350 rpm) using a polishing brush recommended for use on rubber flooring. The additives in the Diversey WiWax or equivalent will help in providing surface protection and gloss until the self-contained wax reemerges.

B. Continuing Regular Maintenance

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum daily to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit, and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface. Use walk-off mats that are as wide as the doorway and long enough to trap dirt and moisture before traffic reaches the resilient floor. Remember to clean walk-off mats regularly.
2. As needed, using a properly diluted, neutral (pH 7 to 8) detergent solution such as Diversey Profi or equivalent, agitate or scrub as required using a mop, deck brush, or single disc machine/automatic scrubber equipped with a 22-gauge flagged nylon bristle brush or other suitable scrubbing brush.
3. Rinse with clean water and allow to dry.
4. When dry, the floor may be buffed to a uniform luster with a small rotary floor machine (not to exceed 350 rpm) and a polishing brush suitable for use on rubber flooring. Small areas may be buffed with a clean towel, by hand, or with a towel wrapped around a broom.

NOTE: To maintain the desired gloss, the application of Diversey WiWax or equivalent as directed in Initial Maintenance and Preparation for Commercial Traffic may be used as needed or desired. This should only be done on floors that have been properly cleaned.

Color-Integrated Vinyl and Rubber WALL BASE

A. Maintenance

1. Wash with a neutral detergent solution (such as S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) diluted to 3 to 4 ounces per gallon in water, using a sponge or clean cloth.
2. If a higher gloss or protective finish is required, apply 2 coats of a high-quality commercial floor polish, such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish.

Commercial Hardwood

PERFORMANCE PLUS | HERITAGE CLASSICS COLLECTION

CENTURY FARM | METRO CLASSICS | BECKFORD PLANK

Permion Finishing System

For Best Results:

- Water **should not** be used to maintain your hardwood floor.
 - Oil-treated mops are not recommended to maintain your hardwood flooring.
 - **Do not apply** wax or polish your floor.
 - Place mats at all entrances to help prevent dirt and other debris from being tracked onto the floor. Rugs and mats should be slip resistant with a backing that is breathable and will not discolor the floor. All mats should be vacuumed daily.
 - Use protective casters/caster cups (non-marking rubber) or felt glides on the legs of furniture, racks, chairs, tables and other objects to prevent scratching, scuffing, and other damage to the hardwood floor. This will prevent major scratches from occurring.
 - Hardwood flooring, like other types of smooth finish floors, can become slippery when wet. Immediately wipe up wet areas from spills, foreign substances, or wet feet.
 - Remove tough spots like shoe polish, tar, and asphalt driveway seal with adhesive cleaner, low-odor mineral spirits, or nail polish remover containing acetone (follow instructions on label); wipe with a damp cloth.
 - Recognizing that hardwood floor dimensions will be slightly affected by varying levels of humidity within your building, care should be taken to control humidity levels within the 35-55% range. To protect your investment and to assure that your floors provide lasting satisfaction, we have provided our recommendations below.
 - **Heating Season (Dry):** A humidifier is recommended to prevent excessive shrinkage in hardwood floors due to low humidity levels. Wood stoves and electric heat tend to create very dry conditions.
 - **Non-Heating Season (Humid, Wet):** Proper humidity levels can be maintained by use of an air conditioner or dehumidifier, or by turning on your heating system periodically during the summer months. Avoid excessive exposure to water from tracking during periods of inclement weather. Do not obstruct the expansion joint around the perimeter of your floor.
- NOTE: Final inspection by the end-user should occur from a standing position.**
- When using vacuum cleaners, disengage the beater bar and use the bare floor setting.

- Metal caster wheels can damage the floor. Instead, Armstrong recommends using soft wheels wide enough to support the load.
- For minor abrasions or scratches, use a touch-up kit or acrylic filler to repair.
- Major damage can be repaired with a plank replacement.

A. Initial Maintenance

1. Remove any adhesive residue or petroleum based products with low odor mineral spirits. Urethane adhesives should immediately be removed with mineral spirits. Urethane adhesives become extremely difficult to remove when cured.
2. Following installation, the floor should be swept, dust mopped, or vacuumed to remove any grit or debris that could scratch the floor.
3. Thoroughly clean the floor with Armstrong Hardwood & Laminate Floor Cleaner spray using a micro-fiber mop.
4. Spray the floor cleaner directly on the floor or on a clean cloth dust mop. Do not allow excess liquid to remain on the surface. Do not use dirty mops or those that contain the residue of dust attractant compounds. Dust mop the floor as normal, misting the cleaning materials periodically while proceeding through the installation.

B. Daily/Regular Maintenance

1. Following a regular maintenance schedule, sweep, dust mop, or vacuum to remove any grit or debris that could scratch the floor. Hardwood flooring in a commercial setting should be cleaned on a daily basis.
2. Clean the floor as needed with Armstrong Hardwood & Laminate Floor Cleaner using a clean micro-fiber mop.

C. Periodic Maintenance

1. Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum the floor to remove any grit or debris that could scratch the floor.
2. Clean the floor as needed with Armstrong Hardwood & Laminate Floor cleaner using a clean micro-fiber mop.
3. Before the buffing procedure, clean all heel marks and debris from the hardwood flooring.
4. Buff the floor using a medium high speed buffer (175-750 rpm) and 3M white colored buffing pads or equivalent. Apply Armstrong Hardwood & Laminate Floor Cleaner to the surface in the path of the buffing machine using a misting bottle while proceeding through the installation.
5. The flooring should be walked and inspected for problem areas once a week. Any problem areas should be handled immediately.

D. Restorative Maintenance

1. Floor Repair

Minor damage can be repaired with an Armstrong Touch-Up Kit or Acrylic Filler. Major damage will require board replacement, which can be done by a professional floor installer.

2. Refurbishing/Reconditioning

From time to time, traffic patterns may appear in areas of high traffic or areas with many pivot points (cash, wrap, etc.). When necessary, the finish can be recoated using a number of different coating systems.

3. Chemical Bonding Systems

The floor is cleaned and a bonding agent is sprayed/buffed on the surface. Once the material is dry, one or more coats of commercial finish are applied. Always follow the manufacturer's recommendation.

4. Mechanical Bonding Systems

The floor is cleaned and lightly abraded with an abrasive pad. One or more coats of commercial finish are applied. Always follow the manufacturer's recommendation.

5. Scratches

For light scratches or color loss on Armstrong Acrylic Impregnated floors with a HartWood finish, please refer to www.floorexpert.com for maintenance and repair instructions.

6. Quick Fix Tips

Spots Caused By Food/Water/Animals:

Apply Hardwood & Laminate Floor Cleaner to a clean, soft cloth. Rub the area to remove the stain or spot. If needed, use low-odor mineral spirits with a clean cloth to remove the spots.

Grease/Lipstick/Crayon/Ink Spots/Rubber Heel Marks:

Apply Hardwood & Laminate Floor Cleaner to a clean, soft cloth. Rub the area to remove the stain or spot. If needed, use low-odor mineral spirits with a clean cloth to remove the spots.

Chewing Gum/Candle Wax:

Apply a sealed plastic bag filled with ice on top of the deposit. Wait until the deposit becomes brittle enough to crumble off. After deposit has been removed, clean the entire area with Hardwood & Laminate Floor Cleaner.

Minor Abrasions/Scratches:

Use a Touch-Up Kit or Acrylic Filler to make minor repairs. Apply Hardwood Floor Finish to recondition larger areas.

Chips/Broken Edges/Gaps:

Blend area with appropriate Armstrong touch-up pen or fill stick from a Touch-Up Kit or the appropriate filler.

Deep Scratches/Gouges:

Individual planks, strips, or parquets that are heavily gouged or damaged can be repaired with Acrylic Filler or Touch-Up Kit. Major damage will require board replacement. All repair procedures can be found at www.floorexpert.com.

Protecting Your Floor From Direct Sunlight:

Use curtains and UV-resistant film on large glass doors and windows. Move area rugs occasionally as they block sunlight and may give the appearance of discoloring.

Commercial Laminate

PREMIUM LUSTRE COLLECTION | PREMIUM COLLECTION
COASTAL LIVING PATINA | ARCHITECTURAL REMNANTS | RUSTICS PREMIUM

Commercial Laminate Installations do not require commercial cleaning and buffing machines. They do not require more than a light damp mop to clean.

Use of 100% silicone caulk is recommended in areas of rooms where excessive moisture may be present.

For Best Results:

- Water **should not** be used to maintain your laminate floor.
- Soap-based detergents or “mop and shine” products are not recommended for use on laminate floors, as these may leave a dull film on your floor.
- Floor machines, buffers and scrubbers are not recommended for maintaining laminate floors.
- Abrasive cleansers, abrasive scrubbing pads, steel wool, or scouring powders may scratch the floor.
- Do not apply wax or polish to your floor.
- Laminate flooring, like other types of smooth finish floors, can become slippery when wet. Immediately wipe up wet areas from spills, foreign substances, or wet feet.
- Remove tough spots like shoe polish, tar, and asphalt driveway seal with adhesive cleaner, low-odor mineral spirits or nail polish remover containing acetone (follow instructions on label); wipe with a damp cloth.
- Place a natural or colorfast mat at outside entrances to collect tracked-in dirt and absorb excess moisture. Also place wipe-off mats at the inside of every entrance.
- For added protection, use Armstrong floor protectors on chairs and other furniture. The heavier the item, the wider the floor protector should be.
- When using a vacuum cleaner, disengage the beater bar and use the bare floor setting.
- Metal caster wheels can damage the floor. Instead, we recommend using soft wheels wide enough to support the load.
- For minor abrasions or scratches, use a touch-up kit or acrylic filler to repair.
- Major damage can be repaired with a plank replacement.

Daily/Regular Maintenance

Light Commercial Foot traffic:

- Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum your floor on a frequent basis. Do not use mops with oil treated covers. Regularly clean your floor with Armstrong Hardwood & Laminate floor cleaner. Do not allow excess cleaner to remain on the floor surface, as it will damage the flooring.
- Surface dirt, grit, grease, or high heel marks should be addressed immediately.

Heavy Commercial Foot Traffic:

- Sweep, dust mop, or vacuum your floor on a daily basis. Do not use mops with oil treated covers. Regularly clean your floor with Armstrong Hardwood & Laminate floor cleaner. Do not allow excess cleaner to remain on the floor surface as it can damage the floor.
- Surface dirt, grit, grease, water, or high heel marks should be addressed immediately.

E. COMMON PROBLEMS, CAUSES AND SOLUTIONS

Problem	Causes	Solutions
Streaks in Polish	Too much or too little floor polish applied in one coat.	Carefully follow manufacturer's directions.
	Dirty mop used to apply polish.	Clean mops or applicators frequently; use only mops dedicated to polishing and polish application.
	Soiled floor.	Thoroughly clean and rinse floor before applying finish.
	Inadequate drying time; polish recoated too quickly.	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for drying time and allow more time during high humidity.
	Alkaline residue on floor.	Rinse floor thoroughly with clear water after scrubbing or stripping.
	Polish frozen.	Strip and rinse thoroughly; reapply polish.
	Polish contaminated. Leftover finish poured back into container or saved from previous use.	Do not proceed with finishing. Replace polish.
Polish is Tacky	Inadequate drying time.	Allow floor to dry completely before opening to traffic. Follow manufacturer's recommendations for drying time and allow more time during high humidity.
	Polish recoated too quickly.	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for drying time and allow more time during high humidity.
	Too much cleaning chemical was used.	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for proper usage and dilution.

Problem	Causes	Solutions
Slippery Floors	Silicone based products (stainless steel cleaners, furniture polishes, glass cleaners, lubricants, vinyl cleaners) and disinfectant products getting on floor due to aerosol over-spray or accidental spills.	Spray cleaners on rag or applicator prior to use to reduce the chance of over-spray hitting the floor. To remove over-spray, scrub floor thoroughly. If still slippery, strip area and repolish.
	Improper dilution of cleaner or disinfectant.	Follow manufacturer's recommendation for proper dilution. Use chemical dispensers if available.
	Improperly treated dust mops being used, usually oil treated.	Use only recommended dust mops or refer to label directions when treating dust mops.
	Ice-melting compounds on floor.	Clean contaminated floor thoroughly with clean water or cleaner to remove film (normally at entrances and at the end of runners). Use mats and runners and clean them occasionally. Control amount of ice-melting chemicals used.
	Dirt and grit on floor.	Use entrance mats and increase dust mop frequency.

Swirl Marks in Polish	Inadequate drying time.	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for drying time and allow more time during high humidity.
	Polish soft due to moisture from below.	Address moisture issue; choose a harder or moisture-resistant polish.
	Improper floor pad selection.	Follow pad and/or polish manufacturer's recommendations.
	Polish not dry before buffing/burnishing.	Allow proper drying time before buffing/burnishing.

Problem	Causes	Solutions
Rapid Black Marking	Little or no protective polish; polish and/or cleaner too high in pH; polish and/or cleaner too aggressive.	Strip and rinse thoroughly; apply and maintain the minimum 3 to 5 coats of the recommended polish.
	Floor polish is too soft.	Switch to a more scuff-resistant polish such as S-480 Commercial Floor Polish.
Poor Gloss	Insufficient coats of polish applied.	Apply additional coats of polish.
	Polish applied too thinly or too heavily.	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for application.
	Polish recoated too quickly.	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for drying time and allow more time during high humidity.
	Wrong scrubbing pads used (usually too aggressive).	Use approved pads and follow polish and/or flooring manufacturer's recommendations.
	Excessive amount of sand and grit on floor.	Use entrance mats and runners of sufficient length and width. Increase dust mop frequency.
	Improper cleaner dilutions.	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for proper dilution.
	Dirty equipment used.	Always use clean equipment and mops.

Problem	Causes	Solutions
Floor Polish Powdering or Failing to Adhere to Floor	Old floor polish/finish not completely removed (incompatibility of coatings).	Strip and rinse thoroughly; reapply polish.
	Stripping solutions dried and/or not thoroughly rinsed after stripping.	Strip and rinse thoroughly; reapply polish.
	Dirty mop used to apply polish.	Clean mops or applicators frequently; use only mops dedicated to polish application.
	Polish applied before floor or previous coat dried (finish not sticking to floor).	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for drying time and allow more time during high humidity.
	Surface of polish forced-dried.	Strip and rinse thoroughly; reapply polish, allowing adequate drying time for each coat. Never direct fans at floor finish during drying process. If fans are used, aim upward for air circulation.
	Inadequate grit and soil control (no walk-off mats).	Install walk-off mats; clean walk-off mats; sweep and vacuum frequently.
	Mismatched polish and machine speed.	Switch to recommended polish, buffing pad and machine speed.
	Floor pad too abrasive.	Follow polish and/or flooring manufacturer's recommendations
	Room temperature too hot or too cold, or humidity too high or too low.	For optimal results, maintain room temperature between 60° and 90°F (16° and 32°C) and humidity between 40% and 80% RH.
	Excessive alkaline moisture permeating through tile from subfloor.	Investigate and solve moisture problems.
	Frozen polish (may bead up on floor during application).	Do not proceed with polishing. Replace polish.
Polish contaminated. Leftover polish poured back into container or saved from previous use.	Do not proceed with polishing. Replace polish.	

Problem	Causes	Solutions
Scuffing and Scratching of Polish/Finish	Wrong scrubbing pads used.	Follow flooring and/or pad manufacturer's recommendations.
	Excessive dirt and grit on floor.	Use entrance mats, increase dust mopping frequency, and dust mop thoroughly before cleaning.
	Not scrubbing often enough.	Adjust cleaning frequency accordingly.
	Floor polish not resistant to scuffs and scratches.	Use a high-quality floor polish as recommended by polish manufacturer.
Furniture Sticking	Furniture placed too soon after polishing.	Follow manufacturer's recommendations for drying time and allow more time during high humidity.
	Furniture left in place while polish is applied.	To release stuck furniture, tap the legs near the floor, hitting firmly in a horizontal direction. Be sure to protect legs to avoid scratching or marring. Do not attempt to lift furniture straight up before loosening.
	Polish not properly cured/dried.	Allow floor to dry completely before applying additional coats.

F. RESISTANCE TO STAINING AND REAGENTS

0: No Stain 1: Slight 2: Moderate 3: Severe
 B: Bleaching D: Dulling S: Softening R: Reagent left a residue

LVT: NATURAL CREATIONS Mystix, EarthCuts, ArborArt									
SHEET HETEROGENEOUS: REJUVENATIONS Ambigo, StoneRun, TimberLine									
SHEET LIGHT COMMERCIAL: ABODE									
SHEET HOMOGENEOUS: MEDINTONE, MEDINTECH, MEDLEY									
SHEET INLAID: POSSIBILITIES Pett Point, Connection CORLON									
							COMMERCIAL LAMINATE:		
							LIGHT	MEDIUM	DARK
Organic Solvents									
Acetone	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Chloroform	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Ethyl Acetate	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Ethyl (Denatured) Alcohol	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Ethyl Ether	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Ethylene Glycol (Antifreeze)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Formaldehyde – 10%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gasoline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Isopropyl Alcohol	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Kerosene	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Methylene Chloride	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Methyl ethyl ketone (M.E.K.)	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Mineral Spirits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Perchloroethylene	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Toluene	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Trichloroethylene	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Turpentine	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Xylene	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Alkali (Bases)									
Ammonium Hydroxide – 30%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Potassium Hydroxide – 15%	0	3	0	0	3	0, D	0	0	0
Sodium Hydroxide – 50%	0	0	1, D	0	0	0, D	0	0	1, B
Acids									
Acetic Acid – 28%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Acetic Acid – Glacial	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Hydrochloric Acid – 38%	0	0	1, D	0, D	0	0	1	1, B	2, B
Lactic Acid – 10%	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Nitric Acid – 15%	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	2	1, B	2, B
Phosphoric Acid – 85%	0	0, D	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	1, D
Sulfuric Acid – 40%	0	0, B	0	0	0, B	0	1	0	0
Sulfuric Acid – 10%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Salt Solutions									
Calcium Chloride – Saturated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Copper Sulfate – 10%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ferric Chloride – 10%	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Silver Nitrate – 1%	0	1	1, D	0	1	0	0	0	0
Medical Stains & Reagents									
Aniline Blue – 2.5%	0	0	1, D	0	0	0	2	0	0
Auramine Rhodamine	1	3	3	2	3	2	2	0	0
Basic Fuchsin	1	3	3	2	3	3	3	1	0
Betadine® Skin Cleanser	0	2	0	1	2	1	0	0	0
Betadine Solution – 10%	0	2	0	1	2	1	0	0	0
Bromocresol Green	1	2	3	1	2	2	0	0	0
Carbol Fuchsin	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	0	0
Eosin – 1%	1	2	2	1	2	2	1	0	0
Gentian Violet – 2%	2	3	3	2	3	3	3	1	0
Glutaraldehyde	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Iodine Tincture	3	3	3	3	3	3	0	0	1
Iodine Gram Stain	1	3	2	3	3	3	0	0	1
Iodoform – 1%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lugol's Solution	3	3	3	3	3	3	0	0	0
Merthiolate Tincture	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	0	0
Methylene Blue	1	2	1, D	2	2	2	1	0	0
Picric Acid – 1%	1	3	3	2	3	2	0	0	0
Potassium Permanganate – 0.5%	3	3	3	3	3	3	1	0	1
Tincture of Benzoin	3, R	3, R	3	3, R	3, R	3, R	1	1	2, R
Urea Solution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wright's Blood Stain	2	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	0
Embalming Chemicals									
Pretresol – Pre-injection	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kelcavex – Cavity	0	0	R	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Kalspecial® – Arterial	0	0	D, R	0	0	0	0	0	0
Presinol – Arterial	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0

LVT: NATURAL CREATIONS Mystix, EarthCuts, ArborArt									
SHEET HETEROGENEOUS: REJUVENATIONS Ambigu, StoneRun, TimberLine									
SHEET LIGHT COMMERCIAL: ABODE									
SHEET HOMOGENEOUS: MEDINTONE, MEDINTECH, MEDLEY									
SHEET INLAID: POSSIBILITIES Petit Point, Connection CORLON									
COMMERCIAL LAMINATE:									
LIGHT MEDIUM DARK									
Disinfectants and Cleaners									
Clorox®	0	0	D, R	0, BI	0	0	0	0	0
Comet® Bathroom Cleaner	0	0	R	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hydrogen Peroxide	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lysol® Liquid Disinfectant	0	0	R	0	0	0	0	0	0
Food Service									
Catsup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coffee – Hot Black	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cola Drink	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
French Dressing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mustard	1	2	3	2	2	2	0	0	0
Red Food Color	2	2	3, D	2	2	2	0	0	0
Red Wine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Soy Sauce	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spaghetti Sauce	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tea – Hot Black	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tomato Paste	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Office									
Ball Pen Ink	2	2	3	3	2	3	3	2	1
Carbon Paper Smudge	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
Fountain Pen Ink	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Lead Pencil	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Permanent Black Marker	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	0	0
Photo Copy Toner (Powder)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	3	0
Red Crayon	2	2	2	3	2	2	0	0	1
Red Tempura Paint	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0
Oils									
Beef Tallow – Hot	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canola Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cottonseed Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brake Fluid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dextron Transmission Fluid	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mineral Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Olive Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SAE #10 Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30 wt. Non-Detergent Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Used Motor Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous									
Asphalt Driveway Sealer	3, R	3, R	3, D	3, R	3, R	3, R	0	0	0
Blue Chalk	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Black Rit Dye	1	3	3	3	3	3	0	0	0
Eye Shadow	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hair Color	2	3	3	3	3	3	0	0	0
Lipstick	0	2	2	1	2	1	1	0	0
Perfume	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0	0
Red Candle Wax	2, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	2, R	0	0	0
Red Nail Polish	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R
Shoe Polish – Liquid Brown	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0
Shoe Polish – Paste Brown	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	1	0	0

Samples were tested as manufactured (no additional surface treatments). All samples were exposed to reagents for 4 hours (uncovered), after which they were cleaned with a neutral commercial cleaner and cotton cloth. A key for interpreting results is found above the chart. It is important to note that, in some cases, residual stain, residues, and surface dulling may be further reduced or eliminated with different or more aggressive cleaning procedures and/or cleaning agents than the common method used for this multi-product comparison. For further details on appropriate cleaning methods and care for specific products, please consult the care and maintenance guidelines for the specific product at armstrong.com/flooring.

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0: No Stain 1: Slight 2: Moderate 3: Severe
 BI: Bleaching D: Dulling S: Softening R: Reagent left a residue

LINOLEUM: With NATURCote							
BBT: MIGRATIONS, STRIATIONS							
VCT: RAFFIA, EXCELON, ARTEFFECTS, Standard EXCELON							
SPECIALTY SLIP-RETARDANT*: SAFETY ZONE							
SPECIALTY ESD: SDT							
ACCESSORIES: RUBBER TILE/ STAIR TREADS							
Organic Solvents							
Acetone	0	0, BI	0, S, D	0	0	0, S, D	0
Chloroform	0	0, BI	0, S, D	0, BI	0	0, S, D	0, D
Ethyl Acetate	0	0, BI	0, S, D	0	1, R	0, S, D	0
Ethyl (Denatured) Alcohol	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0
Ethyl Ether	0	0	0, D	1	0	0	0
Ethylene Glycol (Antifreeze)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Formaldehyde – 10%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gasoline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0, D
Isopropyl Alcohol	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0
Kerosene	0	0, BI	0	0	0	0	2
Methylene Chloride	0	0, BI	0, S, D	0, BI	2	0, S, D	0, D
Methyl ethyl ketone (M.E.K.)	0, D	0, BI	0, S, D	0	0	0, S, D	0, D
Mineral Spirits	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Perchloroethylene	0	0, BI	0, D	0	0	0, S	0, D
Toluene	0	0, BI	0, S, D	0	0	0, S	0, S, D
Trichloroethylene	0	0, BI	0, S, D	0	0	0, S	0, S, D
Turpentine	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0, D
Xylene	0	0, BI	0, S, D	0	0	0, S	0, S, D
Alkali (Bases)							
Ammonium Hydroxide – 30%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Potassium Hydroxide – 15%	0, D	0	1, D	1	0	1	3
Sodium Hydroxide – 50%	0, D	0	0	0	0	1	3
Acids							
Acetic Acid – 28%	0	0, D	0, BI	0	0	0	0, D
Acetic Acid – Glacial	0	0, D	1, D	0	0	0	1, D
Hydrochloric Acid – 38%	0	0, D	0, BI	0	0	0	0, D
Lactic Acid – 10%	0	1, BI	0, BI, R	0	0	0	0, R
Nitric Acid – 15%	0	0	0, BI	0	0	0	0, D, R
Phosphoric Acid – 85%	0	1, BI	0, BI, R	0	0, D	0, D	0, BI, R
Sulfuric Acid – 40%	0	1, BI	0, BI, R	0	0	0, D	0, BI, R
Sulfuric Acid – 10%	0	1, BI	0, BI, R	0	0	0, D	0, D
Salt Solutions							
Calcium Chloride – Saturated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Copper Sulfate – 10%	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Ferric Chloride – 10%	0	2	2	0	0	2	2
Silver Nitrate – 1%	0	0	2	0	0	2	3
Medical Stains & Reagents							
Aniline Blue – 2.5%	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
Auramine Rhodamine	2	2	2	2	1	2	2
Basic Fuchsin	3	3	2	2	2	2	0
Betadine® Skin Cleanser	1	1	1	2	0	1	2
Betadine Solution – 10%	1	1	1	0	0	1	2
Bromocresol Green	2	1	1	1	1	1	2
Carbol Fuchsin	1	3	3	2	2	3	2
Eosin – 1%	2	1	1	2	1	2	2
Gentian Violet – 2%	3	3	3	3	3	2	3
Glutaraldehyde	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Iodine Tincture	3	3	3	3	2	3	3
Iodine Gram Stain	3	2	2	2	1	2	2
Iodoform – 1%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lugol's Solution	3	3	3	1	2	3	3
Merthiolate Tincture	2	2	3	3	1	2	3
Methylene Blue	2	2	2	1	2	2	3
Picric Acid – 1%	3	2	3	2	2	2	3
Potassium Permanganate – 0.5%	3	2	2	2	1	2	3
Tincture of Benzoin	3, R	2, R	3, R	2	2	3, R	3, R
Urea Solution	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wright's Blood Stain	3	2	3	3	2	3	1
Embalming Chemicals							
Pretesol – Pre-injection	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0, D
Kelcavex – Cavity	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0, D
Kelspecial® – Arterial	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0, D
Presinol – Arterial	0	0, D	0	0	0	1	2

LINOLEUM: With NATURCote							
BBT: MIGRATIONS, STRIATIONS							
VCT: RAFFIA, EXCELON, ARTEFFECTS, Standard EXCELON							
SPECIALTY SLIP-RETARDANT: SAFETY ZONE							
SPECIALTY ESD: SDT							
ACCESSORIES: RUBBER TILE/ STAIR TREADS							
Disinfectants and Cleaners							
Clorox®	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0
Comet® Bathroom Cleaner	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0, D
Hydrogen Peroxide	0	0	0, D	0	0	0	0, D
Lysol® Liquid Disinfectant	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0, D
Food Service							
Catsup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0, D
Coffee – Hot Black	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Cola Drink	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
French Dressing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0, D
Mustard	2	2	2	2	1	2	1
Red Food Color	2	2	1	3	1	2	0
Red Wine	0	1	1	0	0	0	1
Soy Sauce	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spaghetti Sauce	0	0	1	1	0	1	1
Tea – Hot Black	0	1	1	0	0	1	0, D
Tomato Paste	0	0	0	0	0	1	0, D
Office							
Ball Pen Ink	3	3	3	2	2	3	2
Carbon Paper Smudge	1	2	2	2	1	0	2
Fountain Pen Ink	0	2	2	1	1	1	2
Lead Pencil	1	2	1	2	1	0	2
Permanent Black Marker	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Photo Copy Toner (Powder)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Red Crayon	2	2	2	1	1	2	1
Red Tempura Paint	0	1	1	1	0	1	0
Oils							
Beef Tallow – Hot	0	0	0	0, D	0	0	0, D
Canola Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0, D
Cottonseed Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0, D
Brake Fluid	0	0, D	0, D	0	0	0	0, D
Dextron Transmission Fluid	0	0	0	0	0	0	1, D
Mineral Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0, D
Olive Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0, D
SAE #10 Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0, D
30 wt. Non-Detergent Oil	0	0	0	0	0	0	0, D
Used Motor Oil	0	0	1	0	0	1	1, D
Miscellaneous							
Asphalt Driveway Sealer	3, R	1	1	1	1	3, R	0
Blue Chalk	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
Black Rit Dye	3	1	3	3	3	2	1
Eye Shadow	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Hair Color	3	1	3	3	2	3	1
Lipstick	0	1	2	2	1	1	1
Perfume	0	0, Bl	1	1	0	0	0
Red Candle Wax	2, R	1	2, R	1	1	3, R	2, R
Red Nail Polish	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R	3, R
Shoe Polish – Liquid Brown	0	1	1	1	1	1	0
Shoe Polish – Paste Brown	2, R	3	3, R	3	3	3, R	2

Samples were tested as manufactured (no additional surface treatments). All samples were exposed to reagents for 4 hours (uncovered), after which cleaned with a neutral commercial cleaner and cotton cloth. A key for interpreting results is found above the chart. It is important to note that, in some cases, residual stain, residues, and surface dulling may be further reduced or eliminated with different or more aggressive cleaning procedures and/or cleaning agents than the common method used for this multi-product comparison. For further details on appropriate cleaning methods and care for specific products, please consult the care and maintenance guidelines for the specific product at armstrong.com/flooring.

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G. EQUIPMENT



Automatic floor machine

A self-contained, single- or multiple-disc floor machine that dispenses cleaning solution, scrubs the floor, and takes up the spent solution in a single operation, leaving the floor clean and dry. Available in a variety of sizes, automatic floor machines can be equipped with either brushes or pads.



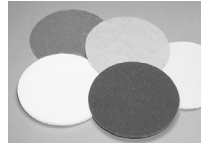
Floor machine

A single-disc machine that can be equipped with either pads or brushes. It can be used for scrubbing, buffing, and stripping.



Floor machine brush

A circular brush with bristles of varying stiffness and abrasiveness, depending on whether it is to be used for scrubbing, buffing, or stripping. Bristles are made of natural or synthetic fibers or grit-impregnated nylon. Always follow flooring manufacturer's guidelines for choosing the floor machine brush with the appropriate stiffness and abrasiveness.

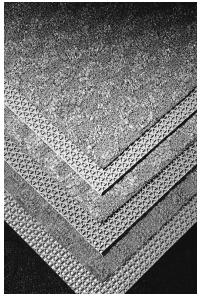


Floor machine pads

A nonwoven nylon, polyester, or natural fiber disc up to 1" thick. Each disc has various types and sizes of intertwined fibers, some of which may have grit particles bound to the fiber surface. Coarseness of the pad determines its use: least coarse for buffing, increasing coarseness for scrubbing and stripping. Pads are color-coded to designate their coarseness and use. Lighter-color pads tend to be less abrasive, and darker-color pads tend to be the most abrasive. Pad manufacturers generally follow these guidelines:

- Natural fiber - burnishing
- White - polishing
- Beige - buffing
- Red - spray-buffing and light scrubbing
- Blue (medium abrasive)
- Green (medium abrasive) - scrubbing and stripping
- Brown (extremely abrasive)
- Black (extremely abrasive)

ARMSTRONG DOES NOT RECOMMEND THE USE OF BROWN OR BLACK PADS ON ANY OF OUR RESILIENT FLOORS.



Walk-off mat

A sheet of material placed at building entrances to remove gritty soil from the soles of shoes. Good mats should also trap soil so it does not get picked up by subsequent traffic. As a general rule, mats should be as wide as the doorway and ideally 8' to 12' long.



Ultra high-speed buffer

Usually a single-disc buffer that operates in the 1,100 to 2,000-plus rpm range. It allows for quick buffing and burnishing, thus reducing labor costs. It should be operated only by properly trained maintenance personnel. It is to be used only on precleaned floors with enough polish (3 to 5 coats) to prevent the pad or brush from coming in contact with the actual flooring surface.



High-speed buffer

A floor machine designed for buffing and spray-buffing at speeds of 300 to 1,100 rpm. (For machines in the 1,100 to 2,000-plus rpm range, see Ultra high-speed buffer.)



Wet-vac

A vacuum cleaner that picks up aqueous solutions. It is particularly useful when scrubbing or stripping a floor.

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