

Maintenance for Luxury Vinyl Tile & Plank

INITIAL CLEANING

Remove all traces of adhesive from the floor and dry vacuum to remove all dust and loose debris. Then, using a damp mop diluted in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, wipe with a neutral cleanser. After 5-10 minutes, all dirt and residue of the cleaning agent should be removed; the floor should be rinsed with a damp mop and allowed to dry.

Do not machine scrub or strip glued-down LVT for at least 4 days after installation. This can cause the flooring to release from the substrate. Always remove excess water to avoid slip and fall hazards, and to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES

The easiest way to reduce maintenance costs is to reduce the amount of dirt, grit and moisture brought into a building with an effective barrier mat. Mats should be cleaned regularly.

The use of either rubber-backed mats or coco-fiber mats is not recommended as they are known to cause yellow stains in vinyl floors.

Never slide heavy furniture or appliances over an unprotected floor. Severe scratching may result. Move heavy furniture or appliances over the flooring using casters or dollies. The flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard or other underlayment panels. If other on-site trade work continues after installation of flooring, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

Clean the floorcovering regularly, as this is more cost-effective and hygienic than occasional heavy-duty cleaning.

SPOT PROTECTION AND REMOVAL

1. Wipe immediately with a paper towel or cloth.
2. Spots, which have already dried, might be removed using a plastic scraper.
3. The area should be washed with diluted cleaning agent, using a damp cloth or sponge.
4. Difficult spots might be removed with a firm nylon sponge.
5. Should the spot still remain, moisten a cloth with clear odorless mineral spirits and rub with circular movements over the whole area. Always test in an inconspicuous area to check for compatibility of the mineral spirits and flooring.

The following substances can cause discoloration:

- Tar
- Nail Polish
- Shoe Polish
- Lipstick
- Solvent-based paints
- Rubber Mats
- Coco-Fiber Mats
- Asphalt
- Permanent Markers

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Most domestic cleaning agents will not harm the floor, however all residue of cleaning agents should be removed to avoid discolouration.

We recommend the top temperature should not exceed 85°F (29°C). As such, steam cleaners are not recommended.

BASIC TIPS ON CARE:

1. Regular light maintenance is more cost effective and beneficial than periodic heavy maintenance.
2. Do not use soap-based detergents, caustic cleaners or abrasive cleaners.
3. Sweep, mop or dry vacuum the floor regularly.
4. Always use clean equipment – dirty equipment only redistributes the dirt.
5. Do not mix cleaning products from different manufacturers – they may not be compatible.
6. Furniture polish and window cleaning sprays should be directly applied to a cloth to avoid spillage onto the floor.
7. Always remove any spillage immediately.
8. Always remove excess water.
9. Always take precautions to prevent dark rubber from coming into contact with the floor.
10. Never deviate from the manufacturer's recommended dilution rates.
11. For commercial installations, when required, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as Armstrong 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).
12. Wet floors are slippery; always use warning signs to advise that cleaning is in progress.