

MAINTAINING VINYL | Easy!



High performance and attractiveness go hand in hand with quality vinyl. While most vinyl products are refined with an outer coating shield that protects the floorcovering, proper care and maintenance of a vinyl floor will ultimately result in a longer lifespan of the product.

Vinyl is a tough and durable floor solution but, as with any product, everyday wear and tear will become noticeable if the vinyl is not cared for properly.

As vinyl is the most popular choice for high-traffic flooring, dirt and grit are a common presence and easily become embedded in the outer layer of the vinyl, as well as easily building up around skirtings and edges. The removal of dust and grit is very important as long-term buildup will cause long-term damage.

Maintenance protocol in commercial, retail and industrial spaces needs to be an integral element in the overall building planning. Flooring is one of the elements in the building that has the highest wear-and-tear quotient and as such if a floor is not correctly adhered (i.e. correct type and application of adhesives); stripped and sealed; or maintained; clients may feel that they have made a

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bad choice or installed an inferior-quality flooring.

If correctly installed and maintained, vinyl flooring will provide years of carefree use. You will find that it is not only beautiful, but durable. It is also much easier to maintain than most other flooring products, because of its tough protective finish and/or sealer which provides moisture resistance.

Vinyl flooring care and maintenance doesn't have to be a full-time job. But there are a few things that are easy to do, that will keep your floors looking as good as the day they were installed.

Together, the two Accénuate subsidiary companies, FloorworX and Safic, provide that much needed bridge from flooring installation across to maintenance.

To keep your vinyl floor clean, follow the next steps:

Step 1: Sweeping

Sweep floors with a flat mop system to eliminate fine dust particles settling behind you when sweeping with a soft

bristle broom, because fine dust particles act as an abrasive which damage any floor surface; the flat mop system could also be used to do damp cleaning with a neutral-based product (with a pH between 7 and 9).

Sweep the floor with a soft bristle broom to remove loose dirt.

Step 2: Stripping

For vinyl, FloorworX Stripper (and Marmoleum Stripper for Marmoleum floors) from FloorworX or Ecosaf1 224 stripper from Safic is to be utilised in diluted form as prescribed on the label or material data sheet.

Step 3: Rinsing

Rinse the floor with non-abrasive floor cleaner. Utilise FloorworX Rinse or SafGlass from Safic to neutralise the stripper from the floor surface; this will eliminate chemical buildup on the floor and the polymer will adhere to the floor surface. Completely rinse and neutralise the stripper on the floor.

Step 4: Buffing

Once the floor has been stripped, rinsed and dried completely, the floor must be dry buffed with a low- or high-speed single-disk scrubbing machine with a red buffing pad.

Step 5: Damp Mopping

On completion of the dry buffing you need to damp clean the fine dust particles from the floor surface by using FloorworX Rinse or SafGlass from Safic with a flat mop system.

Step 6: Sealing

After the floor is completely dry, the floor must be sealed. End-users can decide on what finish they want on the floor surface, which can be either a matt finish; silk matt; or gloss on the floors. Product to be used for matt and high shine will

be FloorworX Silk Matt Sealer, and for the ultra-high shine it will be FloorworX Gloss.

If you want to further ensure the longevity of your vinyl floor, follow these five vinyl flooring care and maintenance tips:

1. Wipe spills up as soon as possible

Sure, vinyl flooring is moisture-resistant, but leaving spills on it for longer than necessary can lead to staining. If something does spill, wipe it up right away with a clean, soft towel.

2. Be careful when you move heavy equipment

Lay a piece of plywood or a furniture pad over your vinyl flooring any time you have to move heavy furniture and appliances. And, even with something laid over it, try not to drag heavy equipment over your vinyl flooring, which would damage the floor surface.

3. Don't use rolling casters

These can really damage your vinyl flooring. But, if you absolutely have to use them, opt for the double-wheel type.

4. Doormats prevent dirt from entering the floor surfaces

Sand, dirt and grit act like sandpaper if they get ground into vinyl. If they are tracked into your house and everyone starts walking on them, it won't be long before your vinyl flooring loses its shine.

5. Put felt protectors under heavy furniture

Because it's considered a resilient surface, vinyl flooring "gives" a little bit. If heavy furniture stands on it without any protection, it can dent or buckle. But a little bit of felt cushioning between the furniture and your floor can prevent that!

For more information: 0860 346 679 or www.floorworx.co.za 

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