

Forbo Cleaning and Maintenance advice;

Congratulations on receiving your new Forbo Marmoleum Floor. Your floor is protected by Topshield2, an innovative and durable factory finish which should not be removed.

The finish is part of the Marmoleum and the perfect base for your ongoing use of the floor. In order to keep your floor in optimum condition, the following cleaning and maintenance methods are recommended:

Initial cleaning after installation ;

To start of your floor after installation it is important to remove all soil and concrete-dust.

1. Remove all loose soil, debris, sand and grit by sweeping, vacuuming, or dust mopping.
2. Mop the floor with neutral universal floor cleaner. Where appropriate, for example in larger or heavily soiled areas, a rotary machine (150-300 rpm) or scrubber drier with red pad may be used. Tip: if cement dust is present add approximately 2% of Citric or Acetic acid.
3. Remove the dirty water and rinse.
4. Let the floor dry completely before use.
5. If required, dry or spray buff the floor with a rotary machine and a red pad.

The floor is now ready for use, and does not require any further treatment or finish application. If the application of additional finishes is being considered refer to FAQ's later in this guide.

Regular cleaning ;

The choice for a regular cleaning method depends on the expected amount of dirt, wear and desired visual appearance and hygiene standard.

1. Remove dust and loose dirt by vacuum cleaning, sweeping or mopping.
2. Remove spots, stains and spillages with a damp mop and a neutral universal floor cleaner.
3. In your regular cleaning system a combined cleaning and maintenance action may be required. For this several systems can apply:
 - A soap film system (Forbo Monel)
 - A wax based system
 - A spray system

Maintenance ;

The following maintenance actions should be used when needed to maintain or restore a satisfactory level of appearance.

After the following steps the floor is ready for regular cleaning again.

1. Sweep, mop or vacuum the floor to remove loose dust and soil.
2. Clean the floor with a rotary machine with a red pad and a neutral universal floor cleaner (Forbo Cleaner). If required apply one of the maintenance product-types mentioned in point 3 under "Regular cleaning"

For heavily soiled areas the following steps can be completely or partially applied after step 1.

1. Scrub with green pad and a neutral universal floor cleaner (Forbo Cleaner).
2. Rinse with clean water and allow the floor to dry.
3. Buff with a rotary machine with a red buffing pad. If required apply completely or partially one of the maintenance product-types mentioned in point 3 under "Regular cleaning"

Best practice: Tips for effective floor care

General advice

Protect newly laid floors

All newly laid floors should be covered and protected from all other trades during the contract with a suitable non-staining protective covering.

Use protective feet on chairs and tables to reduce scratching. Castor wheels should be of soft material suitable for resilient floor coverings (according to EN425 and EN12529)

Use Entrance Systems

As much as 80% of dirt entering a building is brought in by foot traffic. Correct use of a good quality entrance barrier mat (for example Forbo Coral and Nuway) is recommended and can significantly reduce the volume of dirt reaching smooth floor coverings; reducing maintenance costs and maximising appearance retention. It is generally accepted that a minimum area of 4 – 10 steps is required before soil is removed.

Cleaning

- Regular cleaning is more beneficial and cost effective than occasional heavy cleaning.
- Use recommended cleaning products. High quality cleaning products and equipment ensure efficient maintenance and represent only a small proportion of maintenance costs.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for cleaning products.
- Always follow the Health and Safety guidance provided.
- Remember that light and uni-colours may need to be cleaned more frequently.

Proper use of Floor Care Chemicals

The improper use of high pH cleaners and strippers may damage resilient flooring. Frequent treatment or inadequate rinsing may cause cracking, shrinking, and/or discoloration. Linoleum flooring should never be cleaned with high pH chemicals because permanent damage may occur. Abrasive powders or cleansers should not be used.

FAQ

How often should I clean my floor?

The optimum frequency for cleaning and maintenance is determined by the way the floor is used. When producing a cleaning and maintenance schedule it is good practice to consider the situation of the floor first: e.g. is it near an entrance to the building or on an upper floor? Will it collect dry or moist soil? What level of traffic will it be subjected to?

Can I polish my floor?

The advanced surfaces applied on Forbo Linoleum do not require the use of polish. However, if you do wish to polish your floors this will not harm it or affect any product warranties. If polish is to be applied do not attempt to remove the surface finish.

Should you choose to apply an additional coating the performance properties of the flooring can change.

Tips & Tricks

Removing marks

| Marks caused by | Removed with |
|---|---|
| Chocolate, grease, egg, coffee, juice, etc. | Neutral floor cleaner in lukewarm water |
| Asphalt, oil, rubber, soot | Cleaners' white spirits |
| Crayons, lipstick, felt-tip | 50% methylated spirit |
| Chewing-gum | Cool with cold spray or ice cubes and scrape. |
| Candle wax | Remove hard wax gently. Place absorbent paper on spot and iron at 70 °C |
| Rust | Oxalic or citric acid in lukewarm water |
| Burns | Rub off using fine scouring nylon |

Buffing tips

- Spray or dry buffing enhances gloss, helps remove black marks and repairs scratches. Be sure to buff with a clean buffing pad.

Take good care of your pads. Check and flip when they get soiled. Wash, rinse and hang to dry after use.

Cleaning machines and pads

Pad codes

The colour codes indicating grades of pads will vary depending on the manufacturer/country, and also according to the type of machine that is used, i.e. standard, high speed or ultra high speed.

For example;

| | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| | 3M |
| Fine grade, for dry burnishing non-buffable polishes | White |
| For regular spray cleaning & light scrubbing | Red |
| For heavy duty cleaning/renovation | Green/Blue |
| Stripping | Green/Blue |
| High speed burnishing | Check with product manufacturer |

Machine speeds

For machine cleaning and maintenance, 150 to 300 rpm is perfectly suitable. For the spray method, 300 to 500 rpm is the recommended speed for removing gloss irregularities and restoring the floor's original, optimum appearance.

Conductive Marmoleum Ohmex

To maintain conductivity of an Ohmex-floor it should be cleaned only by cleaning and maintenance products that do not reduce the conductivity of the flooring.