

Evolving Styles Tile & Sheet Maintenance

COMPANY INFORMATION

Flexco Corporation
1401 East 6th Street
Tuscumbia, AL, USA 35674
Telephone: (256) 383-7474; (800) 633-3151
Facsimile: (256) 381-0322; (800) 346-9075
Email: info@flexcofloors.com, technical@flexcofloors.com
Internet: www.flexcofloors.com
Sweet's Catalog: 09650/FLE; Buyline 0254; www.sweets.com

PRODUCT MAINTENANCE

1. General

DO NOT scrub or mop the floor for at least 72 hours after the installation is completed to allow the adhesive and/or heat welds to properly cure. Remove any covering that may have been used to protect the floor. The flooring must be properly cleaned before it is released for normal use. Insufficient cleaning will reduce the life and performance of the flooring. The amount of maintenance required is directly related to the amount and type of traffic and type of particulates deposited on the floor. It is essential that the initial maintenance be performed on the floor to remove any particulates or contaminants left from the installation process and prepare the floor for use. **DO NOT** use treated mops and thoroughly clean new mops before use. **DO NOT** use kerosene, gasoline, naphtha and/or other solvents on rubber flooring. **DO NOT** use varnish, shellac, paste wax and/or other substances that could discolor or damage the flooring.

2. Initial Maintenance

When the flooring is brand new, there is a light coating of a silicone mold release agent on the face of the floor from the manufacturing process. This has to be removed with the initial maintenance. Sweep, dust mop and/or vacuum the flooring to remove dirt and other particulates. Use a mild, neutral (ph 7-8) cleaner such as Spartan Chemical's Damp Mop or Green Solutions All Purpose Cleaner. If a disinfectant is required, use Spartan Chemical's DMQ Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner or Green Solutions Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for dilution and use for a medium duty cleaning. For smaller applications, apply the diluted cleaning solution to the flooring with a soft-bristled desk brush or nylon mop. **DO NOT** flood the floor. Allow the cleaning solution to stand for approximately 10-15 minutes. **DO NOT** allow solution to dry. For small applications, scrub with a soft-bristled deck brush. For large applications, scrub the area with a single disc 175-350 RPM scrubbing machine equipped with a soft-bristled scrubbing brush or 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad. Ensure brush or pad does not scratch the flooring. Wet vacuum or mop up residue. Rinse with clean, cool water. Remove the rinse water with a wet/dry vacuum and allow flooring to dry thoroughly before exposing to traffic. The use of a highly alkaline, highly acidic or solvent-base cleaners or products will remove color from the flooring or degrade the flooring prematurely. **DO NOT** use sweeping or cleaning agents containing oil or solvents. **DO NOT** allow the solution to work its way beneath the flooring which could result in an adhesive failure. **Caution:** When wet, flooring will become slippery; therefore, use the appropriate warning signs on the floor to eliminate foot or other traffic.

3. Regular Maintenance

Sweep, dust mop and/or vacuum the flooring to remove dirt and other particulates. Use a mild, neutral (ph 7-8) cleaner such as Spartan Chemical's Damp Mop or Green Solutions All Purpose Cleaner. If a disinfectant is required, use Spartan Chemical's DMQ Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner or Green Solutions Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for dilution and use for a general or light duty cleaning. For smaller applications, apply the diluted cleaning solution to the flooring with a soft-bristled desk brush or nylon mop. **DO NOT** flood the floor. Allow the cleaning solution to stand for approximately 10-15 minutes. **DO NOT** allow solution to dry. For small applications, scrub with a soft-bristled deck brush. For large applications, scrub the area with a single disc 175-350 RPM scrubbing machine equipped with a soft-bristled scrubbing brush or 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad. Ensure

brush or pad does not scratch the flooring. Wet vacuum or mop up residue. Rinse with clean, cool water. Remove the rinse water with a wet/dry vacuum and allow flooring to dry thoroughly before exposing to traffic.

4. Dry Buffing

DO NOT dry buff the floor until it has been cleaned using the process in 7.2 or 7.3. Dry buffing should be performed on routine basis to maintain the floors natural surface luster. Ensure the floor is completely dry. For large installations, dry polish with single disc 175-350 RPM scrubbing machine with a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad. **DO NOT** heel the machine or scratch the flooring. For small installations, use a soft clean cloth wrapped around a narrow push broom. Over time with the dry buffing process, the small pores on the surface of the tile will close and the surface will become harder. This is a natural process with Rubber Tiles and as this occurs, the maintenance on the floors will become easier and less frequent.

5. Optional Floor Sealer/Finish Application

If a floor sealer/finish is preferred, ensure the floor is completely clean (section 7.2). Once the floor has completely dried, test for proper adhesion by applying sealer/finish product recommended for rubber flooring. There are several that have been tested in conjunction with Flexco flooring and used with success. Spartan Chemical's Green Solutions Floor Seal & Finish is the recommended product, although there are others that can be used. Apply sealer/finish to a small area with a sponge and allow to completely dry. If the finish pulls back and does not level out, repeat step 7.2 until the sealer/finish is firmly bonded. If the sealer/finish does level and is firmly bonded, continue with the application according manufacturer's recommendations. Apply 1-2 light coats of the sealer/finish that meets your traffic and maintenance needs. Each coat of floor sealer/finish must be applied in opposite directions to ensure proper coverage regardless of the flooring profile. Contact your Spartan Chemical Representative or Spartan Chemical (800-537-8990) directly for proper finish recommendations to meet specific traffic and maintenance requirements. **Caution:** Applying sealers/finishes will darken the floorings original color. When applying sealers/finishes always check first for compatibility, bonding and color darkening of the flooring by testing on a scrap piece of flooring to ensure the desired results and appearance is achieved. **Caution:** When floor sealers/finishes are used, the floor surface will take on the slip resistance characteristics of that particular coating. Flexco will not be held liable for the slip resistance effects of Flexco flooring that has a sealer/finish applied. **DO NOT** allow the solution to dry or work its way beneath the flooring, which will result in an adhesive failure. Sealers/finishes can be broken into two different categories based upon the frequency of the maintenance schedule. A frequent maintenance schedule can be described as "at least twice a week or as often as every day". Spartan Chemical has several product solutions that can be used within this maintenance schedule; High Frontier, Upper Limit's, TriLinc, Trendsetter Sealer/Finish, Pro-Shine, Heavy Duty Wax 16% and Glacier. These Finishes must be burnished (polished until shinny) in order to maintain gloss levels. The burnishing frequency will depend on several factors including but not limited to the following: Type of finish, traffic, equipment, internal/external conditions, type of floor, labor/budget available, and end user expectations. An infrequent maintenance schedule can be described as "once a week to never". Spartan Chemical products designed to be used within this maintenance schedule are: Millennia Bright Dura Gloss Laminate, Sheen 17, White Sun Sunny-Side, iShine, On an' On, Terra Glaze and Green Solutions Floor Seal & Finish. These products are considered Dry-Bright Finishes which dry to a particular gloss and remain that way. Gloss loss with these finishes is due to superficial wear and tear. Burnishing, spray buffing and/or using a finish restorer will restore the gloss to these areas.

6. Routine Maintenance for Optional Sealer/Finish Applications

Insufficient cleaning will reduce the wear life and the appearance of the flooring or optional sealers/finishes. The amount of maintenance required is directly related to the amount and type of traffic and type of particulates deposited on the floor. Sweep, dust mop and/or vacuum the flooring to remove dirt and other particulates. Use a mild, neutral (ph 7-8) cleaner such as Spartan Chemical's Damp Mop or Green Solutions All Purpose Cleaner. If a disinfectant is required, use Spartan Chemical's DMQ Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner or Green Solutions Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for dilution and use for a general or light duty cleaning. For smaller applications, apply the diluted cleaning solution to the flooring with a soft-bristled desk brush (required for textured and raised profiles) or nylon mop (required for smooth profile floors). **DO NOT** flood the floor. Allow the cleaning solution to stand for approximately 10-15 minutes. **DO NOT** allow solution to dry. For small applications, scrub with a soft-bristled deck brush. For large applications, scrub the area with a single disc 175-350 RPM scrubbing machine equipped with a soft-bristled scrubbing brush or 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad. Ensure brush or pad does not scratch the flooring. Wet vacuum or mop up residue. Rinse with clean, cool water. Remove the rinse water with a

wet/dry vacuum and allow flooring to dry thoroughly before exposing to traffic. The use a highly alkaline, highly acidic or solvent-base cleaners or products will remove color from the flooring or degrade the flooring prematurely.

7. Existing Floor Sealer/Finish Removal

To remove existing floor finishes/sealers, first the flooring must be properly cleaned by first sweeping or vacuuming to remove dirt and other particulates. Strip with either Spartan Chemical's Rinse Free Stripper or Green Solutions Floor Finish Remover. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for dilution and use for a medium duty cleaning. For smaller applications, apply the diluted cleaning solution to the flooring with a soft-bristled deck brush or nylon mop. **DO NOT** flood the floor. Allow the cleaning solution to stand for approximately 10-15 minutes. **DO NOT** allow solution to dry. For small applications, scrub with a soft-bristled deck brush. For large applications, scrub the area with a single disc 175-350 RPM scrubbing machine equipped with a soft-bristled scrubbing brush or 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad Ensure brush or pad does not scratch the flooring. Wet vacuum or mop up residue. Rinse with clean, cool water. Remove the rinse water with a wet/dry vacuum and allow flooring to dry thoroughly before exposing to traffic. Reapply sealer/finish as described in section 7.5.