

## **Cushion Vinyl Maintenance guidelines**

Once the installation is complete, we recommend that you allow at least twenty-four hours drying time before moving heavy objects back into place & keep traffic to a minimum during the first 48 hours, to allow the adhesive to harden at consistent temperatures between 18 – 29°C.

Furniture/ Appliances should not be placed on the floor until the adhesive has had adequate time to dry (minimum 48 hours) and always move heavy furniture and appliances with care to avoid gouging or tearing the floor (It is also strongly recommended that sheets of thinline or similar should be placed on the floor and the appliances should be moved on these with care into the area where they are to be placed.

Make sure furniture legs have non-staining floor protectors. Replace small, narrow metal or dome-shaped glides with smooth, flat glides that are in flat contact with the floor. Glides should be equipped with self-adhesive felt pads to avoid scratching the surface of the floor. The pads should be checked periodically for grit and wear and replaced when necessary. Always place mats at outside entrances to prevent dirt, grit and soil from being tracked onto your floor.

### **Please note the following**

- Do not use Rubber-backed mats or other rubber objects as they may permanently stain your floor.
- Do not use Heat-producing appliances ie hot air emitting devices on the flooring
- Spiked heels on floor coverings can leave permanent damage.
- When overexposed to sunlight, vinyl flooring may discolour or fade, it should be protected from strong sunlight by drawing curtains/ blinds and ensuring adequate UV protection.
- Prevent the floor from coming into contact with water for the first 72 hours after installation, or until such time as all seams are cured.
- Protection of the flooring should it continue to be a building/ construction site is important and this should be done if required by the flooring contractor/ retailer post installation.

### **Initial Clean**

- Remove all loose debris & ensure that all traces of flooring products are removed.
- Sweep or vacuum to remove dust & grit.
- Use a Microfibre mop pad with dual bucket system or a damp mop with a neutral cleaning agent to clean the floor.
- Rinse thoroughly with clean water using a mop or similar and finish with a dry cloth.

### **General maintenance**

*The amount of daily usage will determine how often cleaning is required.*

- Sweep as necessary with a soft broom.
- Care must be taken if you use a vacuum cleaner, do not use vacuum cleaners with “beater bars”.
- Wipe over with a clean damp mop or cloth, which should be rinsed frequently in clean water.

**CAUTION:** Remember that all floors can be slippery when wet.

When necessary wash with a solution of clean water and mild detergent or domestic floor cleaning emulsion. Rinse thoroughly and soak up residual water. For additional lustre buff with a dry cloth.

Spots, marks and spillages should be wiped up as soon as possible.

### **Do not use:**

- Wire or nylon wool scouring pads
- Furniture polish
- Spirit based polish
- Powder or liquid abrasive cleaners
- Bleach or strong detergents

**Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.**

**Check that the cleaner agent is suitable for use with cushioned vinyl floor coverings.**

### **Periodic maintenance**

The floor should be cleaned periodically by using a floor machine equipped with a scrubbing brush, or soft bristle hand scrubbing brush, emulsion should be mopped up and using clean water wipe up any excess.

Vinyl floors with a protective PU lacquer do not normally require sealer, but should you wish to use a sealer:

1. Ensure the floor is clean & dry and remove any build up using an approved stripping agent.
2. Always follow the sealing agent's manufacturer's instruction
3. The floor surface should be initially prepared by stripping clean any traces of wax or old polish ensuring thorough removal of all slurry. Apply 3 even coats using a clean cotton string mop, polish or lambswool applicator.

### **Maintenance in case of stubborn stains**

In the case of extremely stubborn stains, such as acids, alkalis, shoe-polish, blood, mustard, food, candy, fruit and fruit juices, grass, urine, excrement, vomit etc, we recommend using a suitable cloth or a towel soaked with a neutral floor cleaner and water. Cleaning must be done immediately or plasticizer migration, shrinkage or embrittlement will occur.

### **Protecting your floor from physical damage**

#### **Avoid the following:**

- Rubber backing on doormats may result in yellow discolouration of the floor immediately beneath. Choose a natural fibre mat in preference.
- Rubber feet on furniture may cause staining. Remove them altogether or replace with coasters or felt pads between them and the floor.
- Spirit-based products such as shoe polish, solvents, hair dye and permanent marker pens. Wipe up spots and marks as quickly as possible. Also applies to turmeric, mustard, and strongly coloured food-stuffs.
- Corrosive substances such as acid and alkaline solutions can damage the surface of the floor, clean up any spills quickly and carefully, avoiding direct contact with the substance. Always wear protective clothing (gloves etc) when doing so.
- Bitumen/tar from freshly resurfaced or melted roads and pathways. Some inexpensive rubber shoe (and slipper) soles can also cause stains.

The above list is indicative of materials likely to cause damage but is not to be considered restrictive.