

# MAINTENANCE GUIDE FOR FLEXTILE VINYL COMPOSITION TILE

## GENERAL

No other surface in a building gets the abuse and wear that a floor does but by following the maintenance guide below, you can maintain the attractive look of your new Flextile floor. A floor finish can be applied directly on Flextile Vinyl Composition Tile without removing the factory finish coat.

- Dry mop and/or sweep and/or wet mop your floor daily to remove loose dirt before it can scratch your floor's surface.
- Use floor mats at outside doors to prevent moisture and dirt being tracked across the floor. "Walk-off" mats should cover the first six feet minimum inside any external doorway. (Double the length in winter).
- Wipe up spills before they dry.
- Use floor protectors or glides on legs of furniture to minimize scratching and indentation.
- Move heavy furniture or appliances by placing a plywood panel on the floor and "walking" the furniture across the panel, or place a piece of carpet or rug face down under the furniture and slowly slide the furniture across the floor, keeping the carpet under the legs to prevent scratching.

## NEW FLOORS

Vacuum or sweep the floor clear of debris. Damp mop the floor with a neutral detergent solution, while carefully scrubbing black marks and excessive soil. Apply 2 or 3 thin coats of a high quality floor finish such as, Rochester Midland's E/C NOVUS. Allow at least 45 minutes between coats or until the floor is thoroughly dry. Maintain the finish according to the manufacturers' recommendations. Never wash a floor until at least five days after installation.

## PREPARATION OF FLOORS FOR COMMERCIAL USE

Vacuum, sweep or mop to remove loose soil. Scrub the floor with a neutral cleaner such as Rochester Midland's EC Low Foam All Purpose using a scrubbing pad (3M blue or green or equivalent). When the floor is thoroughly cleaned, rinsed and dried, apply three to five thin coats of E/C Floor Finish, allowing sufficient time to dry (approximately 45 minutes) between coats. Use a 100% rayon mop or applicator.

## REGULAR MAINTENANCE

Vacuum, sweep or dust mop to remove debris as needed. Clean mats frequently.

Damp mop with a neutral cleaner with warm water. Wring mop out frequently and change the wash water when it is dirty.

When damp-mopping does not restore the finish to the desired conditions, scrub the floor with an automatic floor machine, using a neutral cleaner. Spray-buff or high-speed burnish will restore the gloss, however, make sure that there are sufficient coats of finish on the floor (a minimum of three coats) before proceeding with this application. This procedure will protect the base coat and the need for stripping.

## STRIPPING

Strip the floor only when necessary. Regular scheduled maintenance and the use of a high quality floor finish will greatly reduce the need for stripping.

## SPOT OR STAIN REMOVAL

Pick up spills before they dry. Dried material can frequently be removed by gentle scraping with a plastic spatula. Stubborn stains can frequently be removed by rubbing with a synthetic scouring pad dipped in a neutral cleaner. Cigarette burns or persistent stains can be removed using an abrasive powder cleaner and steel wool pads.

Always rinse after using a cleaner and apply a high quality floor finish.

## NOTE

For consultation and recommendations on cleaning, stripping, sealing and finishing or for designing floor care programs specific to your needs, call:

## ROCHESTER MIDLAND

Canada 905-847-3000 ext 3301  
United States 1-585-336-2200 or 1-800-836-1627

August 6, 2015

*For job specific installation systems, recommendations, project warranty information, or for assistance with installation specifications, please contact Flextile's technical department.*

Toronto, ON – Email: [mzerey@flextile.net](mailto:mzerey@flextile.net)

Toll Free 1-800-699-3623

Tel 1-416-255-1111

Fax 1-416-255-1729

Montreal, QC – Email: [mzerey@flextile.net](mailto:mzerey@flextile.net)

Toll Free 1-800-699-3623

Tel 1-514-345-8666

Fax 1-514-345-8825

Burnaby, BC – Email: [mboldt@flextile.net](mailto:mboldt@flextile.net)

Toll Free 1-888-236-4486

Tel 1-604-420-4914

Fax 1-604-420-0936

[www.flextile.net](http://www.flextile.net)

# Maintenance Guide for Flextile Safety Flex

In order to achieve slip-retardance, SAFETY-FLEX flooring employs an embossed surface embedded with grit. This uniquely textured surface requires that close attention be paid to maintenance.

The ability to use commercial floor polishes helps to minimize the added complication of cleaning an embossed surface. Do not use too much floor polish because it will reduce the slip retardant characteristics of the tile's surface. As a guideline, maintaining 4 to 5 coats at all times should be sufficient.

## NEW FLOORS

Immediately after installation, sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust and dirt. Remove any dried adhesive residue with Rochester's Midland PRS Mastic Removal or a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on the container. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted Rochester Midland's EcoLogo CCD-146 neutral detergent solution.

**NOTE: Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least four to five days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond and/or seam treatments. Do not use brown or black pads, or equivalent brushes on any Flextile resilient floors. Their use could result in permanent damage to the floor.**

Apply two coats of a high-quality commercial floor polish such as Rochester Midland's Ultra Marathon or Enviro Chem NOVUS (EcoLogo CCD-147). The use of a high-quality stain-resistant sealer beneath the polish could be considered in areas of high traffic, high soil load, and areas where staining potential is high.

**NOTE: It is important to protect the floor during the installation and construction phase. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor. When moving heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard or other underlayment panels.**

## PREPARATION OF FLOORS FOR COMMERCIAL USE

Scrub the floor with Rochester Midland E.C. Low Foam (EcoLogo CCD-146) neutral detergent solution and a scrubbing brush. Floor machine pads are unable to reach into the textured surface to remove dirt particles and residues. Do not use stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes. They may damage the floor. If the floor is badly soiled and/or scratched, strip it using the same procedure but substituting Rochester Midland Enviro Chem Floor Stripper (CCD-147) stripping solution.

Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water and allow it to dry completely. Apply 2 to 3 coats of high-quality commercial polish, such as Rochester Midland's Ultra Marathon or Enviro Chem NOVUS (EcoLogo CCD-147).

## Regular Maintenance

Sweep, dust mop or vacuum daily to remove dirt, grit and soil that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface. Use walk-off mats that are as wide as the doorway and long enough to trap dirt and moisture before traffic reaches the resilient floor. Remember to clean walk-off mats regularly. Spills should be cleaned up immediately.

Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis depending upon traffic and soil levels in the building. Use properly diluted Rochester Midland E.C. Low Foam (EcoLogo CCD-146) neutral detergent solution.

## Periodic Maintenance - Scrub and Recoat

When needed, scrub with a single disc (300 rpm or less) or automatic floor machine equipped with non-abrasive scrub brushes. Use a neutral cleaning solution of either Rochester Midland's DfE 401 or E.C. Low Foam to improve deep cleaning. Scrub until visible soils are removed. If using a single disc floor machine, remove dirty cleaning solution with a wet vacuum or mop. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water and allow it to dry completely.

As required, additional coats of Ultra Marathon or Enviro Chem NOVUS (EcoLogo CCD-147) should be applied at this time.

## Restorative Maintenance—Stripping

Scrub the floor with a properly diluted stripping solution of Rochester Midland Enviro Chem Floor Stripper (CCD-147) using a single-disc or automatic floor machine (300 rpm or less) equipped with a scrubbing brush. If using a single disc floor machine, remove dirty cleaning solution with a wet vacuum. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water and allow it to dry completely. Apply 4 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish, such as Rochester Midland's Ultra Marathon or Enviro Chem NOVUS (EcoLogo CCD-147).

The use of a high-quality stain-resistant sealer could be considered in areas of high traffic, soil load and staining potential.

August 6, 2015

