

HEARTLAND RUBBER

CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES

Post Installation:

Rubber tiles do not include a protective finish when shipped from the manufacturing facility. It is highly recommended that the newly installed rubber floor be protected using a tarpaulin or other cover until the floor can be cleaned and/or sealed.

Initial Cleaning:

Do not wash the floor for at least five days after installation. An initial cleaning needs to be done to remove any dirt and grit from the job site and to prepare the floor prior to applying a sealer or finish. Failure to clean properly will cause finish bonding issues as well as the entrapment of dirt in the floor.

To avoid possible damage to the flooring, the following should never be used on the floor:

- Steel wool or abrasive brushes
- Abrasive or alkaline cleaners
- Solvents of any type

The floor should be cleaned with a neutral cleaner:

1. Thoroughly sweep or vacuum the floor to remove all loose dirt, dust and debris.
2. Apply a neutral cleaner to the floor with a mop (or automatic floor scrubber). Follow the manufacturer's instructions.
3. Use a wet vac or mop to remove cleaning solution.
4. Rinse floor with clean, cold water. Remove all water with wet vac or mop. Allow rubber to dry thoroughly.
5. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for the proper application of a rubber floor sealer (if applicable).

Regular Floor Maintenance:

A regular maintenance program is extremely important and will increase the life of the floor and finish. The frequency of cleaning will depend on the amount of traffic on the floor. For general cleaning, a neutral cleaner should be used.

1. Thoroughly sweep or vacuum the floor to remove all loose dirt, dust and debris.
2. Apply a neutral cleaner to the floor with a mop (or automatic floor scrubber). Follow the manufacturer's instructions.
3. Use a wet vac or mop to remove cleaning solution.
4. Rinse floor with clean, cold water. Remove all water with wet vac or mop. Allow rubber to dry thoroughly.

Important:

To prevent slip and fall accidents, always use a Wet Floor sign when wet rubber flooring has been cleaned and is open to floor traffic.

Restorative Floor Maintenance:

When noticeable accumulation of dirt and other contaminants become embedded in the rubber floor finish, a quality floor stripper should be used to remove the existing finish. Areas typically needing to be restored include high-traffic walkways, tight or confined spaces, and along baseboards. After the floor stripper has been applied and removed per the manufacturer's instructions, a neutral cleaner should be applied to the stripped area. See general cleaning instructions of this page. Once the rubber flooring has been cleaned and allowed to dry, a sealer can be used to restore the finish of the treated area.