

Armstrong Commercial Floor Maintenance of Resilient/ Commercial Floors

For detailed information on the maintenance of Armstrong resilient flooring, refer to Armstrong Commercial Resilient Flooring Maintenance Recommendations brochure F-8863 (pocket size) or F-8863B (binder size).

Use dollies with boards underneath whenever normally stationary equipment and/or furnishings must be moved across the floor. Protect floors from rolling loads for 72 hours after installation by covering with hardboard or plywood. Protect the floor with undyed, untreated building paper until final inspection.

Initial maintenance must be performed immediately after installation.

INITIAL MAINTENANCE AFTER INSTALLATION

- a. Sweep or vacuum floor thoroughly
- b. Damp-mop with a solution of neutral detergent such as Armstrong S-485 Floor Cleaner – carefully wiping up black marks, etc.
- c. Apply two coats of a high quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Floor Polish (except for Safeguard, Safeguard Design, Safeguard Hydro, Crosswalk, Step Master).
- d. Do not wash the floor for at least four to five days after installation (prevents excess moisture from interfering with adhesion).

PREPARATION FOR COMMERCIAL USE

- a. Preparation of vinyl composition tile
 1. Five or more days after installation, scrub the floor using a neutral detergent such as Armstrong S-485 Floor Cleaner and a scrubbing pad or brush as recommended for the type of floor being maintained.

NOTE: Do not use black or brown pads or their equivalent brushes on any Armstrong Floors.

2. When the floor is thoroughly cleaned, rinsed, and dried, apply three to five coats of a high quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Floor Polish. Certain situations may require the application of one or two coats of sealer. Allow ample drying time between coats of sealer and/or finish. Do not allow traffic on the floor for several hours (overnight, if possible).

NOTE: Unless badly soiled or scratched, Armstrong vinyl composition tile with Fast Start finish does not require stripping but must be scrubbed prior to the application of polish.

b. Preparation of vinyl sheet flooring

1. Four to five days after installation, scrub the floor using a neutral detergent such as Armstrong S-485 Floor Cleaner and a scrubbing pad or brush as recommended for the type of floor being maintained.

NOTE: Do not use black or brown pads or their equivalent brushes on any Armstrong floors.

NOTE: If the floor is badly soiled and scratched, strip it using the same procedure but substitute a high quality floor stripper such as Armstrong S-490 Floor Stripper and a stripping pad or brush as recommended for the type of floor being maintained.

NOTE: Use only brushes to maintain Safeguard products or Translations. Do Not use pads.

2. When the floor is thoroughly scrubbed or stripped, rinsed, and dried, apply three to five coats of a high quality floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Floor Polish (may be preceded by one or two coats of sealer), allowing ample drying time between coats. Do not allow traffic on the floor for several hours (overnight, if possible).

CONTINUING REGULAR MAINTENANCE

- a. Sweep or dust mop daily. Removal of gritty dirt is extremely important. Use walk-off mats.
- b. Damp-mop as necessary with a neutral detergent such as Armstrong S-485 Floor Cleaner. Remove black scuffmarks, chewing gum, etc., at this time.
- c. Maintain as flooring type and maintenance system dictate. Spray buffing may be done with a neutral solution such as S-480 Floor Polish.
- d. As necessary (depending on traffic), apply additional coats of a high quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Floor Polish. This procedure may not be required often if spray buffing is done regularly.

STRIPPING

- a. When stripping is necessary, follow procedures described above in Preparation for Commercial Use and those found on the label of a high quality floor stripper such as Armstrong S-490 Floor Stripper.
- b. Careful and thorough maintenance by well-trained personnel can significantly reduce the stripping schedule.

NOTE: Do not use black or brown pads or their equivalent brushes on any Armstrong floors.

NOTE: The use of no-scrub and/or no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive system.

GLOSS

Gloss has a considerable influence on the appearance of a finished floor. Very glossy materials, therefore, require careful underlayment preparation and inspection to ensure the best appearance.

STAIN PREVENTION

Most staining substances that contact Armstrong resilient flooring can be cleaned up easily. All spills should be removed promptly.

A good coating of Armstrong S-480 Floor Polish will help the floor resist staining and will enhance the floor's appearance. Polishes can be stripped if staining does occur.