

# Cleaning & Maintenance Guide

## Hybrid and LVP Floors

GH Commercial Hybrid and LVP floors are specifically manufactured to be low maintenance for the life of the floor. The PUR reinforcement of the wear layer ensures easy care and maintenance, and requires less chemicals and water compared to traditional vinyl flooring.

### INITIAL SITE CLEAN

Protect the floor with hard board sheeting during the construction period. Clean the new floor: vacuum, sweep or damp mop the area to remove building dust and loose dirt. A combined scrubber/dryer with cylindrical brushes clean large areas very effectively. Use detergent with a low pH (3-5). If wet cleaning methods are required, allow 5 days for LVP after installation to ensure full adhesive curing.

### GENERAL ADVICE

- Clean the floorcovering regularly.
- Always follow dosage instructions carefully for detergents.
- Wipe any grease and spilt oil immediately, as they may damage the surface.
- Hybrid and LVP floors are damaged by solvents.
- Protect the floor from direct sunlight and significant rapid changes in temperature/humidity.
- Black rubber wheels and rubber feet can discolour the floorcovering. All chair and table legs should have good quality floor protectors. Felt pads are not recommended in commercial interiors. Hard plastic is preferred.
- Remember that light colours need more frequent cleaning.

### PREVENTATIVE CARE

#### Soil control matting (walk off zones)

One of the most efficient ways to reduce floor damage is soil control matting placed at strategic points such as:

- External entries
- Lift and stairwell entries
- Vending machines
- High spillages areas (e.g. tea rooms)
- Foyers and hallways

Triple commercial mats of at least six footsteps (approximately 5 metres) from the entrance of a commercial installation will trap approximately 80 percent of soil before it transfers onto the flooring. Maintenance of soil control matting is just as important as floor maintenance. Mats should be cleaned at a frequency sufficient to prevent soil accumulating on them being carried through to the interior areas.

#### Protection from Indentations

To prevent permanent flooring indentation weight dispersing aids as wide bearing, clear, hard plastic or non-staining felt protectors should be used under heavy pieces of furniture. Office chairs, filing trolleys, mobile containers and old hard or sharp edged castors on furniture should be fitted with synthetic pads. All pads should be regularly cleaned and replaced and care taken to ensure the surface between the pads and the flooring is clean to prevent scratching. Chair pads should be used under desk chairs with castors. Never slide or roll furniture or appliances across your floor. Protect the floor if using a trolley to move heavy objects.

### Extreme Temperatures

All floors should be protected from extreme temperatures and strong, direct sunlight and any rapid temperature and humidity by the use of interior temperature control (recommended temperatures 10-30°C and relative humidity between 30% and 70%), window tinting, awnings and/or curtains/blinds. Dramatic temperature changes and/or extreme relative humidity can cause floors to gap, cup, crown or peak and prolonged direct sunlight will cause fading.

### DAILY OR REGULAR CLEANING

Dry mopping: microfibre mop or soft bristle broom.

Or

Vacuum cleaning: useful for large areas and for initial site cleaning.

Damp Mopping: Best to complete Dry Mopping or Vacuum Cleaning first. Use a mop dampened with water or pH neutral detergent solution. Damp mopping means the floor should be dry within 15-20 seconds of dry mopping. Do not let water linger.

Or

Combined machine (for large areas): Use diluted neutral detergent. Speed low 150-250rpm or higher. White/beige pads are usually the most suitable.

Spot and stain removal: treat stains immediately. Spot clean by hand with a white nylon pad and neutral detergent (never use solvents). Work from the outside towards the centre. Rinse and wipe afterwards with clean water.

### PERIODIC CLEANING

#### Light Soiling

Spray buffing: to revitalise the surface: spray clean with neutral detergent (white pad).

#### Heavy Soiling

Machine scrubbing + Wet Vacuuming:

- Apply a cleaning solution (pH 10=11, after dilution).
- Clean the floor using a heavy-duty single disc scrubbing machine (red pad).
- Vacuum up the dirty water immediately. Rinse with clean and allow the floor to dry.

#### If Needed

Dry buffing when necessary, dry buff (white pad) to restore the surface gloss. Suitable speed: 500-1000rpm.

Read the product label and Safety Data sheet for any cleaning product(s) before using and make sure you follow all instructions, including all required personal protective equipment (PPE).

#### Maintenance Schedule and Records

The building owner/maintenance manager should prepare and maintain a schedule showing cleaning frequencies for all areas of the installation. The schedule should provide for recording of actual work, done and by whom it is performed, and shall be maintained for reference should any cleaning problems arise. The schedule should be amended as necessary when there is significant change in the pattern of use of any area.

