



TEXAS GRANITE COMMERCIAL VINYL TILES

MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

GENERAL REMARKS

1. American Biltrite solid vinyl commercial tiles have a breaking-in period. At first, the factory finish on the tile is so flawless that individual scuffs and scratches will appear more visible. As your floor is broken in with normal traffic, its finish will develop to a rich, natural, uniform patina.
2. Read all instructions carefully and make sure the adhesive has fully cured before starting. (Refer to the Installation Instructions).
3. Take all safety precautions such as posting "Caution" and "Wet/Slippery" floor signs before starting any maintenance procedures.
4. Keep your floors clean at all times. A contaminated surface with a liquid (water, oil, grease, etc...) or a solid (sand, salt, etc...) will render the floor slippery and hazardous to walk on.
5. Do not, at any time during the initial maintenance or thereafter, flood the floor with water or maintenance solutions.
6. Warning: Infection control products used in Healthcare facilities could damage your floor; it is the end-user's responsibility, if such products are used, to make sure they do not contain chemicals harmful to the Flooring material.
7. Wait at least 3 days after installation before starting maintenance procedures.
8. Important notice about floor finishes: the application and upkeep of floor finishes increases the overall cost of maintenance. Solid vinyl flooring does not require floor finishes to protect it, and it should be used for its natural resiliency. However, some users may choose to apply finishes to get a higher luster.
9. Types of pads and their uses:
 - a. White pads for light polishing;
 - b. Beige pads for buffing;
 - c. Red pads for light scrubbing;
 - d. Green or blue for scrubbing;
 - e. Soft nylon brush for manual scrubbing.
10. Maintenance products:
 - a. Regular neutral cleaner/degreaser (7 to 7.5 pH before dilution);
 - b. Low foam neutral cleaner for auto scrubber (7 to 8 pH before dilution);
 - c. Alkaline stripper for wax removal (12 pH before dilution);
 - d. Acrylic sealer (around 9 pH before dilution);
 - e. Acrylic floor finish (between 7 and 9 pH before dilution);
 - f. Neutral spray buff floor finish (7 to 7.5 pH before dilution).
11. Follow the instructions on the label of the above products.
12. These care recommendations are provided as information only. We do not assume responsibility for actual work performed. The warranty extends only to the quality and performance of the vinyl flooring.



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INITIAL MAINTENANCE

1. Sweep, vacuum or dust mop to remove all dirt or grit.
2. Prepare a mixture of regular neutral cleaner/degreaser and water as per manufacturer's recommendations.
3. Spread the solution evenly over the floor using a mop or sponge. Do not, at any time during the initial maintenance or thereafter, flood the floor with water or maintenance solutions. Do not allow the solution to dry on the floor. Wait 5 to 10 minutes before cleaning.
4. Scrub the floor using a 175 - 350 r/min rotary swing buffing machine equipped with a green/blue scrubbing pad. Work the solution to create a milky slurry which confirms the dirt is being removed.
5. Wet vacuum or mop up to remove the residue.
6. Rinse with cold water. Wet vacuum or mop up to remove the water.
7. Let the floor dry completely.
8. Using a higher r/min machine is not recommended, as the risk of "burning" the tiles is greater. We recommend you experiment with different pads until you find the one that works best with your machine.
 - a. Choose a low-speed rotary swing machine (175 - 350 r/min) and a polishing pad for a matte or low-gloss shine.
 - b. If a higher gloss is desired, we only recommend the Taski Ergodisc 1200 equipped with a polishing pad.

REGULAR MAINTENANCE

1. Sweep or vacuum daily to remove dust and dirt.
2. If necessary, clean with a rotary swing machine equipped with a red pad using a low-foam neutral cleaner.
3. For a matte or low gloss finish, dry buff using a 175-350 r/min rotary swing buffing machine equipped with a polishing pad.
4. If a higher shine is desired, use a Taski Ergodisc 1200 equipped with a polishing pad.
5. This floor tile does not need daily intensive maintenance to keep its luster; polishing should only be done occasionally when needed.
6. Methods of optional finishes:
 - a. Spray & Buff: proceed to spray buff using a neutral spray floor finish with a rotary swing machine (175 - 350 r/min) equipped with a beige or white pad.
 - b. High luster: use a waxing mop to apply one coat of acrylic floor finish and allow it to dry completely before applying a second coat in a perpendicular direction. For a high-luster finish, spray buff using a neutral spray floor finish and a 350 r/min a rotary swing buffing machine equipped with a beige or white pad, depending on required luster.



AmericanBiltrite
Flooring

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- c. Do not buff floors coated with floor finish for at least 24 hours after application.

RESTORATIVE MAINTENANCE

1. Scratch marks are easily removed by the following method:
 - a. Use a soapy solution as a lubricant with a 175 - 350 r/min rotary swing buffing machine equipped with a nylon buffing pad or, either a 00 or 000 steel wool pad.
 - b. Spray a small area with the solution then concentrate the polisher on the affected area, allowing it to gently burnish the scratches from the tile.

GENERAL PRECAUTIONS

1. Floor protection: Floors must be protected against excessive static loads and abrasion when moving furniture. We recommend the removal of small metal glides from furniture legs. Plastic casters and glides of adequate size should be used to protect the floor surface. They should be cleaned periodically to prevent damage when dirt and grit accumulate and they are dragged on floors.
2. Direct sunlight: Flooring constantly exposed to direct sunlight at temperatures over 38°C (100°F) may result in alteration of dimension, indentation and possible color fading. Protect with drapes or blinds drawn over windows during peak sunlight hours.
3. Walk-off mats and throw rugs used in entrance ways: Some types of walk-off mats and throw rugs are backed with a type of latex that may discolor the resilient flooring. Always make certain that the mat/rug supplier confirms they have a non-staining backing.
4. Stains: Certain materials will stain any resilient flooring. They include lipstick, solvent-type fluid and paste waxes, fresh asphalt paving, rubber matting, rug padding and paint pigmentation used on exterior concrete steps and porches. Dark-colored asphalt tile located adjacent to or near the flooring may cause tracking of color onto it. American Biltrite flooring must be adequately protected, (suitable walk-off mats are recommended) from contact with such materials since in many cases the stains are difficult or impossible to remove.
5. The extremely high forces exerted by stiletto or high-heeled traffic (dynamic loads of 1,000 psi or more) may visibly damage resilient flooring. American Biltrite will not accept claims for damage caused by stiletto or high-heeled traffic.

Please note that technical web site documents prevail.

