

Armstrong

Care and Maintenance of Genuine Linoleum Floors

Initial Maintenance After Installation

- Sweep or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove any dirt caused by installation or other construction.
- Do not wash or polish the new linoleum floor for 2-3 days so the adhesive used to install the floor can cure properly. During this time, protecting the floor from soiling is especially important if further construction is continuing in the vicinity. Clean drop cloths or construction paper are a good choice.
- After waiting 2-3 days, sweep or vacuum the floor again.
- Wash the floor with Armstrong Genuine Linoleum Floor Cleaner in accordance with the instructions on the container.
- Allow the floor to dry thoroughly.
- Because this is a new floor, it will require a minimum of three coats of Armstrong Genuine Linoleum Floor Polish for adequate protection. Apply the Floor Polish in accordance with the instructions on the container.
- Drying time between coats of polish is extremely important. Allow a minimum of 30 minutes. However, the drying time will vary widely relative to the humidity and temperature where the floor is located. The higher the humidity, the longer the polish will take to dry.
- It is important not to move the polish applicator back and forth over the same area more than once or twice. Frequent passes of the applicator over the same spot could cause streaking. This would require the floor to be stripped and polishing begun again.

Routine Maintenance

Maintaining a good appearance for a genuine linoleum floor that has been properly cleaned and polished is relatively simple using the following guidelines:

- The worst enemy of most floors is abrasive, gritty dirt that is tracked in from outdoors. This abrasive grit when trapped between a shoe and the floor can act like sand paper and grind away at the surface of the floor. This abrasion causes scratches, which create a dulled appearance and catch dirt. The best way to minimize scratching is frequent sweeping or vacuuming of the floor, the use of doormats outside of entrances and the use of rugs inside the entrances. The mats and rugs should be shaken out or cleaned regularly. These mats and rugs will significantly reduce the amount of gritty dirt available to cause abrasions of the floor.
- There will always be dust on a floor and, frequently, spills. These are best removed by damp mopping using a solution of Armstrong Genuine Linoleum Floor Cleaner.
- Damp mop the floor as appearance dictates following the instructions for the Floor Cleaner below.
- Never use strongly alkaline cleaners, such as Armstrong New Beginning® Floor Cleaner and Stripper, on a linoleum floor. It will remove the polish and can damage the floor.
- Depending upon traffic conditions in a given home, the polish will, over time, become worn and dulled. This changing appearance will eventually dictate that it is time to polish the floor.
- When it is time to add polish, the floor should be damp mopped or washed with a solution of Armstrong Genuine Linoleum Floor Cleaner, followed by a thorough rinsing with clean water and a clean mop. Proper rinsing will ensure adequate adhesion of the floor polish to be applied.
- Allow the floor to dry thoroughly.
- Apply 1 or 2 coats of Armstrong Genuine Linoleum Floor Polish, as required for acceptable appearance, according to the instructions on the container.