

## **BASIC CLEANING:**

The floor should be dry vacuumed to remove all dust and loose debris, then wiped with a neutral pH floor cleaner, using a damp mop, diluted in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. After 5-10 minutes, all dirt and residue of the cleaning agent should be removed; the floor should be rinsed with a damp mop and allowed to dry.

Always remove excess water. It can cause slip and fall hazards.

**Do not use soap-based detergents, caustic cleaners or abrasive cleaners.**

**The use of a steam mop will void all warranties.**

## **PREVENTIVE MEASURES & TIPS ON CARE:**

The easiest way to reduce maintenance costs is to reduce the amount of dirt, grit and moisture brought into a building with an effective barrier mat. This should be cleaned regularly.

The use of either rubber-backed mats or coco-fibre mats is not acceptable since they are known to cause yellow stains or plasticiser migration in vinyl floors.

Never slide heavy furniture or fittings over an unprotected floor or severe scratching may result. The floor should be protected from the wheels or feet of fittings, avoiding rubber products which may stain.

Furniture polish and window cleaning agents should be applied to a cloth to avoid spillage onto the floor. Contact with some agents, such as silicone, will make the floor surface extremely slippery and may result in accidents.

**Regular cleaning is more beneficial to the floorcovering and more cost effective than occasional heavy cleaning.**

## **SPOT PROTECTION AND REMOVAL:**

Most domestic agents will not harm the floor, however all residue of cleaning agents should be removed to avoid discolouration.

### **The following substances can cause discoloration:**

1. Tar
2. Nail Polish
3. Varnish
4. Spices
5. Shoe Polish
6. Paints containing acetone
7. Lipstick
8. Solvent-based paints
9. Rubber Mats
10. Coco-Fibre Mats
11. Asphalt
12. Permanent Marker Pens
13. Crayons

### **ACTION:**

1. Wipe immediately with a paper towel or cloth.
2. The area should then be washed using a damp cloth or sponge.

## **POINTS TO NOTE:**

1. Regular light maintenance is more cost effective than periodic heavy maintenance and more beneficial to the floorcovering.
2. Always sweep, mop, or dry vacuum the floor regularly.
3. Always use clean equipment – dirty equipment only redistributes the dirt.
4. Do not mix cleaning products from different manufacturers – they may not be compatible.
5. Always remove any spillage immediately.
6. Always remove excess water.
7. Always take precautions to prevent dark rubber from coming into contact with the floor.
8. Never deviate from the manufacturer's recommended dilution rates.
9. Wet floors are slippery; always use warning signs to advise that cleaning is in progress.

## **RUBBER MIGRATION (also known as plasticiser migration):**

This is a condition that can cause vinyl to discolour. It is caused by rubber or latex products, eg rubber or latex-soled slippers or shoes or rubber backed mats, coming into contact with the vinyl over a constant period of time. It is neither a manufacturing nor installation fault and therefore is not covered by our warranties.

The publication of these guidelines does not impact upon the ruling standards of the Code of Practice. These recommendations should be considered supplementary to supporting literature. If any points raised within this document need clarification, please contact your Belgotex sales representative or call us on 0800 377 753.