

Slip-Retardant Tile

EXCELON SAFETY ZONE

In order to achieve slip-retardance, SAFETY ZONE flooring employs an embossed surface embedded with grit. This uniquely textured surface requires that close attention be paid to maintenance. Fortunately, the Fast Start Factory Finish makes initial maintenance quick and easy and does **not** require removal after installation. The ability to use conventional commercial floor polishes helps to minimize the added complication of cleaning an embossed surface. Do not use **too much floor polish** because it will reduce the slip retardant characteristics of the tile's surface. As a guideline, maintaining four to five coats at all times should be sufficient.

A. Initial Maintenance

Immediately After Installation

1. Sweep or vacuum thoroughly to remove all loose dust and dirt.
2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on container.
3. Damp mop the floor with a neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner at 2 to 3 ounces per gallon, while carefully scrubbing black marks and excessive soil. **Do not wet wash, scrub or strip the floor for at least four or five days after installation** (this prevents excess moisture from interfering with the seam treatments and adhesive bond).
4. Apply two coats of a high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. The use of a high-quality stain-resistant sealer such as Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer beneath the polish should be considered in areas of high traffic, high soil load and areas where staining potential is high.
5. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor. When moving heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard or other underlayment panels.

Preparation for Commercial Traffic

1. Scrub the floor with a neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner at 4 to 6 ounces per gallon and a scrubbing brush. Floor machine pads are unable to reach into the textured surface to remove dirt particles and residues. Do not use stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes. They may damage the floor. If the floor is badly soiled and/or scratched, strip it using the same procedure but substituting a stripping solution such as Armstrong S-490 Commercial Floor Stripper.

The use of aggressive strippers such as mop on/mop off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.

2. Thoroughly rinse floor and allow it to dry.
3. Apply 2 to 3 coats of high-quality commercial polish, such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. Another excellent choice for protection and ease of maintenance, if the floor has been stripped, is the use of two coats of a stain-resistant sealer, such as Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer followed by 2 to 3 coats of high-quality commercial polish, such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish.

B. Daily/Regular Maintenance

1. Sweep or vacuum thoroughly and clean walk-off mats frequently.
2. Damp mop using a neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner at 2 to 3 ounces per gallon.

C. Periodic Maintenance

1. When needed, scrub with a single-disc or automatic floor machine and the appropriate scrubbing brush.
2. Thoroughly rinse and allow to dry.
3. If needed, additional coats of floor polish may be applied at this time.

D. Restorative Maintenance

NOTE: Stripping is the process of removing existing layers of sealer and finish and should only be performed when routine daily/periodic procedures are no longer effective. The use of high-quality maintenance products such as Armstrong commercial floor care products and adherence to a well-planned maintenance program will greatly reduce the need for stripping.

The use of aggressive strippers such as mop on/mop off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.

1. Scrub the floor with a properly diluted stripping solution using a single-disc or automatic floor machine (300 rpm or less) equipped with a scrubbing brush.
2. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop.
3. Thoroughly rinse the floor with clean water and allow it to dry.
4. Apply three to five coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. The use of a high-quality stain-resistant sealer such as Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer should be considered in areas of high traffic, soil load and staining potential.