

**There are three methods of installation suitable for sheet vinyl flooring**

The installation method used is dependent upon the day-to-day activities and the overall floor dimensions.

1. Releasable Full Spread Installation Method using Mohawk V-One.
2. Loose-Lay Installation (*in areas 25 square yards or less and no more than 1 seam*)
3. Permanent Full Spread Installation Method (*must be used for "special needs" installations, all new construction and cold crack warranty jobs*)

**NOTE: If you elect to permanently install your Mohawk residential flooring using this method as opposed to the Releasable Installation Method with Mohawk V-One adhesive, that labor rates exceeding residential releasable removal and underlayment will not be covered.**

## RELEASABLE FULL SPREAD INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS USING MOHAWK V-ONE (SHEET VINYL)

### Materials Required for Installation

- 3/8" short nap paint roller
- Mohawk V-One Multi-Functional Adhesive
- Hand seam roller/wallpaper roller
- MOHAWK M7 Seam Sealer

**NOTE: Mohawk will not be held responsible for problems that may arise from alternative adhesives or seam sealers. Please contact the adhesives' or seam sealer's manufacturer with issues.**

- Acrylic Double Face Tape for Vinyl Floors
- Sharp Utility Knife/extra blades
- Straight edge
- Push broom
- Mohawk XL23R PrimeCoat Adhesive Primer (*If priming the floor is necessary*)

**NOTE: We recommend placing a single order for all rolls required for larger installations and commercial flooring projects.**

#### Asbestos Warning

**Warning! DO NOT MECHANICALLY CHIP OR PULVERIZE EXISTING PREVIOUSLY INSTALLED RESILIENT FLOORING, BACKING, LINING FELT, ASPHALTIC "CUTBACK" ADHESIVES OR OTHER ADHESIVES.** Previously installed resilient floor covering products and the asphaltic or cutback adhesives used to install them may contain either **asbestos fibers** and/or **crystalline silica**. Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of asbestos or crystalline dust is a cancer and respiratory track hazard. Smoking by individuals exposed to asbestos fibers greatly increases the risk of seriously bodily harm. Unless you are positive that installed product is a non-asbestos containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content and may govern the removal and disposal of material. See current edition of the Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) publication "Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings" for detailed information and instructions on removing all resilient covering structures.

### Underlayments

Mohawk's sheet vinyl flooring products can be installed directly over most existing floor coverings, EXCLUDING carpet (*including needle felt*), floating laminate, floating floor systems, Luan and cushioned vinyl flooring. You may install directly over Ceramic (*well bonded with a skim coat*) PVC, VCT (*well bonded, on and above grade*), Terrazzo (*well bonded*), glued laminate, glued hardwood and fixed wooden boards provided they are installed over a wooden subfloor. Any resilient tile installed below grade must be removed as well as the adhesive prior to installing your new floor.

**NOTE: Do not use chemical adhesive removers to remove existing adhesive.**

#### Wood underlayments

- Wood subfloor systems require a double layer construction. The top layer must be underlayment grade as specified and warranted by the manufacturer. Always fasten underlayment in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Any failure of the Mohawk flooring because of the underlayment is NOT the responsibility of Mohawk. Any porous wood underlayment must be primed.
- A moisture test is required using a pin-type moisture meter. The moisture content must not exceed 14%.
- Wood subfloors must be structurally sound and in compliance with local building codes.
- Double-layered APA rated subfloors should be a minimum 1" total thickness, with a least 18" well-ventilated air space beneath.
- Insulate and protect crawl space with a vapor barrier.
- It is recommended that your chosen APA underlayment grade panels be designed for installation under resilient flooring and carry a written warranty.
- Underlayment panels can only correct minor deficiencies in the sub-floor while providing a smooth, sound surface on which to adhere the resilient flooring.
- Always follow the underlayment manufacturer's installation instructions.

- Wood subfloors directly fastened to concrete, or sleeper construction, are not recommended.
- APA rated Sturd-I-Floor planks are designed as combination subfloor/underlayment but designed for carpet and not resilient flooring. Sturd-I-Floor planks would require installation of a ¼" underlayment plank prior to resilient flooring installation.
- Mohawk resilient flooring is not recommended directly over fire-retardant treated plywood or preservative treated plywood. The materials used to treat the plywood may cause problems with adhesive bonding. An additional layer of APA rated ¼" thick underlayment should be installed over top of any treated subfloor.

#### **OSB**

- OSB panels and joints must be fastened and reinforced according to manufacturer's instructions.
- Completely sand the floor with a floor sander, so that the floor is smooth and flat. The chips in OSB overlap. Without sanding properly, OSB has high and low spots throughout the floor that could telegraph through the vinyl.
- Some chips in the OSB structure can stain vinyl flooring and may require repeated primer to eliminate the staining potential.
- For these reasons, the sanded OSB surface must be primed using a Mohawk acrylic latex primer.

#### **Particle Board**

- Particle board underlayment panels must be underlayment grade as specified and warranted by the manufacturer.
- Surface must be primed using a Mohawk PrimeCoat acrylic primer.

**NOTE: Perform moisture tests using a reliable moisture meter in multiple locations. Moisture readings should never exceed 14% for plywood, OSB, particle board, chipboard, or solid hardwood subfloors. If moisture readings exceed 14%, conditions must be corrected at the job site before installing the Mohawk flooring.**

#### **Resilient Floor Covering as an underlayment**

- Must be single layered, non-cushioned backed, fully adhered, and smooth.
- Show no signs of moisture or alkalinity.
- Wax, polish, grease and grime must be removed.
- Cuts, cracks, gouges, dents and other irregularities in the existing floor covering must be repaired or replaced.

**NOTE: The responsibility of determining if the existing flooring is suitable to be installed over rests solely with the installer/flooring contractor on site. If there is any doubt as to suitability, the existing flooring should be removed, or an acceptable underlayment installed over it. Installations over existing resilient flooring may be more susceptible to indentation.**

#### **Concrete**

New and existing concrete subfloors should meet the guidelines of the latest edition of ACI 302 and ASTM F 710, "Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring" available from the American Society for Testing and Materials.

Moisture levels of concrete slabs before, during and after installation must be 8 lbs. or less per 1000 square feet per 24 hours using an anhydrous calcium chloride test according to ASTM F1869 and pH must be between 5.0 and 9.0; or, if using ASTM F2170 In-Situ Probes, should be less than 90% RH (*relative humidity*). Three tests should be conducted for areas up to 1,000 Sq. Ft. One additional test, for each additional 1,000 Sq. Ft. Always measure, record and keep your testing results.

- Never use liquid adhesive remover or solvent cleaners for removing old adhesive residue or other substances on the substrate; their use will cause failure.
- On or below-grade slabs must have an effective vapor retarder directly under the slab.
- Concrete floors shall be flat and smooth within the equivalent of 1/32 inch in 12 inches and 3/16 inch in 10 feet.
- F-Number System: Overall values of FF 36/ FL 20 may be appropriate for resilient floor coverings.
- Glossy or waxed floors may require a higher value FF 75/ FL 50 to prevent telegraphing issues.

#### **Old Adhesive Residue**

- If the adhesive is asphalt-based (*cut-back*) or any other type of adhesive is present, it must be dealt with in one of two ways:
  1. It may be mechanically removed using methods such as bead blasting or scarifying, using a licensed professional contractor (*See Asbestos Warning above*).
  2. A Portland-based self-leveling underlayment may be applied over it. Check with the underlayment manufacturer for suitability, application instructions, and warranties.

**NOTE: Never use solvents or citrus adhesive removers to remove old adhesive residue. Solvent residue left in and on the subfloor will affect the bond between the new adhesive and the new floor covering.**

#### **Other approved underlayments**

- Self-leveling and patching compounds (*latex fortified Portland cement based only*)
- Radiant heat floors (*not exceeding 85°F (29°C)* and approved by the manufacturer for the use of their product with resilient vinyl flooring applications)
- Gypcrete can be utilized when necessary due to radiant heat and in high rise buildings. Gypcrete must be sealed using a Mohawk PrimeCoat acrylic primer to stabilize the surface for adhesive bond. All issues with gypcrete cracking, crumbling, powdering and resulting in the release of adhesive bond are NOT warranted by Mohawk.

## Storage and Handling

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Acclimate the flooring and adhesive for a minimum of 24 hours before installation in the area where it will be installed. Conditions between 55°F and 85°F (13°C and 29°C) are required before, during and after installation. Rolls should be stored in either a flat horizontal or vertical position in order to minimize the risk of pressure marks when storing in a horizontal position, the rolls should not be stacked one on another.

## Subfloor and Wall/Door Preparation

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- Floor must be clean, smooth, flat and dry. Remove all foreign substances such as wax, grease, dirt, construction markings and contaminants, and any substance or chemical that would interfere with a good bond. Fill all holes and cracks with a latex fortified Portland cement based patching compound. Sand high spots to eliminate the possibility of telegraphing. Prime floor if needed with Mohawk PrimeCoat acrylic primer to prevent over absorption of adhesives, dust containment, and to ensure a better bond of the adhesive to the subfloor.
- Any unevenness of more than 1/8 inch in a 10-foot span (3 mm over a span of 3 m) must be leveled out. Remove bumps in the subfloor by sanding or scraping. The same applies to unevenness of more than 1/32 inch over a length of 1 foot (1 mm over a length of 30 cm).
- Fill any low spots in the subfloor and cracks or gaps 3/16 inch (4mm) in width or greater with a Portland cement leveling compound.
- Ceramic tile and embossed flooring exceeding the above requirements will require skim coating with a Portland based patch to avoid bottom up pattern telegraphing.
- Remove any existing floor molding. Removal of wall baseboards is optional providing quarter round is installed to cover gaps between the flooring and the base board.
- Undercut door jambs allowing the vinyl flooring to slip under door jamb/case molding.
- Sweep the subfloor clean. The floor must also be free of all contaminants.

## Job Site Conditions

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- It is recommended that resilient floor covering installation shall not begin until all other trades are completed.
- Areas to receive flooring shall be clean, fully enclosed, with the permanent HVAC set at a uniform temperature range of 55°F(13°C) and 85°F(29°C) and maintained following the installation.
- Adhesive working and open times vary based on job conditions, substrate, temperature and humidity.

### Temperature - Ambient

- Controlled environments are critical for testing and installation. Fully operational HVAC systems are the best way to ensure temperature and humidity control.
- Do not install resilient flooring products until the work area can be temperature controlled. Minimum installation temperature is 55°F(13°C) with a maximum installation temperature of 85°F(29°C) and humidity below 65% for 48-hours prior to, during and after pre-installation testing.

**NOTE: Do not install flooring if moisture test results exceed recommended limits.**

### Temperature - Radiant Heat

- Radiant heated substrates must never exceed 85°F(29°C) surface temperature.
- Several days prior to installing resilient products over newly constructed radiant heated systems, make sure the radiant system has been on and operating at maximum temperature to reduce residual moisture within the concrete.
- Three days prior to installation, lower the temperature to 65°F(18°C), and 24-hours after installation, gradually increase the temperature in increments of 5°F.
- After continuous operation of the radiant system, ensure the surface of the floor does not exceed 85°F(29°C).

## Releasable Installation Instructions using Mohawk V-One

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Inspection of flooring material prior to installation is required. Any defects should be immediately reported to the retail store from which the flooring was purchased before installation. Mohawk will not be responsible for labor costs to repair or replace material with defects that were apparent before or noticed at the end of an installation.

1. Prepare substrate for the surface to be clean, smooth, flat and dry. Under cut all wooden door jambs to maintain a 3/8" relief gap.
2. Place acrylic double face tape for vinyl floors at all doorways where a transition strip is needed, next to sliding doors, in front of tubs and shower stalls, and similar areas where an expansion gap will not be covered with trim. Place double face acrylic tape around all floor vents to eliminate air migrating under vinyl causing bubbles. Do not tape along walls or around perimeter of room, as this is not perimeter install flooring.
3. Align the pattern with the most dominant wall to achieve the best appearance in the room. Using a sharp utility knife, trim away excess material along the walls, and cabinets, etc., leaving approximately 2" of vinyl at these areas to be trimmed off later (*rough cut*). Never install cabinets on top of sheet goods installed with releasable adhesive.
4. If a seam is required, please follow the "Seaming Instructions in a Releasable Full Spread" installation method with pressure sensitive adhesive.
5. Make relief cuts at corners and projections to allow the material to lay flat before the final cuts are made. Final trimming should be done by cutting in with a utility knife or trimmer leaving a 3/8" expansion gap. The gap allows for sub-floor movement caused by changes in atmospheric conditions.

The material should not touch the wall, corners or objects at any point or bubbles or wrinkles may occur. The material must lay flat to stay flat. Final cuts must be made prior to applying adhesive.

6. Fold back material one half at a time and roll on a consistent layer of Mohawk V-One with the 3/8" short nap paint roller.
7. Before placing the material in the adhesive, make sure the adhesive is completely dry (*must be dry and tacky to the touch*). There should be no transfer of adhesive to material. If the adhesive is not completely dry before installation of material, the adhesive will continue to release gasses causing bubbles under the vinyl material.
8. Position the material in place so that no shifting can occur. Do not lift the vinyl into place because it may shift slightly and wrinkle.
9. Starting in the center of the floor, remove air from under material using a push broom.

**NOTE: Do not use any type of flooring roller, i.e. 75 or 100 pound. Do not twist material when placing it onto the adhesive.**

10. Repeat steps 6-8 for the remaining portion of the flooring material.
11. Use quarter round or base board to cover the exposed expansion gap. When installing quarter round or any molding, make sure that they are fastened only to the wall, and do not pinch the material at any point.

**NOTE: Material not installed in accordance with Mohawk recommended guidelines, including all problems caused by using non-recommended adhesive, seam sealer/bond, underlayment and/or improper preparation of the substrate are not covered under the Mohawk warranty system.**

## Seaming Instructions in a Releasable Full Spread Installation Method using Mohawk V-One

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1. After adhesive is rolled on and completely dry, position the flooring by over-lapping the seam edges. (*Make sure to match patterns.*)
2. With a straight edge and a sharp, new utility knife blade, cut through both layers of flooring material (*double-cut*) at the designated match point. Make sure the utility knife blade is held in an upright position for a clean 90 degree cut.
3. Remove and discard waste material.
4. Fold back about 8" of the vinyl on one side of the seam and apply a small bead of MOHAWK M7 Seam Sealer to one edge of the vinyl that is on the floor.
5. Tuck the seam edges together and wipe off excess bond/sealer with a clean, damp cloth.
6. Use a resilient flooring type hand roller (*or wallpaper seam roller*) to squeeze out any remaining bond/sealer from the seam. Immediately clean seam with a damp cloth followed by a clean, dry cloth.
7. Protect the seam and allow it to dry (*approximately 6 hours*).

## Additional Instructions/Notes

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- DO NOT slide or roll heavy appliances or furniture over or across the flooring. Always lift objects and place them on the flooring or reposition appliances and furniture using hardboards or sliders between the object and flooring while gently repositioning them.
- In-floor heat/AC registers may rest on the vinyl floor but leave space under registers that are attached to the floor or wall. They should not pinch the flooring material. Be sure to allow a larger opening around the screw to enable movement.
- Apply caulk next to bathtubs, showers, sliding doors or similar areas.
- For bathroom installations, it is not necessary to remove the toilet. Make relief cuts around the perimeter of the toilet and make sure the vinyl flooring is lying flat before trimming off the excess material. Apply caulk around the toilet, next to bathtubs and showers to prevent moisture from getting under the vinyl.
- Make sure furniture legs have large surface, non-staining plastic floor protectors or non-staining felt pads. The protectors should be at least one inch in diameter and rest flat on the floor. The heavier the item, the wider the floor protector should be. Replace small, narrow metal or dome-shaped glides with smooth, flat glides that are in flat contact with the floor.
- Do not use a trowel for application of pressure sensitive adhesive.
- Never use tape around the perimeter of the room.
- Never apply flooring to wet adhesive. This could cause permanent bond or wrinkling.
- When installing shoe molding, do not compress trim to floor or nail trim into flooring.
- For metal door jambs that cannot be undercut, leave a 1/8" expansion gap and caulk with 100% silicone caulking.

## Care & Maintenance

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### Preventative Maintenance

- Prevent indentations and scratches by using non-staining floor protectors on the legs of chairs, appliances and all heavy furniture. Floor protectors should be at least one inch in diameter.
- Do not flood floor or subject to standing water.
- Protect your floor from tracked-in dirt by using mats at all outside entrances. Mats should have a non-rubberized backing and be marked as non-staining.

- Avoid tracking-in tar or asphalt from driveways.
- Avoid high heel shoes on your floor as they can cause permanent indentations.
- Protect your floors against burns. Burns from cigarettes, matches or other extremely hot items can cause permanent damage.
- Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods as this can cause discoloration.
- Ensure furniture legs have large surface, non-staining plastic floor protectors or non-staining felt pads. The protectors should be at least one inch in diameter and rest flat on the floor. The heavier the item, the wider the floor protector should be. Replace small, narrow metal or dome-shaped glides with smooth, flat glides that are in flat contact with the floor.
- Heavy furniture or appliances that are not moved often should be equipped with flat, non-staining composition furniture or cups of appropriate size.

**To keep your floor clean, follow these proper care and maintenance guidelines:**

- Sweep the floor regularly with a soft bristle broom to remove loose dirt.
- Wash the floor with non-abrasive, neutral PH floor cleaner.
- For everyday maintenance, a mop moistened with warm water will suffice.
- Spills should be cleaned up immediately.

**DO NOT USE the following on your vinyl flooring:**

- Soap based detergents
- Abrasive or mop and shine products
- Floor wax
- Vacuum cleaners with a rotating beater bar
- Ammonia
- Bleach solution greater than 3%.

**NOTE: Always read the cautionary information on all cleaners prior to use!**

**NOTE: Never push, pull or drag furniture, appliances or other items across the floor. When moving furniture or heavy items, always lift and carry the items. To minimize the risks of scratches and gouges when moving heavy objects, place plywood underlayment between the flooring and object to be moved.**

## How to Treat Stains, Spills & Scuffs

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Follow the remedies in order. Unless instructed otherwise, use a clean, white cloth or towel with products recommended for vinyl flooring. Always rinse the affected area with clean water after treatment.

### The Stain or Spill

Acids, alkalis, blood, ketchup, mustard, food, fruit, fruit juices, candy, cleaners, strong soaps, dye, dye markings, urine and feces, grass, iodine, mercurochrome and rust.

### The Remedy

- First, remove as much solid material as possible.
- Scrub area with cleaner full strength.
- Rub the area with isopropyl alcohol.
- If rust stain does not respond, use lemon juice or a cream of tartar solution.

### Paint & Solvent Spills

Dry cleaning fluids, lacquer and latex paint, nail polish, solvents, oil-based paints, wood stains and varnish

### The Remedy

- If substance is dry, gently peel it from the floor. Avoid sharp instruments that could scratch floor.
- Scrub area with non-abrasive cleaner.
- Rub lightly with odorless mineral spirits or paint thinner.

**NOTE: Do not use acetone or nail polish remover!**

### Substances That Won't Wipe Up

Adhesives, chewing gum, oil, grease, candle wax and tar

### The Remedy

- First, remove as much solid material as possible.
- Carefully remove excess with a spoon or fingernail.
- Scrub area with non-abrasive cleaner.
- Rub lightly with odorless mineral spirits, isopropyl alcohol or lighter fluids.

## Scuffs & Smudges

Rubber heel marks, shoe polish, scuffs and smudges.

### The Remedy

- Rub the scuff with fingertip, rubber will come right off. The friction from the rubbing will remove rubber.
- Scrub area with non-abrasive cleaner.
- Rub lightly with isopropyl alcohol or lighter fluid.

**CAUTION! Isopropyl alcohol, lighter fluid, odorless mineral spirits and paint thinner are flammable solvents. Carefully read and follow cautionary information on their perspective labels. Keep traffic off treated area for 30 minutes.**

## LOOSE-LAY INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS (SHEET VINYL)

Loose-Lay Installation method is only appropriate for up to 25 square yards and only 1 seam.

**NOTE: Areas with rolling traffic, heavy pivot points, high traffic and stairs/steps/landings are not recommended for Loose-Lay application.**

### Materials Required for Installation

- Acrylic Double Face Tape for Vinyl Flooring
- Sharp Utility Knife
- Straight edge
- Push broom
- If a seam is required, you will also need either a vinyl or wallpaper seam roller
- MOHAWK M7 Seam Sealer (if seaming is required)

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**NOTE: Mohawk will not be held responsible for problems that may arise for alternative seam sealers. Please contact the alternative seam sealer's manufacturer with issues.**

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- Controlled environments are critical for testing and installation. Fully operational HVAC systems are the best way to ensure temperature and humidity control.
- Do not install resilient flooring products until the work area can be temperature controlled. Minimum installation temperature is 55°F(13°C) with a maximum installation temperature of 85°F(29°C) and humidity below 65% for 48-hours prior to, during and after pre-installation testing.

**NOTE: Do not install flooring if moisture test results exceed recommended limits.**

### Temperature - Radiant Heat

- Radiant heated substrates must never exceed 85°F(29°C) surface temperature.
- Several days prior to installing resilient products over newly constructed radiant heated systems, make sure the radiant system has been on and operating at maximum temperature to reduce residual moisture within the concrete.
- Three days prior to installation, lower the temperature to 65°F(18°C), and 24-hours after installation, gradually increase the temperature in increments of 5°F.
- After continuous operation of the radiant system, ensure the surface of the floor does not exceed 85°F(29°C).

## Loose-Lay Installation Instructions

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1. Prepare substrate for the surface to be clean, smooth, flat and dry. Under cut all door jambs to maintain a 3/8" relief gap. (If metal jamb, must leave 3/8" expansion gap and caulk before completing job.
2. Align the pattern with the most dominant wall to achieve the best appearance in the room. Using a sharp utility knife, trim away excess material along the walls, at cabinets, etc., leaving approximately 2" of vinyl at these areas to be trimmed off later (*rough cut*). Do Not install cabinets on top of loose lay installations.
3. Place acrylic double face tape at all doorways where a transition strip is needed, next to sliding doors, patio door sills, in front of tubs and shower stalls and similar areas where an expansion gap will not be covered with trim. Place acrylic double face tape around all floor vents to eliminate air migrating under vinyl causing bubbles. Do NOT tape along walls or around perimeter of room.
4. Apply an "X" of acrylic double-face tape under appliances and pivot points, making sure not to overlap the tape.
5. Make relief cuts at corners and projections to allow the material to lay flat before the final cuts are made. Final trimming should be done by cutting in with a utility knife or trimmer leaving a 3/8" expansion gap around the perimeter of the room and cabinets. The gap allows for sub-floor movement caused by changes in atmospheric conditions. The material should not touch the wall, corners or objects at any point or bubbles or wrinkles may occur. The material must lay flat to stay flat.



6. Use the push broom method to thoroughly remove the air from under the vinyl. Make certain all air is removed.
7. Use quarter round or base board to cover the exposed expansion gap. When installing quarter round or any moldings, make sure that they are fastened only to the wall and do not pinch the material at any point.

## Seaming in a Loose-Lay Installation

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1. Position the flooring by over-lapping the seam edges (*Make sure to match patterns*).
2. With a straight edge and a sharp new utility knife blade, cut through both layers of flooring material (*double cut*) at the designated match point. Make sure the utility knife blade is held in an upright position for a clean 90 degree cut.
3. Remove and discard waste material.
4. Carefully fold back about 6" - 8" of the vinyl along both edges. Apply a strip of double face tape where the seam edges come together. Press tape firmly to floor. Remove backing from the top of the tape and carefully place back one edge over the tape.
5. While the other edge is still folded back apply a small bead of MOHAWK M7 Seam Sealer or an approved alternative seam sealer, Taylor 2062, to the edge of the vinyl that is on the floor.
6. Tuck the seam edges together and wipe off excess bond/sealer with a clean, damp cloth.
7. Use a resilient flooring type hand roller (*or wallpaper seam roller*) to squeeze out any remaining bond/sealer from the seam. Immediately clean seam with a damp cloth followed by a clean, dry cloth.
8. Protect the seam and allow it to dry (*approximately 6 hours*).

## Additional Instructions/Notes

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- DO NOT slide or roll heavy appliances or furniture over or across the flooring. Always lift objects and place them on the flooring or reposition appliances and furniture using hardboards or sliders between the object and flooring while gently repositioning them.
- In-floor heat/AC registers may rest on the vinyl floor but leave space under registers that are attached to the floor or wall. They should not pinch the flooring material. Be sure to allow a larger opening around the screw to enable movement.
- Apply caulk next to bathtubs, showers, sliding doors or similar areas.
- For bathroom installations, it is not necessary to remove the toilet. Make relief cuts around the perimeter of the toilet and make sure the vinyl flooring is lying flat before trimming off the excess material. Apply caulk around the toilet, next to bathtubs and showers to prevent moisture from getting under the vinyl.
- Make sure furniture legs have large surface, non-staining plastic floor protectors or non-staining felt pads. The protectors should be at least one inch in diameter and rest flat on the floor. The heavier the item, the wider the floor protector should be. Replace small, narrow metal or dome-shaped glides with smooth, flat glides that are in flat contact with the floor.
- Never use tape around the perimeter of the room.
- When installing shoe molding, do not compress trim to floor or nail trim into flooring.
- For metal door jambs that cannot be undercut, leave a 1/8" expansion gap and caulk with 100% silicone caulking.

## Care & Maintenance

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### Preventative Maintenance

- Prevent indentations and scratches by using non-staining floor protectors on the legs of chairs, appliances and all heavy furniture. Floor protectors should be at least one inch in diameter.
- Do not flood floor or subject to standing water.
- Protect your floor from tracked-in dirt by using mats at all outside entrances. Mats should have a non-rubberized backing and be marked as non-staining.
- Avoid tracking-in tar or asphalt from driveways.
- Avoid high heel shoes on your floor as they can cause permanent indentations.
- Protect your floors against burns. Burns from cigarettes, matches or other extremely hot items can cause permanent damage.
- Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods, as this can cause discoloration.
- Ensure furniture legs have large surface, non-staining plastic floor protectors or non-staining felt pads. The protectors should be at least one inch in diameter and rest flat on the floor. The heavier the item, the wider the floor protector should be. Replace small, narrow metal or dome-shaped glides with smooth, flat glides that are in flat contact with the floor.
- Heavy furniture or appliances that are not moved often should be equipped with flat, non-staining composition furniture or cups of appropriate size.

### To keep your floor clean, following these proper care and maintenance guidelines

- Sweep the floor regularly with a soft bristle broom to remove loose dirt.
- Wash the floor with non-abrasive, neutral PH floor cleaner.

- For everyday maintenance, a mop moistened with warm water will suffice.
- Spills should be cleaned up immediately.

***DO NOT USE the following on your vinyl flooring***

- Soap based detergents
- Abrasive or mop and shine products
- Floor wax
- Vacuum cleaners with a rotating beater bar
- Ammonia
- Bleach solution greater than 3%

***NOTE: Always read the cautionary information on all cleaners prior to use!***

***NOTE: Never push, pull or drag furniture, appliances or other items across the floor. When moving furniture or heavy items, always lift and carry the items. To minimize the risks of scratches and gouges when moving heavy objects, place plywood underlayment between the flooring and object to be moved.***

## How to Treat Stains, Spills & Scuffs

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Follow the remedies in order. Unless instructed otherwise, use a clean, white cloth or towel with products recommended for vinyl flooring. Always rinse the affected area with clean water after treatment.

### **The Stain or Spill**

Acids, alkalis, blood, ketchup, mustard, food, fruit, fruit juices, candy, cleaners, strong soaps, dye, dye markings, urine and feces, grass, iodine, mercurochrome and rust.

#### **The Remedy**

- First, remove as much solid material as possible.
- Scrub area with cleaner full strength.
- Rub the area with isopropyl alcohol.
- If rust stain does not respond, use lemon juice or a cream of tartar solution.

### **Paint & Solvent Spills**

Dry cleaning fluids, lacquer and latex paint, nail polish, solvents, oil-based paints, wood stains and varnish.

#### **The Remedy**

- If substance is dry, gently peel it from the floor. Avoid sharp instruments that could scratch floor.
- Scrub area with non-abrasive cleaner.
- Rub lightly with odorless mineral spirits or paint thinner.

***NOTE: Do not use acetone or nail polish remover!***

### **Substances That Won't Wipe Up**

Adhesives, chewing gum, oil, grease, candle wax and tar.

#### **The Remedy**

- First, remove as much solid material as possible.
- Carefully remove excess with a spoon or fingernail.
- Scrub area with non-abrasive cleaner.
- Rub lightly with odorless mineral spirits, isopropyl alcohol or lighter fluids.

### **Scuffs & Smudges**

Rubber heel marks, shoe polish, scuffs and smudges.

#### **The Remedy**

- Rub the scuff with fingertip, rubber will come right off. The friction from the rubbing will remove rubber.
- Scrub area with non-abrasive cleaner.
- Rub lightly with isopropyl alcohol or lighter fluid.

***CAUTION! Isopropyl alcohol, lighter fluid, odorless mineral spirits and paint thinner are flammable solvents. Carefully read and follow cautionary information on their perspective labels. Keep traffic off treated area for 30 minutes.***

# PERMANENT FULL SPREAD INSTALLATION METHOD (SHEET VINYL)

The Permanent Full Installation Method can be used for "special needs" areas, such as those with rolling traffic, extremely high traffic, or areas with accelerated concrete moisture up to 8 lbs. The permanent full spread installation method must be used in new construction.

**NOTE: If you elect to permanently install your Mohawk flooring using this method as opposed to the Releasable Installation Method that labor rates exceeding residential releasable removal and underlayment will not be covered.**

## Materials Required for Installation

- New 1/16" X 1/32" X 1/32 U notch trowel
- Mohawk V-One

**NOTE: Mohawk will not be held responsible for problems that may arise from alternative adhesives. Please contact the alternative adhesives' manufacturer with issues.**

- MOHAWK M7 Seam Sealer (if seaming is required)
- Mohawk XL23R PrimeCoat Adhesive Primer (if priming the floor is necessary)
- Acrylic Double Face Tape for Vinyl Floor
- Sharp Utility Knife/blades
- Straight edge
- 100 lb. roller
- Plastic putty knife
- Two clean cloths
- Denatured alcohol

**NOTE: We recommend placing a single order for all rolls required for larger installations and commercial flooring projects.**

## Asbestos Warning

**Warning! DO NOT MECHANICALLY CHIP OR PULVERIZE EXISTING PREVIOUSLY INSTALLED RESILIENT FLOORING, BACKING, LINING FELT, ASPHALTIC "CUTBACK" ADHESIVES OR OTHER ADHESIVES.** Previously installed resilient floor covering products and the asphaltic or cutback adhesives used to install them may contain either **asbestos fibers** and/or **crystalline silica**. Avoid creating dust. Inhalation of asbestos or crystalline dust is a cancer and respiratory track hazard. Smoking by individuals exposed to asbestos fibers greatly increases the risk of seriously bodily harm. Unless you are positive that installed product is a non-asbestos containing material, you must presume it contains asbestos. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content and may govern the removal and disposal of material. See current edition of the Resilient Floor Covering Institute (RFCI) publication "Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Resilient Floor Coverings" for detailed information and instructions on removing all resilient covering structures.

## Underlayments

Mohawk's sheet vinyl flooring products can be installed directly over most existing floor coverings, EXCLUDING carpet (including needle felt), floating laminate, floating floor systems, Luan and cushioned vinyl flooring. You may install directly over Ceramic (well bonded with a skim coat) PVC, VCT (well bonded, on and above grade), Terrazzo (well bonded), glued laminate, glued hardwood and fixed wooden boards provided they are installed over a wooden subfloor. Any resilient tile installed below grade must be removed as well as the adhesive prior to installing your new floor.

**NOTE: Do not use chemical adhesive removers to remove existing adhesive.**

## Wood underlayments

- Wood subfloor systems require a double layer construction. The top layer must be underlayment grade as specified and warranted by the manufacturer. Always fasten underlayment in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Any failure of the Mohawk flooring because of the underlayment is NOT the responsibility of Mohawk. Any porous wood underlayment must be primed.
- A moisture test is required using a pin-type moisture meter. The moisture content must not exceed 14%.
- Wood subfloors must be structurally sound and in compliance with local building codes.
- Double-layered APA rated subfloors should be a minimum 1" total thickness, with a least 18" well-ventilated air space beneath.
- Insulate and protect crawl space with a vapor barrier.
- It is recommended that your chosen APA underlayment grade panels be designed for installation under resilient flooring and carry a written warranty.
- Underlayment panels can only correct minor deficiencies in the sub-floor while providing a smooth, sound surface on which to adhere the resilient flooring.
- Always follow the underlayment manufacturer's installation instructions.
- Wood subfloors directly fastened to concrete, or sleeper construction, are not recommended.
- APA rated Sturd-I-Floor planks are designed as combination subfloor/underlayment but designed for carpet and not resilient flooring. Sturd-I-Floor planks would require installation of a 1/4" underlayment plank prior to resilient flooring installation.
- Mohawk resilient flooring is not recommended directly over fire-retardant treated plywood or preservative treated plywood. The materials used to treat the plywood may cause problems with adhesive bonding. An additional layer of APA rated 1/4" thick underlayment should be installed over top of any treated subfloor.

## OSB

- OSB panels and joints must be fastened and reinforced according to manufacturer's instructions.

- Completely sand the floor with a floor sander, so that the floor is smooth and flat. The chips in OSB overlap. Without sanding properly, OSB has high and low spots throughout the floor that could telegraph through the vinyl.
- Some chips in the OSB structure can stain vinyl flooring and may require repeated primer to eliminate the staining potential.
- For these reasons, the sanded OSB surface must be primed using a Mohawk acrylic latex primer.

#### Particle board

- Particle board underlayment panels must be underlayment grade as specified and warranted by the manufacturer.
- Surface must be primed using a Mohawk acrylic latex primer.

**NOTE: Perform moisture tests using a reliable moisture meter in multiple locations. Moisture readings should never exceed 14% for plywood, OSB, particle board, chipboard, or solid hardwood subfloors. If moisture readings exceed 14%, conditions must be corrected at the job site before installing the Mohawk flooring.**

#### Resilient Floor Covering as an underlayment

- Must be single layered, non-cushioned backed, fully adhered, and smooth.
- Show no signs of moisture or alkalinity.
- Wax, polish, grease and grime must be removed.
- Cuts, cracks, gouges, dents and other irregularities in the existing floor covering must be repaired or replaced.

**NOTE: The responsibility of determining if the existing flooring is suitable to be installed over rests solely with the installer/flooring contractor on site. If there is any doubt as to suitability, the existing flooring should be removed, or an acceptable underlayment installed over it. Installations over existing resilient flooring may be more susceptible to indentation.**

#### Concrete

New and existing concrete subfloors should meet the guidelines of the latest edition of ACI 302 and ASTM F 710, "Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring" available from the American Society for Testing and Materials.

Moisture levels of concrete slabs before, during and after installation must be 8 lbs. or less per 1000 square feet per 24 hours using an anhydrous calcium chloride test according to ASTM F1869 and pH must be between 5.0 and 9.0; or, if using ASTM F2170 In-Situ Probes, should be less than 90% RH (*relative humidity*). Three tests should be conducted for areas up to 1,000 Sq. Ft. One additional test, for each additional 1,000 Sq. Ft. Always measure, record and keep your testing results.

- Never use liquid adhesive remover or solvent cleaners for removing old adhesive residue or other substances on the substrate; their use will cause failure.
- On or below-grade slabs must have an effective vapor retarder directly under the slab.
- Concrete floors shall be flat and smooth within the equivalent of 1/32 inch in 12 inches and 3/16 inch in 10 feet.
- F-Number System: Overall values of FF 36/ FL 20 may be appropriate for resilient floor coverings.
- Glossy or waxed floors may require a higher value FF 75/ FL 50 to prevent telegraphing issues.

#### Old Adhesive Residue

- If the adhesive is asphalt-based (*cut-back*) or any other type of adhesive is present, it must be dealt with in one of two ways:
  1. It may be mechanically removed using methods such as bead blasting or scarifying, using a licensed professional contractor (*See Asbestos Warning above*).
  2. A Portland-based self-leveling underlayment may be applied over it. Check with the underlayment manufacturer for suitability, application instructions, and warranties.

**NOTE: Never use solvents or citrus adhesive removers to remove old adhesive residue. Solvent residue left in and on the subfloor will affect the bond between the new adhesive and the new floor covering.**

#### Other approved underlayments

- Self-leveling and patching compounds (*latex fortified Portland cement based only*).
- Radiant heat floors (*not exceeding 85°F (29°C)* and approved by the manufacturer for the use of their product with resilient vinyl flooring applications).
- Gypcrete can be utilized when necessary due to radiant heat and in high rise buildings. Gypcrete must be sealed using a Mohawk acrylic latex primer to stabilize the surface for adhesive bond. All issues with gypcrete cracking, crumbling, powdering and resulting in the release of adhesive bond are NOT warranted by Mohawk.

## Storage and Handling

Acclimate the flooring and adhesive for a minimum of 24 hours before installation in the area where it will be installed. Conditions between 55°F and 85°F (13°C and 29°C) are required before, during and after installation. Rolls should be stored in either a flat horizontal or vertical position in order to minimize the risk of pressure marks when storing a horizontal position, the rolls should not be stacked one on another.

## Subfloor and Wall/Door Preparation

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- Floor must be clean, smooth, flat and dry. Remove all foreign substances such as wax, grease, dirt, construction markings and contaminants, and any substance or chemical that would interfere with a good bond. Fill all holes and cracks with a latex fortified Portland cement base patching compound. Sand high spots to eliminate the possibility of telegraphing. Prime floor if needed with Mohawk PrimeCoat acrylic primer to prevent over absorption of adhesives, dust containment, and to ensure a better bond of the adhesive to the subfloor.
- Any unevenness of more than 1/8 inch in a 10-foot span (*3 mm over a span of 3 m*) must be leveled out. Remove bumps in the subfloor by sanding or scraping. The same applies to unevenness of more than 1/32 inch over a length of 1 foot (*1 mm over a length of 30 cm*).
- Fill any low spots in the subfloor and cracks or gaps 3/16 inch (*4mm*) in width or greater with a Portland cement leveling compound.
- Ceramic tile and embossed flooring exceeding the above requirements will require skim coating with a Portland based patch to avoid bottom up pattern telegraphing.
- Remove any existing floor molding. Removal of wall baseboards is optional providing quarter round is installed to cover gaps between the flooring and the base board.
- Undercut door jambs allowing the vinyl flooring to slip under door jamb/case molding.
- Sweep the subfloor clean. The floor must also be free of all contaminants.

## Job Site Conditions

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- It is recommended that resilient floor covering installation shall not begin until all other trades are completed.
- Areas to receive flooring shall be clean, fully enclosed, with the permanent HVAC set at a uniform temperature range of 55°F(*13°C*) and 85°F(*29°C*) and maintained following the installation.
- Adhesive working and open times vary based on job conditions, substrate, temperature and humidity.

### Temperature - Ambient

- Controlled environments are critical for testing and installation. Fully operational HVAC systems are the best way to ensure temperature and humidity control.
- Do not install resilient flooring products until the work area can be temperature controlled. Minimum installation temperature is 55°F(*13°C*) with a maximum installation temperature of 85°F(*29°C*) and humidity below 65% for 48-hours prior to, during and after pre-installation testing.

**NOTE: Do not install flooring if moisture test results exceed recommended limits.**

### Temperature - Radiant Heat

- Radiant heated substrates must never exceed 85°F(*29°C*) surface temperature.
- Several days prior to installing resilient products over newly constructed radiant heated systems, make sure the radiant system has been on and operating at maximum temperature to reduce residual moisture within the concrete.
- Three days prior to installation, lower the temperature to 65°F(*18°C*), and 24-hours after installation, gradually increase the temperature in increments of 5°F.
- After continuous operation of the radiant system, ensure the surface of the floor does not exceed 85°F(*29°C*).

**NOTE: Use NEW 1/16" x 1/32" x 1/32" U-notch trowel**

## Permanent Full Spread Installation Steps

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Inspection of flooring material prior to installation is required. Any defects should be immediately reported to the retail store from which the flooring was purchased before installation. Mohawk will not be responsible for labor costs to repair or replace material with defects that were apparent before or noticed at the end of an installation.

1. Prepare substrate for the surface to be clean, smooth, flat and dry. Under cut all wooden door jambs to maintain a 3/8" relief gap.
2. Align the pattern with the most dominant wall and using a sharp utility knife trim away excess material along the walls, cabinet and other permanent objects, leaving approximately 2" of material to be trimmed off later.
3. Make relief cuts at corners to allow the material to lay flat before the final cuts are made. Final trimming does not require a 1/8" to 1/4" expansion gap when using Mohawk V-One as this is a permanent installation.
4. Fold back half of the material and apply Mohawk V-One to the substrate using the appropriate trowel. If a seam is required, leave an 18" dry zone at the edge of the seam. Then follow the Seaming Instructions in a Permanent Full Spread Installation found below.
5. Do not immediately place the material into wet adhesive. To avoid bubbling, allow time for the adhesive to flash before positioning the material. When testing the adhesive with a finger, there will be a slight transfer of adhesive to the skin when it's ready for installation. Do not allow the adhesive to dry completely.
6. Position the material in place and remove air and vapors under the material using a 100 lb. roller over the entire adhered vinyl.
7. Repeat steps 3-5 for the remaining half of the flooring material.

**NOTE: Material not installed in accordance with Mohawk recommended guidelines, including all problems caused by using non-recommended adhesive, seam sealer/bond, underlayment and/or improper preparation of the substrate are not covered under the Mohawk warranty system.**

## Seaming Instructions in a Permanent Full Spread Installation Method

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1. After positioning the flooring, over-lap the seam edges (*Make sure to match patterns*).
2. With a straight edge and a sharp new utility knife blade, cut through both layers of flooring material (*double-cut*) at the designated match point. Make sure the utility knife blade is held in an upright position for a clean 90 degree cut.
3. Remove the discarded waste material.
4. Fold back both sides of the seam area and apply the Mohawk V-One to the dry zone. Allow the adhesive to flash before placing the material into the adhesive.
5. Place one side of vinyl into the adhesive and roll the seam using a 100 lb. roller.
6. Apply small bead of MOHAWK M7 Seam Sealer along the edge of the installed vinyl.
7. Place the edge of the uninstalled vinyl against the edge of the installed vinyl and press into place.
8. Remove excess bond/sealer using a plastic putty knife followed by wiping the seam area using a clean dry cloth followed immediately with a clean cloth dampened with appropriate cleaner.
9. Using a clean cloth, repeat until all residue is removed from the surface of the vinyl and protect the seam for six hours minimum.

## Additional Instructions/Notes

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- DO NOT slide or roll heavy appliances or furniture over or across the flooring. Always lift objects and place them on the flooring or reposition appliances and furniture using hardboards or sliders between the object and flooring while gently repositioning them.
- In-floor heat/AC registers may rest on the vinyl floor but leave space under registers that are attached to the floor or wall. They should not pinch the flooring material. Be sure to allow a larger opening around the screw to enable movement.
- Apply caulk next to bathtubs, showers, sliding doors or similar areas.
- For bathroom installations, it is not necessary to remove the toilet. Make relief cuts around the perimeter of the toilet and make sure the vinyl flooring is lying flat before trimming off the excess material. Apply caulk around the toilet, next to bathtubs and showers to prevent moisture from getting under the vinyl.
- Make sure furniture legs have large surface, non-staining plastic floor protectors or non-staining felt pads. The protectors should be at least one inch in diameter and rest flat on the floor. The heavier the item, the wider the floor protector should be. Replace small, narrow metal or dome-shaped glides with smooth, flat glides that are in flat contact with the floor.
- Never use tape around the perimeter of the room.
- When installing shoe molding, do not compress trim to floor or nail trim into flooring.
- For metal door jambs that cannot be undercut, leave a 1/8" expansion gap and caulk with 100% silicone caulking.

## Care & Maintenance

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### Preventative Maintenance

- Prevent indentations and scratches by using non-staining floor protectors on the legs of chairs, appliances and all heavy furniture. Floor protectors should be at least one inch in diameter.
- Do not flood floor or subject to standing water.
- Protect your floor from tracked-in dirt by using mats at all outside entrances. Mats should have a non-rubberized backing and be marked as non-staining.
- Avoid tracking-in tar or asphalt from driveways.
- Avoid high heel shoes on your floor as they can cause permanent indentations.
- Protect your floors against burns. Burns from cigarettes, matches or other extremely hot items can cause permanent damage.
- Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods, as this can cause discoloration.
- Ensure furniture legs have large surface, non-staining plastic floor protectors or non-staining felt pads. The protectors should be at least one inch in diameter and rest flat on the floor. The heavier the item, the wider the floor protector should be. Replace small, narrow metal or dome-shaped glides with smooth, flat glides that are in flat contact with the floor.
- Heavy furniture or appliances that are not moved often should be equipped with flat, non-staining composition furniture or cups of appropriate size.

### To keep your floor clean, follow these proper care and maintenance guidelines:

- Sweep the floor regularly with a soft bristle broom to remove loose dirt.
- Wash the floor with non-abrasive, neutral PH floor cleaner.

- For everyday maintenance, a mop moistened with warm water will suffice.
- Spills should be cleaned up immediately.

**DO NOT USE the following on your vinyl flooring:**

- Soap based detergents
- Abrasive or mop and shine products
- Floor wax
- Vacuum cleaners with a rotating beater bar
- Ammonia
- Bleach solution greater than 3%

**NOTE: Always read the cautionary information on all cleaners prior to use!**

**NOTE: Never push, pull or drag furniture, appliances or other items across the floor. When moving furniture or heavy items, always lift and carry the items. To minimize the risks of scratches and gouges when moving heavy objects, place plywood underlayment between the flooring and object to be moved.**

## How to Treat Stains, Spills & Scuffs

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Follow the remedies in order. Unless instructed otherwise, use a clean, white cloth or towel with products recommended for vinyl flooring. Always rinse the affected area with clean water after treatment.

### The Stain or Spill

Acids, alkalis, blood, ketchup, mustard, food, fruit, fruit juices, candy, cleaners, strong soaps, dye, dye markings, urine and feces, grass, iodine, mercurochrome and rust.

#### The Remedy

- First, remove as much solid material as possible.
- Scrub area with cleaner full strength.
- Rub the area with isopropyl alcohol.
- If rust stain does not respond, use lemon juice or a cream of tartar solution.

### Paint & Solvent Spills

Dry cleaning fluids, lacquer and latex paint, nail polish, solvents, oil-based paints, wood stains and varnish.

#### The Remedy

- If substance is dry, gently peel it from the floor. Avoid sharp instruments that could scratch floor.
- Scrub area with non-abrasive cleaner.
- Rub lightly with odorless mineral spirits or paint thinner.

**NOTE: Do not use acetone or nail polish remover!**

### Substances That Won't Wipe Up

Adhesives, chewing gum, oil, grease, candle wax and tar.

#### The Remedy

- First, remove as much solid material as possible.
- Carefully remove excess with a spoon or fingernail.
- Scrub area with non-abrasive cleaner.
- Rub lightly with odorless mineral spirits, isopropyl alcohol or lighter fluids.

### Scuffs & Smudges

Rubber heel marks, shoe polish, scuffs and smudges.

#### The Remedy

- Rub the scuff with fingertip, rubber will come right off. The friction from the rubbing will remove rubber.
- Scrub area with non-abrasive cleaner.
- Rub lightly with isopropyl alcohol or lighter fluid.

**CAUTION! Isopropyl alcohol, lighter fluid, odorless mineral spirits and paint thinner are flammable solvents. Carefully read and follow cautionary information on their perspective labels. Keep traffic off treated area for 30 minutes.**