

# Proper Care & Maintenance



ITtile wants you to enjoy your purchase for many years. Dirt, grit, and sand can cause problems with your floor as they act as an abrasive, much like sandpaper. Using a dry untreated dust mop frequently will prevent premature wear and scratches to your floor. A micro-fiber, terry cloth dust mop is recommended. A vacuum cleaner can be used on tile. However, we recommend that you check to make sure the brushes are in good condition. Never use a beater bar or metal carpet attachments on Vinyl, Wood or Natural Stone finish tiles.

Walk off mats or area rugs on either side of the exterior entrance will help collect loose dirt before it reaches your floor. The back side of the mat should have a non-slip surface. Keep the mats clean by shaking off any excess dirt or vacuum them regularly. Protective felt pads under chair and furniture legs are recommended to further protect the floor. Move heavy appliances and furniture by using a dolly rolled over plywood or pressed board.

When time for damp mopping, use  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of white vinegar in a gallon of water. This will keep your floor clean and maintain the original beauty. We do not recommend detergents, abrasive cleaners, or "mop and shine" products, as they may leave a dull film on your floor.

Avoid using citrus cleaners, or other products containing abrasives, acids, grout cleaners or bleach. These may dull the surface of your floor. Additionally, never combine bleach and ammonia as this causes a toxic and sometimes lethal gas. Gum or candle wax may be removed by letting it harden, then try to scrape up with your fingers, if this does not work, gently scrape with a plastic scraper.

Any spills should be blotted up immediately, especially pet urine. Some pet urine may discolor the tile. If you think any of the liquid seeped under the tile, lift up the edge and clean under it. Just tap it back into place after clean up.

You can use a protective sealer on any of our tiles. We recommend applying two coats immediately after installation. This will seal your vinyl floor and make them easier to clean. If you decide to apply a sealer at a later date, clean your floors first with the white vinegar and water solution. Rinse and dry the floor well. Apply two thin coats of Armstrong Shine Keeper or Rejuvenate floor finish. This will give your floors a gloss or satin shine that will last for years and will not damage or yellow your floor over time. These coatings do not build up and can be applied every 6 months to maintain a beautiful, long lasting shine on your new floor.