



GRAND SURFACES

PureCork Tile

Maintenance Guidelines

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Lasting beauty of your floor can be achieved through proper care and regular maintenance. Failure to follow these guidelines can void your warranty. Visit www.grandsurfaces.ca to get more maintenance information.

■ How to Maintain a Cork Floor for Longevity

To keep your cork floor looking new and extend its lifespan, follow these maintenance steps:

1. **Protect during construction:** If there are construction or renovation works in the room where the cork floor is installed, safeguard it by using craft paper, plywood, or Hardboard as a protective layer.

2. **Prevent moisture:** Avoid excessive moisture on the floor. When mopping, use a damp mop rather than a soaking wet one, and minimize liquid contact with the floor. Liquids can cause swelling of the seams or damage the subfloor.

3. **Use walk-off mats:** Place high-quality walk-off mats at all entrances to collect dirt, moisture, and abrasive substances that can harm the floor.

4. **Address sunlight exposure:** Cork, being a natural material, may fade when exposed to sunlight. Expect some color change over time for both cork and wood floors. To promote even color change, periodically move area rugs and furniture. Consider using blinds, curtains, or other sun screening systems to minimize direct sunlight on the cork floor.

5. **Protect furniture and chairs:** Attach felt pads or floor protectors to the legs of chairs and furniture to prevent scratching or gouging. Avoid dragging heavy furniture across the floor; lift them instead. When moving appliances or heavy furniture, never slide them directly on the floor.

6. **Choose appropriate office chairs:** If using roller chairs in an office setting, ensure they comply with DIN 68131 (Type W1) standards. Additionally, use protective office mats under rolling chairs to prevent damage.

7. **Safeguard the kitchen area:** Place area rugs or mats in front of kitchen appliances and the sink to protect the cork floor from heavy foot traffic, water spillages, dropped food, grease, and other potential causes of premature wear.

8. **Use gentle cleaning products:** Avoid using cleaning products that contain abrasive ingredients or harsh chemicals on your cork floor. Opt for mild, pH-neutral cleaners specifically formulated for cork flooring.

By following these guidelines, you can maintain your cork floor's appearance and durability for a longer period, ensuring its longevity and enjoyment.



■ Proper Cleaning and Maintenance of a Cork Floor

To ensure the cleanliness and longevity of your cork floor, follow these guidelines:

1. **Avoid solvent-based products:** Do not use solvent-based cleaners like acetone, as they can damage the floor's surface.
2. **Steer clear of latex or rubber backed mats:** These mats can cause permanent staining on the cork floor, so it's best to avoid them.
3. **Say no to wire brushes:** Never use wire brushes on your cork floor, as they can cause scratches and damage the surface.
4. **Maintain proper indoor humidity:** When using intense room heating, the indoor air humidity may drop significantly, causing the cork floor to dry out and shrink. To prevent this, use a room humidifier to maintain an ideal humidity range of 35-65% at a temperature of 20°C (68°F).
5. **Use mild detergent and vacuum cleaner:** For routine cleaning, a mild detergent and a vacuum cleaner are sufficient. Use a broom handle with a cloth attachment to remove dust and prevent it from settling on the floor. Prior to mopping, ensure you vacuum, sweep, or use a broom to eliminate loose dirt and debris from the cork floor.
6. **Damp mop for spills:** For general spills, use a damp but not soaking wet mop with water to clean the affected area. Avoid excessive moisture and never flood the floor when mopping.
7. **Deep cleaning:** When performing deep cleaning, use a damp mop with floor cleaners specifically formulated for cork floors. These cleaners are recommended to maintain the floor's appearance without causing damage.
8. **Apply liquid floor polish for a shiny finish:** If you desire a shinier appearance, you can apply a liquid floor polish that is compatible with cork flooring.
9. **Avoid harsh abrasives and oil-based products:** Refrain from using harsh abrasives, oil-based cleaners, or products containing ammonia, silicone, or wax. These can dull the finish and cause damage to your cork floors.

By following these cleaning and maintenance practices, you can keep your cork floor in excellent condition, ensuring its beauty and durability for years to come.



■ Proper Cleaning, Installation, and Maintenance of Grand Valley Tile/Grand Surfaces Cork Flooring

When it comes to maintaining and caring for your Grand Valley Tile/Grand Surfaces cork flooring, please note the following:

1. **Avoid ammonia-based cleaning products:** Refrain from using cleaning products that contain ammonia, as they can be harmful to the cork floor. Use only cleaning products approved by Grand Valley Tile/Grand Surfaces for optimal results.
2. **Wait for adhesive to dry:** If your cork flooring is installed using the glue-down method, allow 24-36 hours for the flooring adhesive to dry completely before walking on or cleaning the new floor. This helps to prevent shifting of the flooring before it sets in place.
3. **Immediate use after floating or glue-less installation:** With a floating or glue-less installation, you can walk on the floor and clean it immediately after installation using a damp mop.
4. **Removing dried adhesive:** If there is dried adhesive on the surface of the cork flooring after installation, gently wipe it with a soft cloth and mineral spirits to remove any excess adhesive.
5. **Moving heavy objects:** Ideally, lift and place heavy objects to prevent damage to the flooring. If lifting is not possible, lay down a thick and large piece of plywood to disperse the weight of the object. Create a path using the plywood to the desired location. To avoid scratching, place a moving blanket under the plywood.
6. **Refinishing the cork floor:** Yes, you can refinish your cork floor. Grand Valley Tile/Grand Surfaces offers a range of varnishes that are low-VOC, low-odor, and water-based. Follow the instructions provided on the packaging labels and technical data sheets of the specific varnish product for proper use and application.

By following these guidelines and using approved cleaning products and refinishing methods, you can maintain the beauty and durability of your Grand Valley Tile/Grand Surfaces cork flooring for years to come.



■ Refurbishment and Maintenance of Grand Valley Tile/Grand Surfaces Cork Flooring

When it comes to refurbishing and maintaining your Grand Valley Tile/Grand Surfaces cork flooring, please consider the following guidelines:

1. Allow adhesive to dry: In the case of glue-down floors, it is crucial to wait 24-36 hours after installation for the flooring adhesive to dry completely before proceeding with any further steps.
 2. Refurbishing old floors: Refurbishing an old and previously used cork floor is not recommended unless you have knowledge of its history, particularly the types of maintenance products that have been used. If you have complete information about the maintenance products used and can ensure their complete removal, you may apply one coat of the recommended varnishes.
 3. Adherence test: Before the final varnishing, it is advisable to conduct an adherence test on a small area between the old and new coat of varnish. This helps determine the adhesion quality and compatibility between the layers.
 4. Avoid water and detergent cleaning: After applying the varnish, refrain from cleaning the floor with water or detergent for approximately two weeks. This allows the varnish to properly cure and harden. Following this period, use the recommended maintenance products provided by Grand Valley Tile/Grand Surfaces for routine cleaning.
 5. Follow instructions and technical data sheets: Always refer to the instructions on the packaging labels of each product and consult the technical data sheets for accurate usage guidelines. These resources provide specific information on the proper application and maintenance of the varnishes and other recommended products.
- By adhering to these recommendations and using the appropriate maintenance products, you can effectively refurbish and maintain your Grand Valley Tile/Grand Surfaces cork flooring, ensuring its long-lasting beauty and performance.