

All floor coverings require some care to look their best; many problems can be prevented before they occur. The type and frequency of traffic on your floor covering will determine the frequency of maintenance needed. The type of flooring and even the colour will also have some bearing on how much care may be necessary. For example, solid colour floorings will show scuffs, scratches, dirt, and general wear to a greater degree than multi-colour chips or patterns. Of course, white, or light colours will show staining to a greater degree than darker colours. For this reason, solid colour and white flooring should receive special attention concerning preventative maintenance and the amount of care provided. Proper selection when choosing the type and style of flooring will help prevent maintenance related problems after installation.

First time for optimal maintenance. Best within 24 hours of installation.

- Regular cleaning is a proven way to help keep your SPC flooring in top shape.
- Establishing a regular maintenance regime will keep your floors looking beautiful for years to come

### **Sweep/Vacuuming:**

- Sweep at least once a week to remove any dusty loose dirt, small pebbles. Before vacuuming, be sure to check the condition of the beater bars.
- Mop: Never use abrasive cleaners. Only use recommended/approved vinyl floor cleaners along with a microfiber cloth.

### **Harsh Chemicals:**

- Do not use vinegar or one step cleaners/polishing agents or oil soaps on Hydrogen Products. These products can leave a film or residue, change the sheen level, and affect the wear layer over time.
- Never use a steam cleaner on SPC flooring. The hot steam is doing more harm than good to your SPC flooring. The excessive heat together with the moisture that seeps in the joining edges can weaken the adhesive bonds and layers of the floors structure. It will also cause irreversible damage like warping edge cupping, bending, and bubbling of the plank or tile.

### **Spills:**

Clean up any spillage instantly by simply wiping it off with a damp cloth. The click system does not prevent liquids from seeping under. Wipe away any liquids spilled as soon as possible. Be sure to wipe the area dry once you are done. (The longer the spills are left unattended the more likely they are to permanently stain the flooring). However, some stubborn stains are more difficult to remove. Common stains like juices, red wine, food and grease, marker pens, paint, or lipstick. Apply mineral spirits to a clean cloth to slowly release the stain. Once the stain has been lifted use another damp cloth with water to clean up the stain, this also helps dilute the mineral spirits off the surface. Dry off when complete.

### **Minimize Dirt:**

Invest in a good quality rug, non- stain or non- rubber backed doormat in front of all entrances to prevent any sand, loose soil, grit, dust, and other dirt being carried into the house. It is best to place a doormat at every entry point.

### **No Shoes:**

One of the most effective ways to reduce dirt: simply adopt the 'no shoes' policy. This can further eliminate possible dirt from outdoors and maintain SPC floor hygiene at the same time. Adopting the no shoe policy will cut down the chances of scratches caused by stones and sand that are carried along when you have your shoes on. Stiletto shoes should not be worn on the flooring as they can cause permanent damage.

**Heavy Protection:**

Protect your SPC flooring with quarter-inch plywood, or cardboard when moving furniture or changing out appliances. This will help prevent scratches and scuff marks.

- Damage from Dryer/Washing Machine on top of a floating floor is not warranted.
- Any colour changes from chemical reactions from rubber area rugs or surface contaminants are not warranted.

**Pets:**

If you are a pet lover, do watch out as animals' nails will also leave scuff marks on your floor. Trimming the nails and claws of your pet regularly will help minimize potential scratches.

**Future Protection:**

Another way to avoid unwanted scratches and scuff marks is to install felt pad protectors underneath tables, chairs, desks, couches, etc. As most furniture items in the home are constantly moving and sliding on the flooring, felt pad protectors will help eliminate and protect the flooring from surface scratching. They should be checked and replaced when required. Check the condition of all casters or rollers on the furniture before placing the furniture on the floor.

**Sunlight and Excessive Heat:**

- Prolonged exposure of direct / extreme sunlight may cause your SPC flooring to fade, become dull or discolour. Hydrogen floors must be protected from direct sunlight. We recommend the use of blinds or curtains on all windows that allow direct or extreme sun exposure. This will also help limit uncontrollable heat. Flooring exposed to excessive heat can be affected by thermal expansion, which can cause the floor to bend or undulate.
- BIYORK CANADA is not responsible for any damaged or defects caused from the effects of the sun.

**Removing Paint Stains:**

One of the simplest ways to remove paint from your vinyl floors is to mix baking soda and water together until it forms a paste. Spread the paste over the painted area and let it sit for 10-15 minutes. Then, take a damp cloth or sponge and gently scrub away the paste.