

Maintenance Guide



Congoleum®

IMMEDIATELY AFTER INSTALLATION

- Ask your installer about the method used for installation. If “full spread”, keep traffic light during the first 24 hours so adhesive can dry properly.
- If the floor has been seamed, avoid stepping on the seam sealer for 24 hours so it can dry undisturbed.
- Avoid scrubbing or washing the floor for at least three days after installation. Spot clean the floor, avoiding all seams. Clean any adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits.*

CAUTION: *Mineral spirits are flammable liquids. Please follow precautions listed on the container.

PREVENTATIVE CARE

- Make sure furniture legs have large surface, nonstaining floor protectors. Replace small, narrow metal or dome-shaped glides with smooth, flat glides, that are flat on the floor. Glides should be equipped with self-adhesive felt pads to avoid scratching the surface of the floor. The pads should be checked periodically for grit and wear and replaced when necessary.
- Heavy furniture or appliances should be equipped with flat, nonstaining composition furniture casters or cups of appropriate size - available square from 1 1/2" to 2 5/8" and round from 1 3/8" to 1 5/8".
- Moveable appliances and furniture should be equipped with easily swiveling casters. They should be at least 2" in diameter with nonstaining hard rubber treads with a minimum 3/4" flat surface width. Do not use ball-shaped casters.
- Place mats at outside entrances to prevent dirt, grit and soil from being tracked onto your floor. Use 100% latex-backed mats (labeled nonstaining), because some rubber-backed mats or carpets may permanently discolor your floor.
- To help prevent staining from asphalt tracking, we recommend the use of a latex-based driveway sealer.
- Draw drapes and blinds during peak periods of strong sunlight. Flooring, like other home furnishing products, may discolor or fade when over-exposed to the sun.
- Heat-producing appliances such as a refrigerator or range, or hot air registers emitting a direct flow of heat in excess of 120° F, even intermittently, can scorch, burn, discolor or fade your floor. Cigarettes, matches and other very hot objects can also damage your floor.

- Avoid wearing stiletto or spiked heels on your floor. These types of heels can indent or damage many types of floors.

DO NOT USE STEAM CLEANERS on Congoleum Floors, they can permanently damage the floor.

REGULAR CARE

- Sweep or vacuum regularly to remove dirt and grit that can abrade, dull or scratch your floor. Do not use a vacuum with a beater brush, because it may damage the floor's surface.
- Wipe up spills promptly with a damp cloth or mop.
- For a more thorough cleaning, wash your floor with Bright 'N Easy No-Rinse Cleaner or other suitable, non-detergent based resilient floor cleaner.

CAUTION: Avoid one-step “mop and polish” products, dishwashing liquids and oil-based cleaners. These may leave a residue which can attract dirt and dull your floor's finish. Avoid cleaners that contain abrasives or solvents which may permanently damage your floor.

- Remove excess water after washing the floor.

INITIAL RESIDENTIAL MAINTENANCE

- Sweep or vacuum the floor to remove loose dirt.
- If needed, after installation use lighter fluid applied with a clean cloth to remove scuff marks and adhesive residue. Keep traffic off treated area for 30 minutes.

CAUTION: Lighter fluid is a flammable solvent. Carefully read and follow cautionary information on label.

CAUTION: Wash the floor with Bright 'N Easy No-Rinse Cleaner or other suitable resilient floor cleaner.

HOW TO TREAT STAINS, SPILLS AND SCUFFS

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

STAINS AND SPILLS	REMEDY
Acids, Alkalis Dye, Dye Markings, Iodine, Mercurochrome, Blood, Food, Candy, Rust†, Ketchup, Mustard, Fruit/Fruit Juices, Urine, Excrement, Cleaners, Strong Soaps, Grass, and Vomit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrub area with Bright 'N Easy No-Rinse Cleaner full strength. • Rub the area with a 10 to 1 dilution of water to liquid bleach. • Rub the area with isopropyl alcohol*. <p>† If rust stain does not respond, use lemon juice or a cream of tartar solution.</p>
STAINS AND SPILLS	REMEDY
Dry Cleaning Fluids, Lacquer, Latex Paints, Nail Polish, Solvents, Oil-Based Paints, Wood Stains, and Varnish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If substance is dry, gently peel it from the floor. (Avoid sharp instruments that could scratch the floor.) • Scrub area with Bright 'N Easy No-Rinse Cleaner. • Rub lightly with mineral spirits or paint thinner*.
SUBSTANCE THAT WON'T WIPE UP	REMEDY
Adhesives, Asphalt, Chewing Gum, Oil, Grease, Candle Wax, and Tar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carefully remove excess with a dull kitchen knife. • Scrub area with Bright 'N Easy No-Rinse Cleaner. • Rub lightly with mineral spirits, isopropyl alcohol* or lighter fluid*.
SCUFFS AND SMUDGES	REMEDY
Rubber Heel Marks, Scuffs, Shoe Polish, and Smudges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrub area with Bright 'N Easy No-Rinse Cleaner. • Rub lightly with isopropyl alcohol* or lighter fluid*.
<p>* Caution: Isopropyl alcohol, lighter fluid, mineral spirits and paint thinner are flammable solvents. Carefully read and follow cautionary information on label. Keep traffic off treated area for 30 minutes.</p>	

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- Heavy furniture or appliances should be equipped with flat, nonstaining composition furniture casters or cups of appropriate size - available square from 1 1/2" to 2 5/8" and round from 1 3/8" to 1 5/8".
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- To help prevent staining from asphalt tracking, we recommend the use of a latex-based driveway sealer.
- Draw drapes and blinds during peak periods of strong sunlight. Flooring, like other home furnishing products, may discolor or fade when over-exposed to the sun.
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- Sweep or vacuum regularly to remove dirt and grit that can abrade, dull or scratch your floor. Do not use a vacuum with a beater brush, because it may damage the floor's surface.
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