

Forbo Floor Care: Sphera SD & EC

Forbo Flooring Cleaning and Maintenance advice:

The Forbo Sphera SD & EC conductive vinyl collections are easy to clean and maintain, thanks to their highly durable PUR finish

Initial clean before use

Newly installed floors should not be wet cleaned within 3 days of installation.

Remove all debris, dirt and dust off the floor and clean the floor with a neutral floor cleaner. For larger areas a scrubber dryer or a rotary machine (150-300 rpm) with a 3M red pad or equivalent may be used. Pick up dirty water with a wiper and mop or wet vacuum, rinse with clean water and allow floor to dry.

On clean room construction sites e.g. Pharmaceutical, Biotech facilities, operating theatres, deep or abrasive cleaning may not be required. In such cases remove all debris, dirt and dust off the floor by vacuuming or light damp mopping.

Allow the floor to dry.

In either of the above situations, if a higher gloss level is required dry buff with a rotary machine (300–500 rpm) using a white or beige pad.

Important note for conductive installations: Do not apply any wax or emulsion floor finishes in ESD protected area as these may adversely affect the conductive properties of the floor.

Regular cleaning

The frequency of regular cleaning method will depend on the amount of traffic, soiling levels, desired appearance, and hygiene standards.

- Remove dust and loose dirt by vacuum cleaning, sweeping or mopping.
- Remove spots, stains and spillages with a damp mop and a neutral floor cleaner.

If required:

- Spray clean the floor with a rotary machine (150-300 rpm), a 3M red pad or equivalent and neutral floor cleaner

(This is also the most appropriate cleaning method for raised access floors).

Periodic maintenance

The following maintenance actions should be used when needed to maintain a satisfactory level of appearance.

- Remove dust and loose dirt by vacuum cleaning, sweeping or mopping:
- Remove spots, stains and spillages with a damp mop and a neutral floor cleaner and either:
 - Spray clean the floor with a rotary machine (150 to 300 rpm) and a 3M red pad or equivalent (for heavily soiled areas a red pad can be used with an alkaline detergent (pH <10)) using a pH neutral floor detergent.
- Or
 - Clean the floor with a scrubber drier (150 to 300 rpm) and a 3M red pad or equivalent (for heavily soiled areas a red pad can be used with an alkaline detergent (pH <10)) using a pH neutral floor detergent.
 - If required, to restore gloss levels dry buff the floor with a rotary machine (150-300 rpm) and a red pad.

Difficult scuff marks may be removed by dry buffing with a rotary machine (150 to 300 rpm) and a red pad. If necessary use a blue pad and a suitable neutral cleaning solution and make sure to restore the original surface roughness by dry buffing with the rotary machine and a red pad.

Best Practice: Tips for effective floor care

General advice

Protect newly laid floors

All newly laid floors should be covered and protected from all other trades during the contract with a suitable non-staining protective covering.

Use protective feet on chairs and tables to reduce scratching. Castor wheels should be of soft material suitable for resilient floor coverings (according to EN425)

Use Entrance Systems

As much as 80% of dirt entering a building is brought in by foot traffic. Entrance flooring systems of an appropriate size (ideally more than 6lm) and quality should be used. Forbo Coral or Nuway entrance flooring systems, are independently proven to remove and retain up to 94% of all dirt and moisture entering a building by foot traffic; reducing maintenance costs and maximising appearance retention of adjacent flooring products as well as reducing slip risk. As with any dirt removal system all entrance flooring systems should be regularly cleaned to release the dirt which has been removed.

Cleaning

- Regular cleaning is more beneficial and cost effective than occasional deep cleaning.
- Use recommended cleaning products. High quality cleaning products and equipment ensure efficient maintenance and represent only a small proportion of maintenance costs.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for cleaning products.
- Always follow the Health and Safety guidance provided.

Use of Floor Care Chemicals

The improper use of cleaning chemicals may cause damage and/or discolouration.

Overuse or inadequate rinsing of cleaning chemicals may compromise the performance of the floor.

Abrasive powders or cleansers should not be used.

Frequently Asked Questions

How often should I clean my floor?

The optimum frequency for cleaning and maintenance is determined by the way the floor is used. When producing a cleaning and maintenance schedule it is good practice to consider the situation of the floor first:

- Is it near an entrance to the building or on an upper floor?
- Will it collect dry or moist soil?
- What level of traffic will it be subjected to?
- Remember that light and uni-colours may need to be cleaned more frequently.

Can I polish my floor?

The advanced surface finish applied to Forbo Sphera SD & EC does not require the use of polish.

How do I remove stains?

Remove stains as soon as they are discovered. Most stains can be safely removed using a dry (paper) towel, water, detergent, white spirit or alcohol (in that order).

Do NOT use highly alkaline products (ammonia, soda) or strong solvents such as acetone as they can be harmful to both people and to your floor.

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If any doubt exists test cleaning materials on a sample piece or in an inconspicuous area.

Cleaning pads, brushes, machine speeds and floor care products

Pad codes

The colour codes indicating grades of pads may vary depending on the manufacturer/country.

Task	3M Pad colour
For regular spray cleaning	Red
For periodic maintenance	Red

Note:

Brown or black pads should not be used. Care should be taken when considering enhanced abrasion pads to ensure suitability with the flooring.

Machine speeds

For machine cleaning and maintenance, 150 to 180rpm is recommended.

Recommended Floor care products

For regular and periodic cleaning use a pH neutral detergent.

Other floor care products may be used on Forbo Flooring resilient floor coverings. If alternative products are to be used consult with your regular supplier for more information and guidance.

Contact us:

[Insert local contact details.](#)