

FLOORDESIGN® COLLECTION

Resilient flooring with low specific weight



TECNOFLOOR®

INDUSTRIA CHIMICA

GUIDE TO MAINTENANCE

THE IDEAL FLOORING FOR HEALTHCARE ENVIRONMENTS

QUICK GUIDE TO MAINTENANCE

DAILY MAINTENANCE

Vacuum-cleaning through a vacuum-cleaner with brushes-mouth.

INTENSIVE CLEANING

Washing with injection-extraction machine.

STAINS

- Dry stains: coffee, wine, blood, etc. can be removed by blotting with water.
- Greasy stains: can be removed by blotting with detergents.
- Special stains: paint, glue, rust, chewing-gum, with specific products.

GUIDE TO MAINTENANCE

1) DEFINITION OF MAINTENANCE

Maintenance implies all those actions designed to keep the aspect of floorcovering satisfactory as long as possible:

HABITUAL MAINTENANCE - Vacuum - Cleaning
 - Stain Removal
 - Periodic Washing

2) DEFINITION OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF SOILING

a) dry soiling	dust particles, sand, clay dust
b) greasy soiling	chimney smoke, fumes, atmospheric pollution, smog
c) stain soiling	any substance carried and left by shoes, or spilled

3) PREVENTIVE MEASURES

Important : it is absolutely necessary to create an area of "forced" passage (from 3 to 6 mt. long) at the entrances providing it with one of the various available cleaning system (e.g. door mats). Thus most of soiling is retained in such access areas or, anyway, inside these bounds. It is imperative that such preventive measures are carried out in the best possible way, so that the following points will draw benefit from them:

- a) **hygiene** as well as better appearance
- b) **life of the floorcovering**, because by preventing dry dust and sand to be carried inside means avoiding the deterioration of the surface.
- c) **maintenance costs** will be reduced as a result of less frequent cleaning

(1) NOTE : The doormat at the several entrances needs occasionally to be vacuumed, otherwise its "soil trap" function loses efficacy, due to the dust leaved on its surface.

4) HABITUAL MAINTENANCE

a) **Vacuum-Cleaning** using the following kind of vacuum-cleaners :

- dragging vacuum-cleaner :
 - air capacity from 1,3 to 2,9 m³/min.
 - depression from 1.200 to 2.400 mm.
- vacuum-cleaner with tank :
 - air capacity from 2 to 4 m³/min.
 - depression from 1.700 to 2.600 mm.

In both cases, use a sucker nozzle (do not use nozzle with rotating or revolving brushes). It is important to keep the appliance efficient by emptying its bag and cleaning its filter frequently.

Areas	Traffic intensity	Frequency of the vacuum-cleaner
- Rooms discontinuously used	Very low	Once a week
- Private rooms and offices (unfrequently used)	low	2/3 times a week
- Offices, bed-rooms, passages, canteens	normal	1 a day
- Halls, stores, public premises	High	Several times a day

b) **Stain removal** should be carried out as soon as possible.

Stains can be essentially of two different types :

- **Greasy stains** (hydrophobe) which are soluble to detergents and/or degreasing products.
- **Dry stains** (hydrophile) which are soluble to water.

Others stains such as paints, glues, rust, chewing-gum, etc have to be dealt with specific actions (**see the table**)

Necessary equipment includes :

- Clean white cotton clothes (or white blotting paper);
- A spoon and, if necessary, a scraper;
- A clean sponge;
- A cleaning shampoo;
- An efficient degreasing product (white vinegar, Marseilles soap);
- Possibly use ammonia;
- an effective solvent (white vinegar, Marseilles soap);
- un anti-chewing-gum aerosol.

Water : has to be considered as solvent for all hydrophile substances such as sugars, soluble mineral salts, some materials (glues, flour), coffee, tea, wine, etc.

Cleaning shampoo : thanks to its detergent action it can emulsify and eliminate greasy substances. The presence of some solvents contained in the shampoo make the treatment more efficient.

Degreasing products : these are substances which are able to loose oils and greasy substances, such as white vinegar and Marseilles soap.

Action to remove stains has to be carried out as follows :

Contrary to widespread habits, stain has not to be scrubbed directly without any precaution.

Apart from the type of stain, you have always to act in the same way by carrying out the here below listed actions according to the following order :

- 1° -Remove the substances which has caused the stain as much as possible before the product goes deeply into the floorcovering;
 - scrape doughy products softly;
 - Pick up liquid products using a spoon. Push hard the stained part (by trampling it) with a cloth or blotting paper so that what remains of liquids comes up again.
- 2° -Pour some active product (solvent or cleaning shampoo according to the nature of stain) on a white cloth (never directly onto the stain) and pat the stain (lightly soaking it), starting around the edges and then working your way into the middle;
 - keep on patting the stain with a cloth soaked in a degreasing product (white vinegar, Marseilles soap) in way the stain “comes up” into the cloth until it remains clean;
 - it is sufficient to pat 4 or 5 times (with rubber gloves) when using an anti-rust for textiles (as well as with white vinegar) or potassium oxolyte diluted to 3%;
 - with a cleaning shampoo, make the product foamy by massaging the dampened surface with fingers, with a spatula or with a glass turned upside down;
 - then take off the dirty foam with a scraper or a spoon and massage again without adding the product but using only water. If necessary repeat the above until there is the foam.
- 3° -Pat strongly (by trampling) with a dry blotting cloth to extract the most humidity.
- 4° -Wet the area in which the cleaning shampoo has been used with a sponge soaked with water and pat strongly (as at point 3), in order to take off the remaining shampoo. Repeat it if necessary.

c) **Periodic washing** by using INJECTION – EXTRACTION machines.

NOTE: Do not use machines with spreading-foam rotating brushes with stiff bristles.

1° Preparation to allow shampoo with detergent to loose soil.

Spray a mixture of 9 portions of water and 1 portion of shampoo with detergent on the surface (wet more deeply the most dirty areas and on the stains).

2° Mechanical action by using a rotating brush (moved by an engine) with soft bristles and/or by hand with a floor brush wrapped in a white cotton cloth. The best cleaning can be obtained thanks to the two matched actions: the *chemical* one , which makes easier the detaching of the soil from the surface, and the *mechanical* one, which helps to make the soil resurface.

3° Rinse by using the INJECTION – EXTRACTION machine filled with only water.

If the water is hot, the result is better and in a shorter time. It is important to recover 100% of the soap. Rinses will be finished only when water without foam enters inside the tank.

IMPORTANT TO KNOW:

- *Some producers of cleaning machines and/ or of shampoos to be used by them, do not mention how necessary and important is to rinse, because of business advisability.*

Also many cleaning companies do not rinse so that washing times can be halved.

Immediately and in the first days, the obtained result will be apparently good, but then you will see a quick worsening and the flooring will become dirty again.

The explanation of this behaviour is in the fact that in the residual moisture left by the machine (13/20%) , there is also some soap, according to the percentage of dilution with water.

Water evaporates but the rest (sticky) of the soap remains. And it is this thin film (increased by next washings , perhaps with more concentration of soap with the illusive hope to improve cleaning) which makes the flooring become precociously dirty.

An example that helps to understand:

In case of washing machines, dishwashers or when we wash our hands, the sequence of the phases reflects the procedure that we have mentioned to wash properly our flooring with excellent results.

In fact :

1st Chemical phase: Pre-washing, soaping of the hands (it corresponds to our preparation when we spray shampoo).

2nd Mechanical phase: shaking in the drum, pressure jet of the sprayer arms, rubbing of the hands (it is equivalent to the action of our brush).

3rd Phase of rinse: more rinses are carried out with water at 95°, hands are rinsed as much as necessary, by insisting in rubbing them (it is similar to our rinse with only water, better if hot).

STAIN REMOVAL TABLE

IMPORTANT RECOMMENDATIONS

- Use only small amounts of cleaning products at one time.
- Never pour the product directly on the floorcovering, use a cloth.
- “Attack” the stain by starting around the edges and then work your way into the middle so that it does not become any bigger.
- Never scrub with a cloth but :
 - 1) pat the stain when using a solvent;
 - 2) lightly massage the stained surface with fingers when using a cleaning shampoo

STAINS

INTERVENTIONS

Sweets, chocolate, jam, cream, fruit, fruit juice, milk, eggs, sauces, blood, droppings.

Cleaning shampoo, after use white vinegar. If after drying the stain remains, use degreasing products. Rinse, if white marks appear.

Alcohol, aperitifs, beer, coffee, coal, Coca-Cola, water (haloes), grass, mustard, tempera, tannin, tea, urine, wine, vinegar, soot.

Cleaning shampoo, then pat with white vinegar. If after drying white marks appear, rinse again.

Butter, wax, shoe cleaner, cosmetics, ointments, lip-stick, inks, oil, fat, perfume, diesel oil, mayonnaise, mustard.

Degreasing products, cleaning shampoo and then use white vinegar. If after drying white marks appear, rinse again.

Cellulosic glue, nail polish, colourless paint, oil painting.

Use a degreasing product, then a cleaning shampoo. Never use turpentine

Rust

Use a specific anti-rust product (i.e. potassium oxalate), then rinse.

Wax.

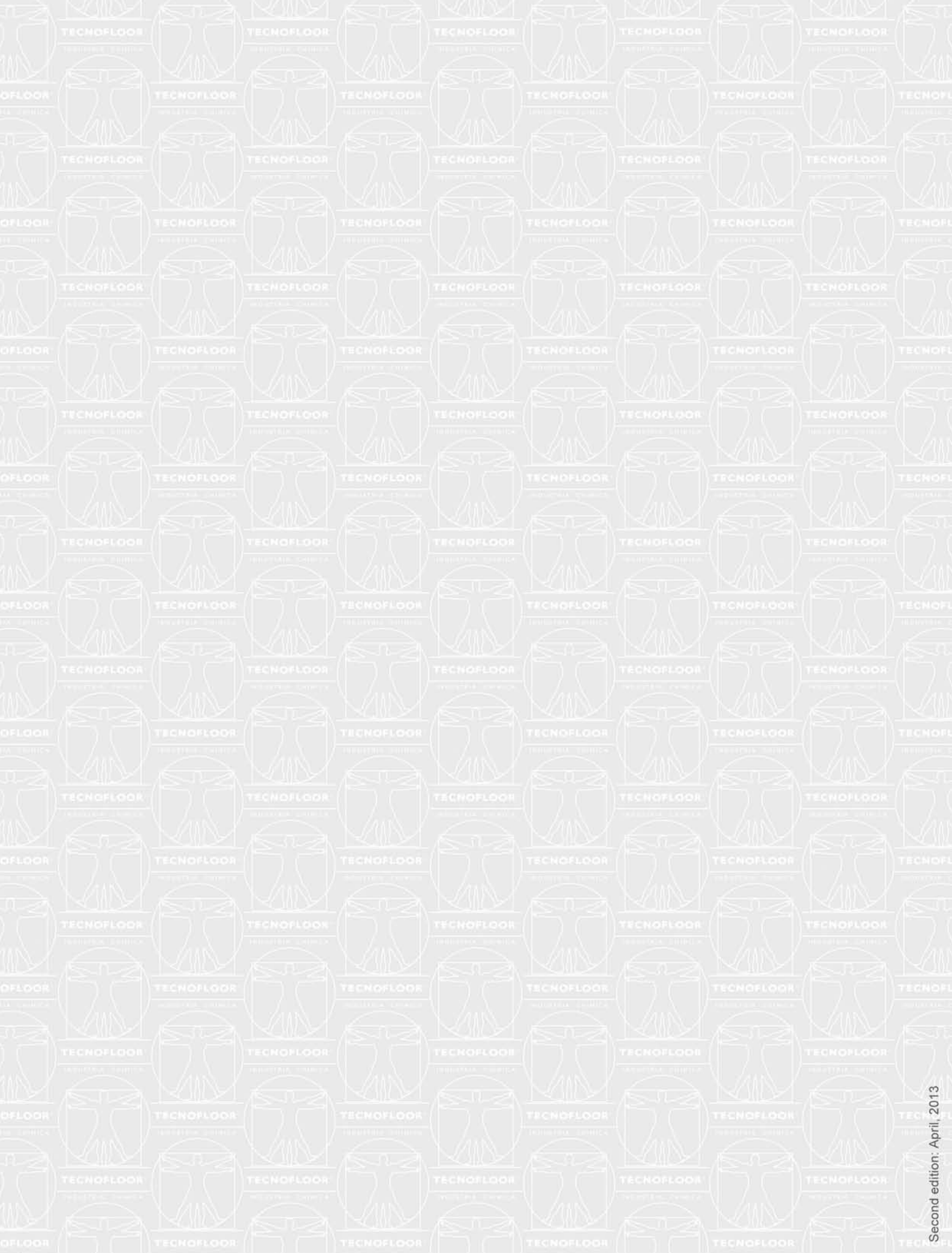
Scrape it gently, then, after covering with blotting paper, use a tepid iron. In the end, use degreasing product.

Chewing-gum.

Specific spray or freeze it, then scrape it gently

Stain from unknown substances.

Use degreasing product, cleaning shampoo, then white vinegar. If stains remain, clean with white vinegar. Rinse if white marks remain.



Second edition: April, 2013

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