

Floor Care Guidelines for Forbo Coral® Entry Flooring

Daily Cleaning:

1 to 3 times a day depending on the application, type and volume of traffic and hours of operation.

It is essential to remove dry soiling at least once a day, more often if necessary, to stop it from building up. The most effective method is to use vacuum cleaners that incorporate a mechanically driven rotating brush or suction-only machines with a rotating brush attachment.

Vacuum slowly and in all directions across the entry flooring to get the full effect of the combined suction and brushing.

If vacuuming doesn't remove the dry soiling, check for these causes:

- Worn brushes or the wrong brush height - it is essential that the brush makes contact with the pile of the entry flooring.
- Brush not rotating properly - a loose drive belt will weaken the power of the brushing.
- Blocked or obstructed airways affecting suction power.
- Dust bag/collector in need of emptying.

Regular Cleaning:

As needed depending on the application, type and volume of traffic and hours of operation.

High traffic areas need additional attention to remove concentrated surface soiling and reduce the appearance of 'traffic lanes'. If the methods below are used regularly they can decrease the frequency of periodic cleaning, especially on light or plain colors.

Dry extraction:

This method of cleaning uses a moist compound that is impregnated with water, detergent and safe-to-use solvents. After dry vacuuming the area to be cleaned, brush the compound through the pile. This must be done using a designated applicator with counter-rotating brushes.

Leave the compound for a short while to release and absorb the soiling, then give the area a thorough dry vacuuming to remove the compound. This can be repeated as many times as necessary to remove the soiling.

Be careful to avoid a build up of compound after several applications.

Cylindrical brush extraction:

This method also uses machines with counter-rotating brushes, but this time a proprietary carpet cleaning solution is brushed into the pile and the dirty water returned straight to the machine.

After dry vacuuming the area to be cleaned, pass the machine over it as many times as needed to remove visible soiling. Detergent residues must then be removed by using the machine to rinse the area with clean warm water only.

Periodic Cleaning:

As needed depending on the application, type and volume of traffic and hours of operation.

Periodically, the entry flooring should be treated with a deeper cleaning process called 'Hot water extraction'. This removes soiling from the base of the pile and restores the surface texture to optimize its "clean-off" performance. Factors like the type and amount of traffic, as well as the effectiveness of Daily Cleaning and Regular Cleaning will govern how often this deep cleaning is needed.

This process can be carried out using either a hot water spray extraction machine or a 3-in-1 spray and brush machine.

Avoid problems by:

- Using a maximum water temperature of 140° F (60° C).
- Using a neutral cleaner recommended for textile products (follow manufacturer's instructions for dilution). Use as little detergent as possible.
- Ensuring that all detergent residues are removed by thoroughly rinsing with clean water.
- Making sure the area is well ventilated to minimize drying time.
- Allowing the entry flooring to thoroughly dry before allowing traffic.

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Spot Cleaning:

When spills happen, it is important to address them as quickly as possible. Cleaning spills quickly will make them easier to clean and minimize the risk of any potential damage.

Dry spills

- Using something blunt, such as a plastic scraper, gently remove any loose soiling from the surface of the pile and then dry vacuum to clean any remaining particles from within the pile.

Thickened substances

- Gently clear away the spill from the surface with a blunt scraper. Treat what is left of the spill with a proprietary carpet spot cleaner (for polyamide pile floorcoverings) and rinse with clean water. Blot again and repeat the treatment, rinsing and blotting as many times as necessary, then allow the area to thoroughly dry before allowing traffic.

Wet spills

- Use an absorbent material to blot up as much of the liquid as possible. Treat what is left of the spill with a proprietary carpet spot-cleaner (for polyamide pile floorcoverings) and rinse with clean water. Blot again and repeat the treatment, rinsing and blotting as many times as necessary, then allow the area to thoroughly dry before allowing traffic.

Removing chewing gum

Two types of chewing gum removers are available; hardening agents and softening agents. For removal of chewing gum from Coral, use a chewing gum remover that will harden the gum. Scrape the gum from the mat and vacuum afterwards.

Avoid problems by:

- Cleaning oily and sticky spills quickly because they will cause a patchy discoloration.
- Cleaning dry spills that contain substances that could leave a stain normally, and then following the cleaning procedure for dry spills by thoroughly cleaning the spot using a hot water extraction machine with plenty of water.
- Rinsing thoroughly with clean water after using detergent in order to prevent premature re-soiling.
- Cleaning spills as they occur.
- Using wet extraction cleaning to ensure that all residual soiling and detergents are removed when multiple or large spills occur.

Caution

PLEASE NOTE: Avoid using chemicals that have a pH lower than 7, contain chlorinated hydrocarbons or bleaching/oxidizing agents on all Coral products.