



Why Vinyl?

No other floor category offers the variety of colors and patterns as vinyl flooring! The unique manufacturing processes used today can replicate the look and textures of real ceramic tile, stone and wood grains. Plus, the resilient manufacturing process makes vinyl floors more tear and stain resistant.

Understanding Vinyl Flooring Performance

The wearlayer is critical to the performance of a vinyl floor. The thickness of the wearlayer varies with each manufacturer's collection, or series and is generally measured using the thickness of a millimeter (about the same as a page in the telephone book). A 10-mil wearlayer would be comparable in thickness to about 10 pages in your telephone book. Your expectations for how long your vinyl floor will look like new will depend on the wearlayer's performance.

Wearlayer performance characteristics are:

- ✓ Easy to clean
- ✓ Stays looking like new
- ✓ Resists staining from normal household products
- ✓ Doesn't show scratches easily
- ✓ Resistance to tearing, gouging, ripping and indentations

The new, high-end vinyl floors have better technology to help resist showing wear and staining far better than any of the middle to low-end vinyl floors made. Urethane finishes used on today's residential, high-end vinyl floors will give you a richer looking floor, better designs, better tear-resistance and much better performance.

Floor Care Tips

If your floor gets a cut or gouge in it, cover the area immediately and call your professional floorcovering store. A professional installer can repair the area, but if the cut is filled with dirt it may be difficult to repair correctly. For an inexpensive PVC vinyl floor you should consider placing 2 - 3 coats of the recommended floor polish on the floor immediately. Any vinyl floor with a PVC wearlayer will show scuffs, scratches, and other marks very easily. By adding the coats of floor polish you will make the floor easier to maintain. If you have a seam open, cover it immediately. Do not wash that area. Call a floorcovering professional to come and repair the seam. When moving heavy objects across your floor, place plywood, or underlayment sheets down first and move the object over the plywood sheets.

(Over for More Vinyl Facts)

Vinyl Floor Care

The new vinyl floors are extremely durable and long lasting, but like any floorcovering they still need regular maintenance to stay looking like new. Follow these general guidelines for vinyl flooring. For more details, you can always refer to the manufacturer's written floor care procedures.

Care After Installation:

- For the first 24 hours after your new floor is installed, protect all the seamed areas and don't walk on the seam sealer.
- Keep the room at 68°F or greater for at least 2 days after installation to allow the adhesives to set up properly.
- Do not roll heavy objects *directly* on to a newly installed vinyl floor for at least 5 days. This can cause the vinyl and adhesive to become compressed - once the adhesive sets up any compressed marks will become permanent. Always lay plywood or underlayment to disperse the weight of a heavy object being moved across your vinyl floor.
- Allow 5 days before thoroughly washing your floor. This will give time for the adhesive to cure.
- Before placing chairs or furniture on your new vinyl floor, check the condition of all casters or rollers before setting them on your floor. Replace any worn caster or rollers.

General Floor Care:

- Vacuum regularly to remove grit and sand. Wash your floor occasionally with the manufacturer's recommended floor cleaner.
- Wipe up spills immediately. If needed, clean with the manufacturer's recommended cleaner. You can also clean with luke warm water and clear ammonia.
- If your floor becomes dull looking you may need to add the manufacturer's recommended floor polish to restore the original gloss level. First try cleaning with luke warm water and clear ammonia to see if there is a film on your floor causing the dullness.
- Never use abrasive cleaners, soaps, paste waxes, or solvents on your vinyl floor.
- Place non-staining, walk-off mats at every outside entry to your room. This will help keep sand and grit from being tracked onto your floor.