



Modular **Resilient** Flooring  
LVT Maintenance Guide

Interface®

## The importance of cleaning and maintenance

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Correct maintenance will not only extend the life time of your floor but will also help to preserve a satisfactory level of appearance and comfort within the working environment.

The following document details the maintenance procedures that should be carried out to maintain the Interface LVT which, thanks to a durable polyurethane coating, is relatively easy to clean.

Please note the frequency of cleaning must be based on the specific needs of trafficked areas within your space.

## Routine Maintenance

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The frequency of vacuum cleaning, sweeping and mopping depends upon the foot traffic and level of dirt.

Dry soil removal – dust, grit, food particles etc. – should be performed as often as required and at least daily. This can be carried out using a vacuum cleaner, especially for large areas, a dry sweep system with static or microfibre cloth or a brush (with soft to medium bristles).

However, this does not remove all dirt and so at least once per week damp cleaning is necessary. Always vacuum or sweep the floor prior to damp cleaning. Manual mopping and mechanical cleaning are both possible.

## Preventative maintenance

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**Barrier Mats:** Barrier mats should be an integral part of any maintenance programme. To minimise damage to your floor surface created by dirt, abrasive material and moisture, entrance areas should be fitted with barrier mats, such as Barricade by Interface.

Barrier mats will capture grit and dirt preventing it from spreading to other areas. The barrier mats should be vacuum cleaned daily and even replaced regularly to prevent the build-up of soil which would make them ineffective.

A minimum of 3-5 metres of barrier matting should be placed at the point of entry based on volume and level of traffic flow. Ideally this should be a combination of primary and secondary barrier systems.

**Manual mopping:** Ideal for small areas. Always use a damp mop and take care not to over wet the floor. Never pour water directly on the floor and/or allow puddles of water to remain on the floor.

Damp mop using either a microfiber flat mopping system or traditional mops to apply a neutral cleaning solution (pH 6-8). Use a two-bucket system: one for the mopping water and one for the waste water (Fig. 1).

Rinse the mop frequently and change the solution as required. Allow the floor to completely dry before foot traffic is resumed. **Caution: As with any smooth floor Interface LVT can become slippery when wet.**



Fig. 1

**Mechanical cleaning:** For larger areas an auto scrubber fitted with soft/medium floor pads (white or red 3M floor pad) can be used (Fig. 2).

Spray cleaning may be required to remove soiling and scuff marks. Spray a neutral floor cleaner on to an area and use a rotary machine (300-500 rpm) fitted with a 3M red pad.



Fig. 2

### Spill Procedures and Spot Removal

It is important to establish spill procedures and spot cleaning regimes. This is particularly important in food preparation and server areas where food, grease and liquids may contaminate the treated area and have a potential to create slip hazards. An effective regime will also reduce the likelihood of soiled/sticky areas developing. Treat spills immediately.

1. Remove solid particles of the spillage using a dust pan and brush or paper towels if it is a liquid spillage (Fig. 3 & 4).



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

2. Spot clean the affected area using a neutral floor cleaner – either ready to use or diluted accordingly – using a spray bottle and microfiber cloth (Fig. 5).



Fig. 5

3. Damp mop the affected area including the surrounding area within a 1.5m radius from the spillage to ensure the area is free from spillage contaminants (Fig. 6).



Fig. 6

## Periodic Maintenance

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Interface LVT is manufactured with a protective PU coating which makes the floor easier to maintain. However, the floor will require periodic cleaning to ensure that it retains a satisfactory level of appearance. This involves a combination of the techniques described above:

Sweep/vacuum to remove dust and dirt.

Remove stains and spillages using a damp mop and a neutral floor cleaner.

Using a neutral floor cleaner, spray clean the floor and use a rotary machine fitted with a 3M red pad to clean and buff the floor to remove any in-grained dirt and restore the floors appearance.

## Further advice

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1. Do not drag tables, chairs and other moveable items across the floor as this may damage the floor surface.
2. Felt pads should be attached to the underside of any moveable item (table and chair legs).
3. Rubber can damage the LVT so avoid placing rubber mats etc on top of it. This could cause stains.
4. Lighter colours will require a higher level of maintenance, as indeed will darker colours where dust may be more visible.
5. Always sweep and vacuum floors to remove dust, grit and other particles prior to cleaning and use of rotary machines. It is very important that all effort is made to remove abrasive material to minimise scratching and premature wear of the surface.

## Contact Us:

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For any further information on how to clean Interface LVT please contact your local Interface office or visit [www.interface.com](http://www.interface.com)

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