

# Maintenance Recommendations By Product

## Linoleum Sheet with NATURcote™

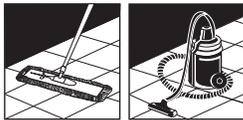
MARMORETTE™ | GRANETTE™ | COLORETTE™ | LINORETTE™ | UNI WALTON™

Armstrong® linoleum sheet products are manufactured with NATURCote, a protective, high performance urethane finish that provides improved maintenance characteristics and maintenance options for the end-user.

### For Best Results:

- Wipe a narrow band of a protective finish on heat-welded seams. When using one of the No Polish Options, it may be necessary to periodically recoat the welded seam.
- Maintenance solutions used on linoleum should not exceed a pH of 10 because linoleum is made primarily of natural raw materials (linseed oil, cork, jute and natural resins). The use of highly alkaline or solvenated solutions or abrasive materials may damage linoleum.
- When performing wet maintenance, always use proper signage and prohibit traffic until the floor is completely dry.
- Do not wet wash, machine scrub or strip the floor for at least 4 days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond and/or seam treatments.
- Do not use excessive amounts of liquid during maintenance.
- Do not use brown or black pads, equivalent brushes or stiff-bristled, highly abrasive brushes on Armstrong resilient flooring.
- If it becomes necessary to move any heavy fixtures or appliances over the flooring on casters or dollies, the flooring should be protected with 1/4" or thicker plywood, hardboard or other underlayment panels. If other on-site work is continuing, consider using a protective covering such as plain, undyed Kraft paper to guard against damage to the new floor.

### A. Initial Maintenance and Preparation for Commercial Traffic

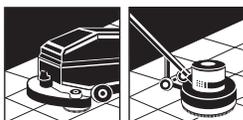


1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust, dirt, grit and debris.

2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean, white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following the warnings on the container.



3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.



4. If necessary, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and a red scrubbing pad (3M red or equal) or equivalent brushes. **NOTE: If the floor will be maintained with the Polish Option, it must be scrubbed with a floor machine fitted with a red scrubbing pad (3M red or equal).**



5. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.

Having completed Steps 1 through 5 under Initial Maintenance, choose a maintenance option based on your evaluation of the factors listed under “How to Determine Your Maintenance Program” (see page 12) and proceed as directed below.

6. Maintenance options:



- **Polish Option** – apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong® S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. In areas where the flooring will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents, the application of a stain resistant sealer such as Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer (prior to the application of polish) is recommended.



- **Spray Buff Option** – spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution.

## B. Daily/Regular Maintenance



1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor daily to remove dust, dirt, grit and debris that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface.



2. Spot mop as needed. Any spills should be cleaned up immediately.



3. Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis, depending upon traffic and soil levels in the area. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution, such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

## C. Periodic Maintenance



1. When needed, machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and the appropriate scrubbing pad (3M red or equal for light scrub, 3M blue or equal for a deep scrub) or equivalent brush.



2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove the rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.



3. Based on the selected maintenance option above, do one of the following:
  - If maintaining with the **Polish Option** and a sufficient base (3 to 5 coats) of polish remains, buff, spray-buff or burnish to restore gloss. If needed, additional coats of floor polish may be applied at this time.



- If maintaining with the **Spray Buff Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution. This may be followed by dry buffing with a white pad.

## D. Restorative Maintenance – Stripping

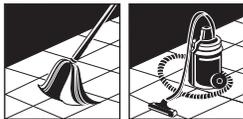
**NOTE: Use only stripping chemicals designed for use on linoleum (10 pH or less).**



1. Mix stripping solution to the appropriate dilution, depending on floor finish build-up. Blockade areas to be stripped. Apply liberal amounts of solution uniformly to the floor with a mop. Let stripping solution soak for the appropriate amount of time recommended by the stripper manufacturer. Keep areas to be stripped wet. Rewet if necessary.



2. Machine scrub the floor (300 rpm or less) with a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent scrub brush to break up the polish film. **Do not allow stripping solution to dry on the floor.**



3. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop. **TIP: Drizzling fresh, clean rinse water onto the dirty stripping solution will assist with a more thorough removal.**

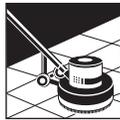


4. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.



5. Based on the selected maintenance option above, do one of the following:

- If maintaining with the **Polish Option**, apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish, such as Armstrong® S-480 Commercial Floor Polish.
- If maintaining with the **Spray Buff Option**, spray buff using a rotary machine (175 to 600 rpm) with the appropriate pad and spray buff solution. This may be followed by dry buffing with a white pad.



### Linoleum Color Change

“Drying room yellowing,” sometimes referred to as “seasoning bloom,” “drying room film” or “stove yellowing,” is a natural phenomenon that occurs during the manufacturing process of all linoleum. As linoleum cures in the drying room, a yellowish cast may develop on the surface due to the oxidation of the linseed oil. This is not a product defect. Any change in the product’s appearance because of this yellow cast is temporary and disappears after exposure to either natural or artificial light. The time required for the yellow cast to disappear ranges from a few hours to several weeks, depending on the type and intensity of the light source. Typically, the yellow cast disappears more quickly with exposure to natural light. The application of floor finishes will not interfere with the dissipation of the yellow cast. Disappearance of the yellow cast will not occur on areas not exposed to light.