

## Luxury Vinyl Tile (LVT) Maintenance Guidelines

Proper care is essential to the appearance and longevity of LVT. Protect and extend the life of your floors by following these Interface-approved guidelines, which include normal cleaning devices such as a household broom, a suction-only vacuum cleaner, or a damp microfiber mop.

### Required Cleaning Equipment

- Broom, Dust Mop with a Microfiber Cloth and/or Suction-Only Vacuum Cleaner
- Microfiber Mop – DO NOT USE STRING MOPS ON LVT
- Neutral pH Cleaning Solution (pH of 6.0-9.0)

### Precautions

- NEVER use products that can damage the surface of your LVT. These include powdered cleaners, metal bristle brushes, or steel wool.
- Do not soak floor with water or liquid cleaners, and do not allow puddles of water to remain on the floor.

### Initial Maintenance After Installation

Wait 48 hours from the completion of installation to clean floor.

- Start with removing dry soil by sweeping or dust mopping with a microfiber cloth.
- Follow with damp mopping using a neutral cleaning solution (pH of 6.0-9.0) and a microfiber mop.
  - Make sure to use a liquid cleaning solution that is ready-to-use or dilute the cleaner with the proper amount of water.
  - Rinse mop often with clean water while mopping to remove contaminants from mop.
  - If floor appears to be heavily soiled use a counter-rotating dual cylindrical brush machine with a white or 'soft' brush.
- After mopping or brushing with cleaning solution, rinse floor with clean hot water and microfiber mop.
  - Always use a damp microfiber mop. Do not pour water directly on the floor and do not allow puddles of water to remain on the floor.
- Allow floor to completely dry before foot traffic is resumed.

### Preventative Measures

#### Walk Off Carpet / Mats

Protect your flooring and reduce dry soil by using walk off carpet or mats 8-10 feet from exterior entrances and at entrances to rooms. Placing walk off mats at other high traffic areas can also help protect your LVT.

#### Furniture

- Use appropriate protectors under furniture. These should be felt, or other soft material specifically designed to protect the hard surface from scratches or damage to the wear layer.

# Interface®

- Office chairs must be provided with soft wheels.

## Precautions

- Long-term exposure to rubber can damage the LVT. We recommend avoiding mats with rubber lining, rubber furniture legs or rubber wheels.
- When moving any type of furniture or heavy equipment, protect the floor by covering with plywood, Masonite or other hard-shell material to prevent scratching or permanent damage.
- Be careful with equipment, kitchen appliances, cigarettes and hot or heavy objects that can damage the floor when falling.

## Routine Maintenance

Regular cleaning will keep your floors looking newer longer.

### Dry Soil Removal

- Sweep, dust mop with a microfiber cloth or vacuum with the suction-only setting daily or more frequently with heavy traffic.

### Wet Cleaning

- Always remove dry soil before wet cleaning.
- Damp mop the floor with a neutral cleaning solution using a microfiber mop once a day.
- After removal of the soil, rinse the floor with clean hot tap water (120-130 degrees Fahrenheit) using a damp microfiber mop.
  - Do not pour water directly onto the floor.
- Allow floor to completely dry before foot traffic is resumed.

## Restorative Maintenance

Restore your floor with the appropriate procedure as needed or a minimum of once every 3 months.

### Wet Cleaning

- Scrub floor using a counter-rotating dual cylindrical brush machine with a white or 'soft' brush and a neutral cleaning solution or use an auto- scrubber with a neutral cleaning solution and a non-abrasive pad (red or white 3M Floor Pad). We recommend a ride-on auto-scrubber for large, open areas and a walk-behind auto-scrubber for small areas.
- Damp mop the floor with clean hot water using a microfiber mop

### Scuffs and Marks

- Address scuffs and marks by using a microfiber cloth and a citrus oil- based cleaner, such as Pro-Solve Liquid by Pro's Choice or Goo Gone, or a solvent, such as WD-40 or isopropyl alcohol.
- Using a damp microfiber cloth, rinse the area with clean water to remove any remaining residue.

# Interface

## Surface Scratches

Address scratches by using Dr. Schutz Scratch Fix Kit to repair LVT floor scratches. Follow manufacturer's instructions.

## Tile Replacement

- If a tile(s) needs to be removed, locate the seam of the tile and insert a thin-bladed screwdriver or paint-scraper into the seam. Lift the tile to be removed and then replace with a new tile following the approved layout.
  - Additional adhesive should not be necessary.

## LVT to Carpet Transition Maintenance

- Use caution when cleaning areas where Interface LVT and modular carpet tiles are installed side-by-side. Do not use maintenance routines or equipment on floors for which the guidelines are not intended. Do not use a LVT auto-scrubber over carpet as the motion could fray the carpet fibers. Do not use a carpet extractor over LVT as the metal could scratch the LVT.
- Using routines and equipment on floors that the maintenance guidelines are not intended for could cause damage to the products and/or equipment and void the product warranty.

## LVT to Rubber Transition Maintenance

- Cleaning protocol is as described for LVT Maintenance.
- The ProClean System is not recommended on LVT.

## Spot Cleaning

All spills should be addressed immediately to avoid staining and hazards to occupants.

### Dry Spills

- Dry spills should be removed using a broom and dust pan.

### Wet Spills

- Wet spills should be absorbed with a cloth and, if necessary, cleaned using a microfiber cloth and a neutral cleaning solution.

### Greasy / Oily Spills

- Greasy / oily spills should be absorbed with a cloth and, if necessary, cleaned using a microfiber cloth and a neutral cleaning solution.
- If a neutral cleaning solution does not sufficiently remove the greasy / oily spill, use rubbing alcohol (isopropyl alcohol) to remove it. Then rinse the floor with clean, hot tap water (120-130) degrees Fahrenheit) using a damp microfiber mop.
- Allow floor to completely dry before foot traffic is resumed.

# Interface®

## Precautions

- Highly concentrated, non-water based liquid dyes, such as hair color, iodine, betadine, can permanently stain the surface of the LVT.
- Powdered cleaners or caustic solutions could damage or stain the LVT and void the warranty. Interface will not be liable for any incidental, indirect, special or consequential damage in any case.

## Waxes and Polishes Are Not Recommended

- Interface's LVT has a built-in top layer that does not require waxing or polishing. Wax will damage the surface of the LVT and create a cloudy finish. We are not aware of any methods to reverse this damage.

## References:

<https://www.interface.com/US/en-US/about/modular-system/Maintenance-Instructions>