

Floor Care Troubleshooting

Most floor care problems are caused by improper product use. This quick reference guide will help identify problems, causes and solutions.

POWDERING

Causes	Solutions
Improper Cleaner or too strong solution	Use The proper floor cleaner in the proper dilution
Factory finish on new tile	Strip and rinse new tile before coating
Incompatible equipment and finish	Match maintenance procedures to the requirements of finish
Buffing pads or brushes are too aggressive	Use recommended pads and brushes and check pad pressure
Improper Rinsing	Clean and rinse floor before coating
Floor temperature below 55° F	On cold days, Check floor temperature

SLIPPERY FLOORS

Causes	Solutions
Standing liquids	Post "wet floor" signs and mop up spills
Overspray of furniture or stain-less steel polish	Scrub floor with cleaner, flood rinse, apply two coats of finish
Dirt, Sand and grit	Walk-off mats, dust mop
Improper finish adhesion	Strip & Re-coat
Lack of floor finish on the floor	Clean floor and recoat
Disinfectant Buildup	Scrub or mop floor weekly with cleaner, Strip and recoat
Laying polymer finish over wax	Strip and Recoat
Homemade spray buff	Strip and recoat

DIFFICULTY STRIPPING

Causes	Solutions
Stripper solution drying out	Don't use hot water. Apply stripper liberally. Reapply as needed for 15 minutes
Finish not liquefying	Use correct dilution ratio. Do not use hot water
Pad Clogging Up	Reapply stripper more often. Apply water to floor immediately before scrubbing

POOR GLOSS

Causes	Solutions
Not Enough Finish on the Floor	Scrub , rinse and apply finish
Not enough time between coats	Wait 30 to 40 minutes between coats
Coats are too thin	Never fully wring finish mop
Cleaners	Use appropriate cleaner
Dirt and Sand	Use Mats and Dust mop Often
Improper Rinsing before re-coating	After stripping use two flood rinses
Buffing pads are too aggressive	Use proper pads for various jobs
High Humidity	Allow more dry time
Cold finish on warm floor	Finish and floor should be at the same temperature

STREAKING

Causes	Solutions
Recoating to soon	Give at least 20 to 30 min between coats, stop if there is mop drag
Contamination on the floor from dirty mop	Use only clean mops and buckets
Finish exposed to extreme temperature	Do not apply finish that's been frozen or in high heat
Coats are too thin	Apply med to full coats

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DISCOLORATION

Causes	Solutions
Coating over dirt	Always clean floor before recoating
Poor daily cleaning or Buffing over dirt	Clean floor daily. Always clean floor before buffing. Use walk-off mats.
Applying finish with a new cotton mop	Use Rayon or microfiber mop heads only to apply finish
Quat disinfectant Residue	Scrub or mop wash floor once a week with an all purpose cleaner.
Spray buffing before cleaning floors	Clean floor first, then spray buff
Parking lot sealant tracking in	Increase mats, deep scrub

SCUFFING / BLACK HEEL MARKS

Causes	Solutions
Dirt or grit on the floor	Walk-off mats, dust mop, daily cleaning and buffing
Recoating without repairing	Scrub or strip to eliminate damage
Furniture	Plastic or Metal glides
Contamination of Oils and detergent residue	Remove contamination sources. Spray Buff or burnish to remove marks.
Improper scrubbing or buffing pads	Use recommended pads for each job

FINISH SWIRL MARKS

Causes	Solutions
Pad is too aggressive.	Use the recommended pad for a particular task whether it be burnishing or cleaning
Pad is dirty	Clean with the center pad usually included in the pad, a wire brush, or use a Pad

"FISH EYES"

Causes	Solutions
Applying to heavy of a coat of finish at one time	Strip and recoat
Usually caused by agitation of the floor finish during the application.	Strip and recoat