

# Vinyl Composition Tile

ARTEFFECTS® | RAFFIA™

EXCELON®: ChromaSpin™ | Stonetex® | Companion Square® | Feature™ Tile/Strips

Standard EXCELON®: MultiColor™ | Imperial® Texture | Imperial® Texture Classics

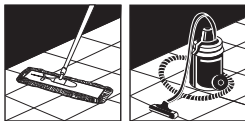
Imperial® Texture Rave®

Armstrong® commercial vinyl composition tile is coated with the Fast Start Factory Finish. Fortunately, the Fast Start Factory Finish makes initial maintenance quick and easy and does not require removal after installation. It is compatible with commercial floor polishes (such as Armstrong® S-480 Commercial Floor Polish) and reduces the need to strip the tile. Vinyl Composition Tile requires polishing for protection, ease of maintenance and an attractive overall appearance.

## For Best Results:

- 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.
- The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than 2 years old because these strippers may affect the adhesive bond.
- 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 – Immediately After Installation



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.

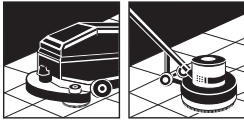


3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral (pH 6 to 8) detergent solution such as Armstrong® S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.



4. Apply a minimum of 2 coats of a high-quality commercial floor polish (such as Armstrong® S-480 Commercial Floor Polish) to temporarily protect the floor until regular maintenance procedures can begin. The use of a high-quality stain-resistant sealer (such as Armstrong® S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer) beneath the polish should be considered in areas of high traffic, high soil load and areas where staining potential is high.

## B. Initial Maintenance – Preparation for Commercial Traffic



1. Machine scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution (such as Armstrong® S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner) and a scrubbing pad (3M blue or equal) or equivalent brushes. If the floor is badly soiled and/or scratched, strip it using the same procedure, but substituting a properly diluted stripping solution. **NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than 2 years old because these strippers may affect the adhesive bond.**

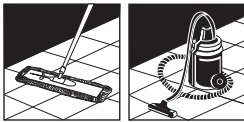


2. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water. Remove rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.



3. Apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish, such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. If the floor has been stripped, the application of a stain resistant sealer (such as Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer) prior to the application of polish is recommended in areas that will be exposed to heavy traffic and/or staining agents.

## C. 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.

## D. 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 rinse water and allow the floor to dry completely.



3. If there is sufficient polish (3 to 5 coats) remaining on the floor, buff, spray buff or burnish to restore gloss.



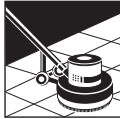
4. If needed, additional coats of floor polish may be applied at this time.

## E. Restorative Maintenance – Stripping

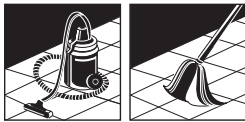
**NOTE: The use of aggressive strippers such as mop-on/mop-off, no-scrub and no-rinse strippers is not recommended on tile floors less than 2 years old because these strippers may affect the adhesive bond.**



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 it to dry completely.



5. Apply 3 to 5 coats of high-quality commercial floor polish, such as Armstrong® S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. The use of a high-quality stain-resistant sealer (such as S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer) beneath the polish should be considered in areas of high traffic, areas of high soil load and areas where staining potential is high.

### Special Considerations

**FEATURE TILE™:** Feature Tile, like solid-colored floors of any composition, shows scratches and soiling more readily than patterned materials. They have been designed for use as decorative bands, borders and spot accent colors in combination with other Armstrong 1/8" Standard EXCELON® and EXCELON® Tile. Feature Tile is not suitable for use as an overall floor color and is not recommended for this use. When first installed, the plain-colored surface may reveal a light dusty or powdery film and some directional surface markings. These are common to the production of this type of product, but the markings will be eliminated with regular cleaning and polishing and they will not affect the performance of the floor.

**STONETEX®:** Although Stonetex presents a monolithic or solid-colored image, the speckled pattern enables it to look better longer than Feature Tile or other non-patterned vinyl composition tile. Stonetex may require more frequent maintenance than a typical vinyl composition tile with a more prominent pattern.