



## HERO Rubber Flooring Maintenance Guide 11-2020

To preserve the look and extend the life of your HERO Rubber Flooring, it is important to properly clean the floor after installation and follow a maintenance program thereafter.

### Initial Cleaning after Installation

1. The flooring must be cleaned before it is subjected to normal use.
2. DO NOT clean the flooring for at least 72 hours after installation. This critical time frame allows the adhesives to properly cure.
3. After the 72 hour curing period, thoroughly sweep or dry vacuum the flooring to remove all loose dirt and grit.
4. Prepare a cleaning solution of three (3) ounces of mild soap for each gallon of water.
5. DO NOT use highly alkaline or acidic soap/detergent.
6. DO NOT use soap/detergent that contains oils or solvents.
7. Always check for compatibility and performance prior to cleaning by testing the cleaning solution on uninstalled flooring or in an inconspicuous area before applying the cleaning solution to the entire floor.
8. Scrub/mop the flooring with the cleaning solution as follows:
  - a. For small area installations, use a deck brush
  - b. For large area installations, use a 22 gauge flagged nylon bristle brush on a single disk scrubbing machine. DO NOT use a scrubbing machine where the disc speed exceeds 350 rpm.
9. DO NOT flood the flooring with the cleaning solution and do not allow the cleaning solution to work its way beneath the flooring. In either scenario, adhesive and/or flooring failure may occur.
10. DO NOT heel the scrubbing machine.
11. Wet vacuum the cleaning solution.
12. Rinse with clean, hot water using a non-cotton mop(to avoid leaving fabric residue) and a bucket.
13. Wet vacuum the remaining water.
14. All the floor to dry prior to normal use. Depending on the temperature and humidity, it should take approximately one hour.

### Initial Finish Application

In areas that will not experience extreme impact or usage, a finish may be applied to HERO Rubber Flooring to ease maintenance.

1. Ensure that initial maintenance has been conducted prior to applying the Hilway Direct Plus or Hilway Direct Satin.

2. Flooring area must be free of dust, dirt, debris, adhesive or cleaning residues and any potential contaminants.
3. Do not dilute finish or apply to surfaces below 50° F.
4. Shake floor finish container vigorously prior to application.
5. Use a microfiber mop to apply finish in a thin, even film per the installation instructions in 2-3 coats, applying each coat in a perpendicular direction to the previous coat.
6. Allow each coat to dry completely before applying additional coats.
7. Avoid direct forced air, drafts and direct sunlight during application and curing.
8. Once the second coat is dry, evaluate the floor to determine if an additional coat is necessary. If heavy use is expected, a third coat is recommended.
9. Allow the final coat of finish to dry overnight before allowing normal traffic. Wait 24 hours before allowing heavy traffic and rolling loads.
10. To prolong the life of the finish, the finish should receive routine maintenance via a cleaner/maintainer or spray buffing.
11. For additional information regarding the finish and finish application, please see the Hilway Direct Plus Technical Data Sheet.

### Finish Removal & Reapplication

If Hilway Direct Plus or Hilway Direct Satin has been applied to the flooring material, the finish may need to be regularly removed and reapplied, depending on traffic. The timing of removal will depend on the age and condition of the finish, as well as the frequency of daily/routine maintenance and spray-buffing.

1. Sweep or dust mop and vacuum flooring to remove any dirt, dust or debris.
2. Using a new or thoroughly cleaned mop, apply Hilway Allsafe Stripper undiluted to the flooring material and allow to remain on the surface for 15 - 20 minutes. Do not allow finish remover to dry onto the floor.
3. Using a low-speed floor buffer or swing single disc scrubber (180 – 360 RPM) , scrub floor while wet using a 22 gauge soft bristled scrubbing brush or a 3M 5100 Red Cleaning Pad.
4. Use an auto-scrubber, wet vacuum or clean mop to remove any and all excess cleaning solution.
5. Rinse area with clean, cool water and allow floor to dry entirely.
6. Reapply the desired floor finish per the installation instructions in 2 - 3 coats. Allow each coat to dry completely before applying additional coats.
7. For additional information regarding the finish and finish application, please see the Hilway Direct Plus Technical Data Sheet.

**General Precautions**

1. Sealers can darken the floor's original color and may reduce the slip resistance of the flooring. As a result, we DO NOT recommend applying any sealant to the flooring.
2. Some germicides, disinfectants, cleaning agents, floor maintenance products and pesticides may stain or damage the floor's surface. As a result, it is STRONGLY RECOMMENDED that they are tested on uninstalled flooring or in an inconspicuous area before applying to the entire floor.
3. Spills of any type must be removed immediately to help prevent staining or permanent damage.
4. To remove gum, apply ice on the affected area. Carefully remove the frozen gum with a non-metal spatula. Mineral spirits can be used to remove any remaining residue. Hand buff the spot with a soft towel.
5. DO NOT use steel wool, strong solvents (Lestoil, Top Job, etc.), gasoline, turpentine and acetone.

**Maintenance Program**

1. When flooring is in use, it should be swept or dry vacuumed daily.
2. At least once a month, the flooring should be cleaned with a cleaning solution using the method described in steps 4 through 14 under "Initial Cleaning after Installation".

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