

# Light Commercial Laminate Flooring

160 South Industrial Blvd. Calhoun, GA. 30701 MohawkGroup.com

Technical Services Department 508 East Morris St. Dalton, GA 30721 800.833.6954 product\_tech@mohawkind.com



## Mohawk Laminate Maintenance

Laminate flooring is virtually maintenance-free. Routine cleaning requires you only to vacuum, use a dust mop, or use a slightly damp (NOT wet) mop and then dry immediately with a clean, white cotton cloth.

## I. Basic Maintenance Procedure

1. Sweep your floor to remove any particles that could scratch your floor.

Warning: Vacuums with a beater bar or power rotary brush head can damage your floor and should never be used. Use a vacuum cleaner with suction only.

- 2. Apply the approved Mohawk FloorCare Essentials Hardwood & Laminate cleaner to a terry cloth flooring mop, NOT directly to the floor!
- 3. Use a back and forth motion with the mop. When the terry cloth cover becomes soiled, simply replace it with a clean one. Cleaning the floor with a soiled cover could cause streaking.

#### **Basic Dry Maintenance**

- Use a dust mop, microfiber mop, or vacuum cleaner with suction only. Ensure vacuum cleaner wheels are not embedded with grit. Plastic wheels may scratch your floor.
- For bevel-edge flooring products, we recommend dry maintenance ONLY.

#### **Basic Slightly-Damp Maintenance**

 Lightly apply an approved cleaning product (or plain water) to a dry, soft cloth. Never apply the cleaning product or water directly to the floor. Wipe the cloth over the floor, and

ALWAYS WIPE DRY IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS, until no moisture is visible on the floor. DO NOT ALLOW THE FLOOR TO AIR DRY.

• Wet maintenance is entirely forbidden. Never wet mop or steam clean your floor. Laminate flooring is not suitable for use in damp spaces like saunas.

### II. Guidelines for Cleaning and Care

- Sweep regularly, with a soft-bristle broom or dust mop.
- Remove spills promptly, and use Mohawk's FloorCare Essentials Hardwood & Laminate cleaners and a clean white cloth.
- Never wet or damp mop your floors. Water can cause damage to your flooring.
- Never use soap, detergents, wax, polish, oil/oil soaps, varnish, or shine enhancer/restorer products to clean your floor. Never use one-step clean-and-shine type products, or any product that sprays liquid directly onto the floor.
- Never apply water or a cleaning product directly to the floor; mist the water or product onto a clean, dry cloth, and then use the cloth to clean the floor.
- Never use steam cleaners on your floors. This will force moisture into the flooring and cause damage. Never use any type of cleaning machine such as buffers/polishers, spray mops or power cleaners.

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- Use felt protectors under heavy pieces of furniture and chairs.
- Use protective mats at all exterior entrances. Do not use mats or area rug cushions that are constructed of rubber or PVC. Use urethane-backed products.
- Replace hard plastic or metal casters or wheels on furniture with soft rubber casters, or use a protective mat under the casters.
- Protect your floor when using a dolly for moving furniture or appliances. Never slide or roll heavy furniture or appliances across the floor.
- Spiked heels or shoes in need of heel repair can severely damage your floor.
- Use protective window coverings to protect floors from excessive heat during periods of direct sunlight.

# **III. Cleaning Solutions for Spills and Stains**

Remove stubborn stains carefully with acetone-based fingernail polish remover. Never use scouring products such as steel wool, abrasive cleaners or scouring powder, as they will scratch the floor.

SPILL	CLEANING SOLUTION
Grease, Juice, Wine, Mustard, Coffee, Tea, Milk	3 parts water & 1 part ammonia, OR, 3 parts water & 1 part vinegar
Crayon, Asphalt, Nail Polish, Paint, Lipstick, Ball Point Pen Ink, Laundry Marker Ink	Denatured alcohol or acetone (nail polish remover); then, water & an alcohol-based, soap-free, non-abrasive household cleaner (like Windex)
Gum, Candle Wax	Allow to harden; then gently scrape free with a rubber scraper

# **IV. Corrective Cleaning Procedures**

The use of floor cleaning agents not specifically recommended by Mohawk can cause floors to yellow, attract more soil, develop a haze and may even create a slip hazard.

To remove residues from improper cleaning agents, we recommend the following:

In a clean spray bottle, mix 1 part non-sudsing household ammonia to 3 parts distilled water. Mist the solution onto a clean terry cloth, cotton, or micro-fiber mop (never apply any solution directly to the floor). It may take several cleanings, but this will remove residues left behind by other cleaners. Launder the terry cloth, cotton or micro-fiber mop head between cleanings.

Avoid using detergents that contain fabric softener and do not add fabric softener during the rinse cycle. This will prevent residues from being redeposited on to the floor the next time you use the mop head. This solution will not harm the surface of your Mohawk floor.

Once removed, and you are back to the original surface, we recommend Mohawk FloorCare Essentials for routine maintenance. You may purchase Mohawk FloorCare Essentials at many authorized Mohawk retailers or online at www.mohawkfloorcare.com. FloorCare Essentials has been tested and does not leave streaks or haze when applied to a terry cloth, micro-fiber, or cotton mop.

You should never wet mop a laminate floor. Using a wet mop may permanently damage the floor. Using Mohawk Floor Care Essentials Hard Surface cleaning products will clean and protect your floor. Remember to never apply any cleaning solution directly to the floor.

Laminate flooring is extremely durable and scratch resistant. However, no laminate product is scratch proof. Unfortunately, scratches and dents are not covered under the warranty. (Please see warranty information for exclusions.)

# V. Substances that Will Damage Laminate Flooring

The following substances will damage your laminate flooring if left for longer than 10 minutes on the floor. If spilled on the floor, these substances should be removed immediately, and the area thoroughly cleaned with an alcohol-based laminate cleaner.

- Bleach
- Hydrochloric Acid
- Shoe Polish
- Hydrogen Peroxide (30% Solution)
- Sodium Hydroxide (25% Solution)
- Concentrated Vinegar (30% Acetic Acid)
- Acid-based Metal Cleaners
- Mercurochrome
- Hair Dye and Bleaching Agents
- lodine
- Boric Acid
- Lacquers and Adhesives

For service under this warranty please contact your Mohawk dealer. Describe the problem, and in many cases, the dealer can provide you with a solution.

For installation, maintenance and technical questions please call the Technical Services Department, (800) 833-6954.