

# Roppe Smooth Finish Rubber Floor Tile



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## Maintenance

### 7.1 Required Initial Maintenance

7.1.1 Liquid/Solution Cleaning (Non Sealer/Finish Applications): All procedures only apply to Roppe Smooth Finish Rubber Tile. Please choose the correct procedure/procedures pertaining to your specific installation. Read the manufacturers recommendations, procedures and cautions before applying. Always test a small area first to ensure the desired results are achieved before proceeding. The first month after the installation of Roppe Rubber Tile should be used as a test period to assess the best procedure for continued maintenance. Insufficient cleaning and maintenance will reduce the wear life and appearance of the tile. There is to be no foot traffic on the tile or cleaning for at least 72 hours and no wheeled conveyances for at least 3 days to allow Roppe's recommended adhesives to properly cure. Remove any covering that may have been used to protect the floor. If the Rubber Tile is brand new, there is a silicone mold release on the face of the tile from the manufacturing process, which must be removed. The tile must be properly cleaned and the mold release agent removed before it is released for use of any kind. First, sweep or vacuum to remove dirt and other particulates. To remove the mold release, the tile must be scrubbed with either Spartan Chemical's (800-537-8990 or [www.spartanchemical.com](http://www.spartanchemical.com)) LOE Stripper or Green Solutions Floor Finish Remover. Apply diluted cleaning solution to the tile with a soft-bristled deck brush (required for raised design tile). Scrub the area with either a 175-350 RPM maximum scrubbing machine using a soft-bristled nylon scrubbing brush or hand scrub with a soft-bristled deck brush (required for raised design tile) or a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad (required for smooth finish tile). Rubber Tile must be thoroughly cleaned in both directions in order to remove the mold release agent. Ensure the brush does not scratch the tile and do not heel the scrubbing machine. Follow the manufacturer's recommendation for dilution, use and special precautions and warnings. Do not allow solution to dry or the scrubbing machine or brush to scratch the tile. DO NOT flood the tile when cleaning and do not allow the cleaning solution or water to work its way beneath the tile which can result in an adhesive failure. Wet vacuum or mop up the residue. Rinse with clean, cool water, remove the water utilizing a wet vacuum or mop, and allow the tile to dry thoroughly. Afterwards, Use a mild, neutral (pH 7 to 8) cleaner like Spartan Chemical's Damp Mop or Spartan Chemical's Green Solutions Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner to clean the Tiles in order to completely remove the mold release cleaning products. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for dilution and use. Allow the cleaning solution to stand for approximately 10 to 15 minutes; however, DO NOT allow the solution to dry or work its way beneath the tile resulting in an adhesive failure. Scrub the area with either a 175-350 RPM maximum scrubbing machine using a soft-bristled nylon scrubbing brush or hand scrub with a soft-bristled deck brush (required for raised design tile) or a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad (required for smooth finish tile). All Tile must be thoroughly cleaned in both directions. Rinse with clean, cool water, remove the water, and allow the tile to dry thoroughly, normally 3 to 4 hours before exposing to traffic DO NOT use highly alkaline, highly acidic, or solvent-based cleaners. DO NOT flood the floor or scratch during application.



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7.1.2 Dry Buffing - (Non Sealer/Finish Applications): After wet-cleaning the flooring, dry buffing should be performed on routing basis to maintain the floors natural surface luster. DO NOT dry buff the floor until it has been cleaned with clean, cool water. Remove rinse water with a wet/dry vacuum and allowed to dry completely. For large installations, dry polish with single disc 175-350 maximum RPM polishing machine using a soft-bristled nylon scrubbing brush if the floor has a surface profile (required for raised profiles) or a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad if the floor has a smooth profile. If a higher gloss is preferred, then buff with a 1,000 RPM (maximum) polishing machine with a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad. DO NOT heel the polishing machine or scratch the flooring. For small installations, use a soft, clean cloth wrapped around a narrow push broom. If an optional floor finish is desired for a higher sheen, refer to section 7.1.5. Caution: When floor sealers and finishes are used, the floor surface will take on the slip resistance characteristics of that particular coating. Roppe Corporation will not be held liable for the slip resistance effects of their flooring if it is coated with a floor sealer or finish. Caution: When wet, flooring will become slippery; therefore, use the appropriate warning signs on the floor to eliminate foot or other traffic. DO NOT allow the solution/water to dry or work its way beneath the flooring resulting in an adhesive failure.

7.1.3 Mild-Neutral PH Cleaning or Disinfectants - (Non Sealer/Finish Applications): The amount of maintenance required is directly related to the amount and type of traffic and type of particulates deposited on the floor. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the flooring to remove dirt and other particulates. Use a mild, neutral (ph 7-8) cleaner such as Spartan Chemical's Damp Mop or Green Solutions All Purpose Cleaner. If a disinfectant is required, use Spartan Chemical's DMQ Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner or Green Solutions Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner. Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for dilution and use. For smaller applications, apply the diluted cleaning solution to the flooring with a soft-bristled desk brush (required for raised profiles) or nylon mop (required for smooth profile floors). Do Not flood the floor. Allow the cleaning solution to stand for approximately 10 - 15 minutes. Do Not allow solution to dry. For small applications, scrub with a soft-bristled deck brush. For large applications, scrub the are with a single disc 175 RPM maximum scrubbing machine equipped with a soft-bristled scrubbing brush (required for textured, slate and raised profiles) or 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad (required for smooth finish profiles). Ensure brush or pad does not scratch the flooring. Wet vacuum or mop up residue. Rinse with clean, cool water. Remove the rinse water with a wet/dry vacuum and allow flooring to dry thoroughly before exposing to traffic. Do Not use highly alkaline, highly acidic or solvent- base cleaners or products of any kind. DO NOT use sweeping or cleaning agents containing oil or solvents. Caution: When wet, flooring will become slippery; therefore, use the appropriate warning signs on the floor to eliminate foot or other traffic. DO NOT allow the solution to dry or work its way beneath the flooring resulting in an adhesive failure.

7.1.4 Floor Preparation after Initial Installation and Prior to applying Optional Floor Sealer & Finish: There is to be no foot traffic on the tile or cleaning for at least 72 hours and no wheeled conveyances for at least 3 days. Roppe Rubber Tile has a mold release agent on the wear surface from the manufacturing process which MUST be removed prior to allowing traffic of any kind, and prior to applying Optional Floor Sealer & Finish. Failure to remove this mold release



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agent can result in a low traction floor (i.e.: Slippage) or a surface that is not compatible with floor finish. To remove the mold release, refer to section 7.1.1.

7.1.5 Optional Floor Sealer & Finish Application: Caution - Applying sealers or finishes can darken the floorings original color or finish. When applying sealers or finishes always check first for compatibility, bonding and color darkening of the flooring by testing on a scrap piece of flooring to ensure the desired results and appearance is achieved. If a floor sealer/finish is preferred, first follow sections noted in Section 7.1.1. Once the mold release has been completely removed, test for proper adhesion by applying Spartan Chemical's Shinline Sealer (24% solids thermoplastic sealer) to a small area with a sponge and allow to completely dry. If the finish pulls back and does not level out, repeat step 7.1.1 until the sealer is firmly bonded. If the sealer does level and is firmly bonded, Spartan Shinline Sealer can be used to seal the floor by applying with a finish mop. Once Shinline Seal has been applied and properly dry, apply 1-2 very thin coats of the Spartan floor finish that meets your traffic and maintenance needs. Each coat of floor finish must be applied in opposite directions to ensure proper coverage regardless of the flooring profile. Contact your Spartan Chemical Representative or Spartan Chemical (800-537-8990) directly for proper finish recommendations to meet specific traffic and maintenance requirements. If an environmentally preferable product is desired, apply 1-3 very thin coats of Spartan Green Solutions Floor Seal & Finish (acrylic co-polymer based floor seal and finish combination) in lieu of Shinline Sealer. Apply sealers or finishes in very thin coats to avoid puddles. Caution: When wet, flooring will become slippery; therefore, use the appropriate warning signs on the floor to eliminate foot or other traffic. When applying sealers or finishes always check first for compatibility, bonding and color darkening of the flooring by testing on a scrap piece of flooring to ensure the desired results and appearance is achieved. The floor care product manufacturer will assist you in determining the best maintenance program. Spartan Chemical's product selection is listed below for reference depending on frequency/infrequency of maintenance schedule to be performed on the flooring. Caution: When floor sealers and finishes are used, the floor surface will take on the slip resistance characteristics of that particular coating. Roppe Corporation will not be held liable for the slip resistance effects of their flooring if it is coated with a floor sealer or finish. DO NOT allow the solution to dry or work its way beneath the flooring resulting in an adhesive failure. Caution: When wet, flooring will become slippery; therefore, use the appropriate warning signs on the floor to eliminate foot or other traffic.

A. Frequent Maintenance Schedule: Described as "at least twice a week or as often as every day". Notice: Finishes listed below must be burnished (polished until shinny) in order to maintain gloss levels. Burnish frequency will depend on several factors including but not limited to the following: Type of finish, traffic, equipment, internal/external conditions, type of floor, labor/budget available, and end user expectations.

\* Spartan Chemical Product Selections for Frequent Maintenance Schedules:

- o High Frontier
- o Upper Limit's



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- o TriLinc
- o Trendsetter Sealer/Finish
- o Pro-Shine
- o Heavy Duty Wax 16%
- o Glacier

B. Infrequent Maintenance Schedule: Described as "once a week to never". Notice: The products listed below are considered Dry-Bright Finishes which dry to a particular gloss and remain that way. Gloss loss with these finishes is due to superficial wear and tear. When burnishing, spray buffing and/or using a finish restorer, surface imperfections are repaired to restore gloss - there is no real "polishing", as there is with burnishable finishes.

\* Spartan Chemical Product Selections for Infrequent Maintenance Schedules:

- o Millennia Bright Dura Gloss Laminate
- o Sheen 17
- o White Sun
- o Sunny-Side
- o iShine
- o On an' On
- o Green Solutions Floor Seal & Finish
- o Terra Glaze

7.1.6 Existing Floor Sealer/Finish Removal: To remove existing floor finishes/sealers, first the flooring must be properly cleaned by first sweeping or vacuuming to remove dirt and other particulates. Strip with either Spartan Chemical's Rinse Free Stripper or Green Solutions Floor Finish Remover utilizing a single disc 175 RPM maximum scrubbing machine with a soft-bristled nylon brush (required for raised profiles) or a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad (required for smooth finish profiles). Ensure the brush or pad does not scratch or damage the flooring. Rinse with clean, cool water and remove rinse water with wet/dry vacuum and allow floor to dry completely. Refer to Section 7.1.5 regarding reapplying the recommended Spartan Chemical's floor sealer and finish. Caution: When wet, flooring will become slippery; therefore, use the appropriate warning signs on the floor to eliminate foot or other traffic. Remove solution with a wet/dry vacuum. DO NOT allow the solution to dry or work its way beneath the flooring resulting in an adhesive failure. Caution: Applying sealers or finishes will darken the floorings original color. When applying sealers or finishes always check first for compatibility, bonding and color



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darkening of the flooring by testing on a scrap piece of flooring to ensure the desired results and appearance is achieved. Caution: When floor sealers and finishes are used, the floor surface will take on the slip resistance characteristics of that particular coating. Roppe Corporation will not be held liable for the slip resistance effects of their flooring if it is coated with a floor sealer or finish.

7.1.7 Routine Maintenance for Optional Sealer/Finish Applications: Insufficient cleaning will reduce the wear life and the appearance of the flooring or optional sealers/finishes. The amount of maintenance required is directly related to the amount and type of traffic and type of particulates deposited on the floor. There are several alternative maintenance systems available from Spartan Chemical (800/537-8990). The flooring must be properly cleaned by first sweeping or vacuuming to remove dirt and other particulates from both smooth and profiled floors. Dust mop smooth profile floors with Spartan's Dust Mop/Dust Cloth Treatment. Flooring can also be damp mopped with Spartan's Damp Mop Detergent Concentrate or Spartan DMQ Neutral Disinfectant Cleaner. If an environmentally preferable product is desired, damp mop with Spartan Green Solutions All Purpose Cleaner. An auto-scrubber with a scrubbing brush (required for raised profiles) or 3M White Super Polish Pad (required for smooth finish profiles) may also be used for cleaning. Caution: Ensure the scrubbing brush or pad does not scratch or damage the flooring. Caution: When wet, flooring will become slippery; therefore, use the appropriate warning signs on the floor to eliminate foot or other traffic. DO NOT allow the solution to dry or work its way beneath the flooring resulting in an adhesive failure. Caution: When floor sealers and finishes are used, the floor surface will take on the slip resistance characteristics of that particular coating. Roppe Corporation will not be held liable for the slip resistance effects of their flooring if it is coated with a floor sealer or finish.

7.1.8 Dry Buffing (Sealer/Finish Applications): DO NOT dry buff the Rubber Tile for at least 72 hours after the installation is complete to allow the recommended Roppe adhesives to properly cure. Dry buffing should be performed on a routine basis to maintain the surface luster. DO NOT dry buff until the tile have been thoroughly cleaned and allowed to completely dry. Buff tile using a single disc 350 - rpm maximum buffing machine with an attached soft polishing brush required for textured, slate and raised designed tile or a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad (required for smooth finish tile). Polish tile in both directions. Ensure the polishing brushes do not scratch the tile DO NOT heel the buffing machine. After a period of time, the build up of wax or floor finish will need to be removed. Currently, Spartan Chemical recommends either LOE Stripper or Green Solutions Floor Finish Remover. Use the wet cleaning procedure described in 7.1.6 to remove the build up and for restorative maintenance.

7.1.9 Maintenance Warnings and Cautions (Non- Floor Sealer Application/Finish & Optional Floor Sealer/Finish Application): Caution: Applying sealers or finishes can darken the floorings original color or finish. Caution: The use of floor finishes or sealers can reduce the slip resistant properties of rubber tile. When applying sealers or finishes always check first for compatibility, bonding and color darkening of the flooring by testing on a scrap piece of flooring to ensure the desired results and appearance is achieved. The floor care product manufacturer will assist you in determining the best maintenance program. Caution: When floor sealers and finishes are



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used, the floor surface will take on the slip resistance characteristics of that particular coating. Roppe Corporation will not be held liable for the slip resistance effects of their flooring if it is coated with a floor sealer or finish. Caution: When wet, the flooring will become slippery; therefore, use the appropriate warning signs on the flooring to eliminate foot or other traffic. Caution: Contact Spartan Chemical before applying products to verify recommendations for stripping flooring. Some strippers can have an adverse effect on the flooring. Always test first to ensure the flooring is not affected and the desired results can be achieved prior to applying strippers of any kind. DO NOT use highly alkaline, highly acidic, or solvent-based cleaners of any kind. Caution: Some germicides, disinfectants, cleaning agents, floor maintenance products, and pesticides can stain or damage the surface of rubber floor; therefore, test the products to ensure they will not stain or damage the tile. Spills of any type must be removed immediately to help prevent staining or permanent damage. DO NOT use sweeping or cleaning agents containing oil or solvents. DO NOT use treated mops and thoroughly clean new mops before use. DO NOT use kerosene, gasoline, naphtha, or other solvents on rubber flooring. DO NOT use varnish, shellac, paste wax, paint, or other substances that could discolor or damage the flooring. DO NOT allow the solution to dry or work its way beneath the flooring resulting in an adhesive failure.

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