

## Vinyl Composition Tile

### ARTEFFECTS

EXCELON: STONETEX | COMPANION SQUARE | FEATURE TILE/STRIPS

STANDARD EXCELON: MULTICOLOR | IMPERIAL TEXTURE | IMPERIAL TEXTURE CLASSICS | 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.

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

**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 or guaranteed 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.

### A. Initial Maintenance

#### Immediately After Installation

1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all loose dust and dirt.
2. Remove any dried adhesive residue with a clean white cloth dampened with mineral spirits, carefully following warnings on container.
3. Damp mop the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

**NOTE: Do not wet wash, machine scrub, or strip the floor for at least four days after installation. This is to prevent excess moisture from interfering with the adhesive bond and/or seam treatments.**

4. Apply two coats of a high-quality commercial floor polish such as Armstrong S-480 Commercial Floor Polish. 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.

**NOTE: It is important to protect the floor during the installation and construction phase. 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. When moving 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.**

### **Preparation for Commercial Traffic**

Scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner and a scrubbing pad (3M blue/green or equal), or equivalent brushes. If the floor is badly soiled and/or scratched, strip it using the same procedure but substituting a stripping solution such as Armstrong S-490 Commercial Floor Stripper. **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 two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.**

**NOTE: Do not use brown or black pads, or equivalent brushes on any Armstrong resilient floors. Their use could result in permanent damage to the floor.**

1. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water and allow it to dry completely.
2. 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 Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer should be considered in areas of high traffic, soil load and staining potential.

### **B. Daily/Regular Maintenance**

1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum daily to remove dirt, grit and soil that can damage the floor and become ground into the surface. Use walk-off mats that are as wide as the doorway and long enough to trap dirt and moisture before traffic reaches the resilient floor. Remember to clean walk-off mats regularly.
2. Damp mopping of the floor should be performed on a regular or daily basis depending upon traffic and soil levels in the building. Use a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner.

### **C. Periodic Maintenance**

1. When needed, scrub the floor with a properly diluted neutral detergent solution such as Armstrong S-485 Commercial Floor Cleaner using a single disc (300 rpm or less) or automatic floor machine and the appropriate scrubbing pad (red for light scrub, blue/green for a deep scrub) or equivalent brushes.
2. If using a single disc floor machine, remove dirty cleaning solution with a wet vacuum or mop.
3. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water and allow it to dry completely.
4. If there is sufficient (3 to 5 coats) polish remaining on the floor, buff, spray buff or burnish to restore gloss.

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

#### **D. Restorative Maintenance—Stripping**

**NOTE: Stripping is the process of removing existing layers of sealer and finish and should only be performed when routine daily/periodic procedures are no longer effective. The use of high-quality maintenance products such as Armstrong commercial floor care products and adherence to a well-planned maintenance program will greatly reduce the need for 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 two years old because they may affect the adhesive bond.**

1. Scrub the floor with a properly diluted stripping solution such as Armstrong S-490 Commercial Floor Stripper using a single-disc floor machine (300 rpm or less) equipped with a scrubbing pad (3M blue/green or equal) or equivalent scrub brush.
2. Remove dirty stripping solution with a wet vacuum or mop.
3. Thoroughly rinse the entire floor with fresh, clean water and allow it to dry completely.
4. 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 Armstrong S-495 Commercial Floor Sealer should be considered in areas of high traffic, soil load and staining potential.