



## Routine Care for Congoleum™ flooring



### Immediately After Installation

Keep traffic to a minimum during the first 24 hours to allow the adhesive to harden. Then open to light foot traffic only for the next 24 hours. Resume normal traffic after 48 hours.

Protect and do not disturb the sealed seams on your resilient sheet flooring for at least 16 hours after seam sealer application to ensure a proper seam bond.

Furniture should not be placed on the floor for 24 hours so the adhesive (and grout, if applicable), have had adequate time to dry.

Always move heavy furniture and appliances with care to avoid gouging or tearing the floor. First, lay strips of plywood or hardboard panels on the floor. Then roll, "walk" or slide these items on the strips. Do not push or pull appliances and heavy furniture without taking these precautions.

Wash your floor using Congoleum Bright `N Easy No-Rinse Cleaner or other suitable resilient floor cleaner 48 hours after installation.

Immediately after the installation of a Connections floor:

- Keep the room temperature between 65°F and 85°F for at least 48 hours after installation. Maintain the room temperature 55°F and 85°F thereafter.
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- Do not wash or scrub Connections flooring for at least 5 days after installation. This allows the adhesive bond to develop by preventing moisture and cleaning agents from interfering with the bonding process. Spot cleaning is acceptable, but do not apply excess moisture of cleaning solution.

**Caution:** Resilient flooring, like other types of smooth floors, can become slippery when wet. Allow time for the floor to dry after washing. Immediately wipe up wet areas from spills or wet feet. Place mats at outside entrances to prevent water, snow or ice from being tracked onto your floor. Improper polishes or finishes can also cause slipperiness.



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### Preventative Care

Congoleum floors are very durable and hold up well to the busy activity that happens in your home every day. But they are not `bullet-proof` and can be damaged from abuse. To make sure your floor performs well over its lifetime we want you to follow these simple steps.

Make sure furniture legs have large surface, non-staining floor protectors. Replace small, narrow metal or dome-shaped glides with smooth, flat glides that are in flat contact with the floor. Glides should be equipped with self-adhesive felt pads to avoid scratching the surface of the floor. The pads should be checked periodically for grit and wear and replaced when necessary.

Heavy furniture or appliances that are not moved often should be equipped with flat, non-staining composition furniture casters or cups of appropriate size – available square from 1 1/2” to 2 5/8” and round from 1 3/8” to 1 5/8”.

Mobile appliances and furniture should be equipped with easily swiveling casters. They should be at least 2” in diameter with non-staining hard rubber treads at least 3/4” wide. Do not use ball-shaped casters.

Place mats at outside entrances to prevent dirt, grit and soil from being tracked onto your floor. Use 100% latex- backed mats, because some rubber-backed mats or carpets may permanently stain your floor.

To help prevent staining from asphalt tracking, we recommend the use of a latex-based driveway sealer.

Draw drapes and blinds during peak periods of strong sunlight. Resilient floors, like other home furnishing products, may discolor or fade when overexposed to the sun.

Heat-producing appliances such as a refrigerator or range, or hot air registers emitting a direct flow of heat in excess of 120° F, even intermittently, can scorch, burn, discolor or fade your floor. Cigarettes, matches and other very hot objects can also damage your floor.

Avoid wearing stiletto or spiked heels on your floor. These types of heels can indent or damage many types of floors.

**DO NOT USE STEAM CLEANERS ON CONGOLEUM FLOORS, they can permanently damage the floor.**



## Routine Care for Congoleum™ flooring



### Regular Care

Sweep or vacuum regularly to remove dirt and grit that can abrade, dull or scratch your new floor. Do not use a vacuum with a beater brush, because it may damage the floor's surface.

Wipe up spills promptly with a damp cloth or mop.

For a more thorough cleaning, wash your floor with Congoleum Bright `N Easy No-Rinse Cleaner or other suitable, non-detergent based resilient floor cleaner.

Remove excess water after washing the floor.

The gloss level may change over time depending on the amount of traffic, care, and maintenance the floor receives. To restore the appearance, first use Congoleum Bright `N Easy Polish Remover to remove any ground-in dirt and excess polish buildup. Rinse thoroughly. Then apply Congoleum Bright `N Easy Floor Polish (03002) to obtain a high-gloss finish or Congoleum Bright `N Easy Satin-Gloss Floor Polish (03007) to obtain a satin-gloss or natural-gloss finish. Do not apply polish to DuraCeramic, DuraPlank II, AirStep Advantage, AirStep Evolution, AirStep Plus or Ultima.

Caution: Avoid one-step "mop and polish" products, dishwashing liquids and oil-based cleaners. These may leave a residue which can attract dirt and dull your floor's finish. Avoid cleaners that contain abrasives or solvents which may permanently damage your floor.

Wet floors may be slippery and dangerous.



## Routine Care for Congoleum™ flooring



### Stains, Spills and Scuffs

Follow the remedies in order. Unless instructed otherwise, use a clean white cloth or towel with the recommended liquids. Always rinse the affected area with clean water after treatment.

#### Stains and Spills

Acids, Alkalis, Fruit and Fruit Juices, Blood, Grass Catsup, Mustard, Iodine, Mercurochrome, Cleaners, Strong Soaps  
Rust, Dye, Dye Markings, Urine, Excrement, Food, Candy  
Vomit

#### Remedy

- Scrub area with Congoleum Bright `N Easy No-Rinse Cleaner full strength.
- Rub the area with a 10 to 1 dilution of water to liquid bleach.
- Rub the area with isopropyl alcohol\*.
- If rust stain does not respond, use lemon juice or a cream of tartar solution.

#### Paint and Solvent Spills

Dry Cleaning Fluid, Solvents, Lacquer, Oil-Based Paints  
Latex Paints, Wood Stains, Nail Polish, Varnish

#### Remedy

- If substance is dry, gently peel it from the floor. (Avoid sharp instruments that could scratch the floor.)
- Scrub area with Congoleum Bright `N Easy No-Rinse Cleaner.
- Rub lightly with mineral spirits or paint thinner\*.

#### Substances that Won't Wipe Up

Adhesives, Grease, Asphalt, Candle Wax, Chewing Gum  
Tar, Oil

#### Remedy

- Carefully remove excess with a dull kitchen knife.
- Scrub area with Congoleum Bright `N Easy No-Rinse Cleaner.
- Rub lightly with mineral spirits, isopropyl alcohol\* or lighter fluid\*.

#### Scuffs and Smudges

Rubber Heel Marks, Scuffs, Shoe Polish, Smudges

#### Remedy

- Scrub area with Congoleum Bright `N Easy No-Rinse Cleaner.
- Rub the area with isopropyl alcohol\* or lighter fluid\*.

**Caution:** *Isopropyl alcohol, lighter fluid, mineral spirits and paint thinner are flammable solvents. Carefully read and follow cautionary information on label.*

*Keep traffic off treated area for 30 minutes.\**



## Routine Care for Congoleum™ flooring



### Residential Care for VCT

#### Initial Residential Maintenance

After the floor has been installed and the adhesive has dried (48 hours), initial maintenance **MUST BE** performed on your Alternatives floor. If these instructions are not followed, permanent staining may occur.

Sweep or vacuum the floor regularly to remove loose dirt.

If needed, after installation use lighter fluid applied with a clean cloth to remove scuff marks and adhesive residue. Keep traffic off treated area for 30 minutes.

Wash your floor with Congoleum Bright `N Easy No-Rinse Cleaner or other suitable resilient floor cleaner. Be sure it is thoroughly dry before applying polish.

Apply a minimum of two coats of Congoleum Bright `N Easy Floor Polish to seal and protect your floor.

Caution: Lighter fluid is a flammable solvent. Carefully read and follow cautionary information on label.

### Regular Maintenance

Follow the general maintenance tips.

Apply additional coats of polish as needed.

### Periodic Maintenance

Periodically, it will be necessary to remove polish buildup. Use Congoleum Bright `N Easy Polish Remover, following label instructions. Rinse well and allow to dry before re-applying polish.

Each time the polish is stripped, apply a minimum of two coats of Congoleum Bright `N Easy Floor Polish to reseal and protect the floor.