



# Applying Floor Finish to Vinyl (SVT / LVT / LVP) Flooring

None of our vinyl flooring products require a floor finish. However, it is acceptable to apply a floor finish to vinyl flooring products. It is recommended and may be desired if areas that will not be maintained regularly with either a Rotary Floor Machine or Auto-Scrubber to apply a finish to provide an easier area to keep clean.

***While there are ESD Finishes available for the maintenance of ESD Vinyl Tiles, we do not recommend them as they are required to be maintained to achieve consistent ESD properties. If you desire to use an ESD Finish, please contact Technical Services for assistance. If a finish is applied, the electrical readings of our ESD Vinyl Tile are no longer valid and the performance of the ESD Vinyl Tile is now dependent upon finish manufacturer's warranty. If using an ESD Finish, please utilize the appropriate chemistry from the Finish Manufacturer to remove and maintain the finish.***

## RECOMMENDED FINISHES AND FINISH REMOVAL PRODUCTS

**Excelsior FR-920 Finish Remover** is a highly concentrated finish remover specifically designed to remove topically applied flooring finishes from vinyl resilient flooring products

*Alternate products that provide similar results and may be used following our recommended practices and the dilutions ratios provided by the manufacturer for the stated process are:*

- XL North XL Floor Stripper
- Diversey Pro Strip Ultra Heavy-Duty Floor Stripper
- Spartan L.O.E. Stripper

**Excelsior MF-940 Matte Acrylic Floor Finish** is a durable scuff resistance non-reflective matte acrylic floor finish developed for resilient flooring products.

Recommended for use on all standard vinyl flooring installations.

*Alternate products that provide similar results and may be used following our recommended practices and the application recommendations provided by the manufacturer for the stated process are:*

- XL North XL Matte
- Diversey Carefree Matte

**Excelsior GF-950 Gloss Acrylic Floor Finish** is a durable scuff resistance reflective extended-wear gloss acrylic floor finish developed for resilient flooring products.

Recommended for use on all standard vinyl flooring installations.

*Alternate products that provide similar results and may be used following our recommended practices and the application recommendations provided by the manufacturer for the stated process are:*

- XL North XL 25
- Diversey Amplify
- Spartan Chemicals iShine
- Spartan Chemicals On an' On

## APPLICATION OF FLOOR FINISH

Prior to applying any finish, complete the process below to ensure the flooring is ready to receive the finish.

1. Use dust mop to remove any dirt, dust, or debris.
2. Add 16 ounces of Excelsior FR-920 Finish Remover to one U.S. gallon of clean, potable water.
3. Use a clean mop or pump-up sprayer to apply cleaning solution to the area and let stand for 5-10 minutes.
4. If flooring is heavily soiled, re-apply the solution and allow cleaner to remain on surface for an additional 5-10 minutes before scrubbing and removing.



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5. **Using either a low-speed rotary floor machine (175 – 350 RPM) or auto-scrubber**, wet scrub the floor using a Mal-Grit Scrub Brush from Malish or equivalent 22 gauge soft-bristled scrubbing brush. A 3M 5300 Blue Cleaner Pad or equivalent may be used but the brushes will work better for textured surfaces.
6. Use an auto-scrubber, wet vacuum, or clean mop to remove all excess cleaning solution.
7. Rinse area with clean, cool water and allow floor to dry completely.
8. Ensure the flooring area is clean and that all cleaning residue has been removed (this may require additional rinsing).

Once the flooring is clean and properly rinsed, the finish can be applied with the appropriate application methods. Either a microfiber flat mop or clean string mop.

For standard vinyl flooring, the Excelsior MF-940 and/or Excelsior GF-950 may be utilized per the application instructions. 3-4 coats of either finish should be applied while allowing each coat to dry completely before the next coat is applied.

After application of a finish, we would recommend the use of the Excelsior CM-910 Cleaner/Maintainer in place of the NC-900 Neutral Cleaner for general cleaning and maintenance.

### REMOVAL OF FLOOR FINISH

If a floor finish is applied, it will need to be regularly removed and reapplied, depending on traffic. The extent of removal will depend on the condition of the finish and if daily maintenance has been performed to protect the finish.

1. Use dust mop to remove any dirt, dust, or debris.
2. Add appropriate amount of Excelsior FR-920 Performance Remover to one U.S. gallon of clean, potable water.
  - For removal of a light coat of finish or preparation for a recoat, mix 16 ounces of Excelsior FR-920
  - For removal of single application of finish (3-5 coats), mix 32 ounces of Excelsior FR-920
  - For removal of multiple applications of finish, mix 64 ounces of Excelsior FR-920
  - If number of coats or amounts of finish applied is unknown, start with the 32 ounce mixture
3. Use a clean mop or pump-up sprayer to apply cleaning solution to the area and let stand for 5-10 minutes.
4. **Using either a low-speed rotary floor machine (175 – 350 RPM) or auto-scrubber**, wet scrub the floor using a Mal-Grit Scrub Brush from Malish or equivalent 22 gauge soft-bristled scrubbing brush. A 3M 5300 Blue Cleaner Pad or equivalent may be used but the brushes will work better for textured surfaces.
5. Use an auto-scrubber, wet vacuum, or clean mop to remove all excess cleaning solution.
6. Rinse area with clean, cool water and allow floor to dry completely.

Finish Removal is not an exact science and may take more than one attempt. For further information please contact us at [solutions@rhctechnical.com](mailto:solutions@rhctechnical.com).

If desired, a finish can be reapplied after previous finish was removed. The flooring can also be maintained at this point without the reapplication of a finish. If not reapplying a finish, we would recommend at this time to utilize the buffing or burnishing process that follows to maintain the flooring.

1. After the area has cooled for a minimum of three (3) hours, dry buff area with a low-speed rotary floor machine (175 – 350 RPM) using a White Tampico Brush from Malish or equivalent polishing brush attachment. A 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad or equivalent may be used. Ensure to utilize multiple passes in opposite directions.
2. **Alternative Burnishing**, after the area has cooled for a minimum of three (3) hours; and if a higher sheen is desired, use a high-speed rotary floor machine (1500 RPM) to burnish the area using a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad, 3M 3300 Natural Blend White, or 3M 3500 Natural Blend Tan Pad or equivalent. Other burnishing pads can be used if they are for burnishing. Keep in mind the machine needs to stay moving and a higher shine can show subfloor irregularities.

**The use of the incorrect maintenance/disinfection chemistry or the incorrect use of the correct chemistry for the maintenance/disinfection of Resilient Flooring can and will cause damage to the product that is not covered by the**



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**product warranty. If you have a question about the fitness of use of other products, please contact customer service or technical services.**

*As with any maintenance program, be sure to use proper PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) according to the cleaning product SDS and ensure all maintenance procedures are conducted per the cleaning products instructions. The use of Caution Tape and/or Wet Floor Signs is recommended to prevent slips and falls.*

RHC Technical Bulletin Number	007
Original Release Date	January 4, 2024
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