

Background

The AVA product line is comprised of a wide variety of luxury vinyl flooring products that have a number of applications. However, since AVA is widely used in commercial installations, most of the supporting documents are intended for commercial audiences.

With that being said, it is not uncommon for these products to also be specified and installed in residential settings. This technical bulletin contains easy to follow maintenance instructions for homeowners and consumers alike, including the materials and methods that are applicable to residential use.

Recommended Maintenance Materials

Recommended Cleaning Chemicals

pH Neutral Cleaner Concentrate (such as ZEP Neutral Cleaner)

Recommended Cleaning Equipment

Clean, Unused Spray Bottle or a Clean Bucket

Microfiber Flat Mop or Spray Mop

Clean, Dry Flat Microfiber Mop Pads/Heads

Maintenance Support

Additional maintenance resources are available online at AVAflor.com. For additional support, send an e-mail to support@AVAflor.com

1 Cleaner Selection



Before starting the cleaning process, make sure you have the right cleaner readily available. We recommend a pH neutral, film-free and streak-free cleaner concentrate, such as ZEP Neutral Cleaner (available at Home Depot and Lowe's). Avoid pre-diluted cleaners, as they may not be diluted at a ratio that is suitable for the task at hand or may have had some evaporation, which can change the dilution. Cleaner concentrates allow you to control the cleaning level, which can help tackle tougher dirt or prevent a film from developing when only light cleaning is needed.

2 Sweep And/Or Vacuum



Prior to mopping, it's a good practice to remove dust, dirt and debris from the floor to prevent it from mixing with cleaning liquids and becoming more difficult to remove. The best way to do this is by sweeping and/or vacuuming with appropriate equipment. When sweeping, make sure the broom is clean and dry to avoid spreading dirt. When vacuuming, avoid using a standard upright vacuum with a beater bar - beater bars can wear or dull the finish of flooring materials. Always use standing vacuum attachments with a brush.

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Mix/Dilute Cleaner



Once the area is swept and/or vacuumed, you are ready to create the cleaning solution. Select a dilution level that fits the level of cleaning required - new floors may require a heavier dilution to remove construction dirt and dust, while routine or daily cleaning will require a lighter dilution. Using a clean, unused spray bottle, a thoroughly cleaned bucket or a spray mop canister, mix the neutral cleaner with clean, cool potable water in the desired container. Avoid using hot water, as this may encourage organic growth, such as mold and mildew.

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Apply Solution to Floor



Apply the cleaning solution using one of the pre-mixed containers mentioned in step 3: spray the area with your pre-mixed solution, dip a flat microfiber mop in bucket of cleaning solution and spread or apply cleaning solution using a spray mop. Regardless of method, be sure to apply the cleaner in a thin, even coat over the entire floor - avoid excessive puddling and pooling. Allow the solution to sit on the surface for 5-10 minutes - this will enable it to break down stubborn dirt and build-up.

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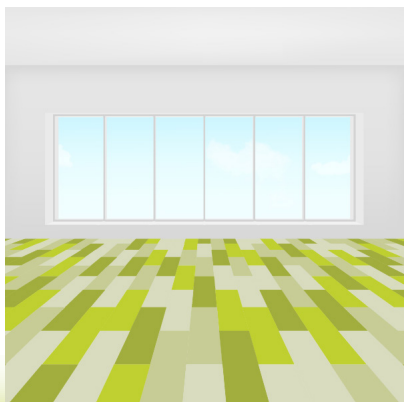
Scrub, Remove & Rinse



After the solution has had a chance to sit, check the area for any obvious dirt build-up or surface stains. Use a stiff bristle brush to agitate these areas to loosen and release the build-up. Once complete, use a dry microfiber mop pad to absorb all of the remaining cleaning liquid. If a heavier cleaning dilution was used, the floor should be rinsed with clean, cool water once all of the cleaning liquid is removed. This will remove any remaining dirt and cleaning solution, as well as prevent a film from developing, which could attract dirt or dull the appearance of the floor.

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Let Dry & Enjoy



Once cleaned and/or rinsed, allow the floor to dry before walking on it. If the floor doesn't look completely clean or if there appears to be some residue on it, just rinse again with cool clean water. Feel free to repeat this process as often as is necessary. Remember, the more often you sweep and lightly clean the floor, the less often heavy cleaning will be required.