



Cleaning guide for senior living facilities

Introduction

Most senior living facilities require commercial cleaning similar to a hospital environment; however these are smaller, residential spaces which make it difficult to manoeuvre large, commercial cleaning machines.

Although foot traffic is lighter, spills are constant and emergency clean-up must take priority over the day to day maintenance of the facility. Long term durability is extremely important in this market. To ensure that our flooring and walling provides a durable, long-lasting and attractive appearance long term proper maintenance methods must be employed.

Altro flooring can be cleaned manually or with scrubbing machines. Whichever method is preferred, consistent utilization of these protocols will result in long-lasting and durable floors.

Protection

Protect newly installed flooring from foot and rolling traffic for 24 hours and from furniture and fixtures for 48 hours. Protect floor from other trades as well as potential discoloration from certain chemicals such as oils, asphalt or bitumen (i.e new

parking lots). If heavy rolling equipment is to be moved over a new floor in the first week, it is advisable to lay hardboard on the flooring to protect the floor and adhesive bond.

Floor protection (coasters) should be used under legs of heavy furniture/equipment to better distribute weight and to prevent indentation. Cleaning can take place after the adhesive has cured (approximately 72 hours following installation).

Cleaning - key points to consider

- **Dirt control** - 80% of the dirt in a building is carried in on shoes. A suitable dirt excluder outside all entrances and a nonstaining walk-off mat inside just prior to the flooring will protect the flooring. Mats should be regularly cleaned to maintain their effectiveness. Dust control mops are also useful.
- **Develop a regular cleaning program suited to the usage and traffic of the area** - Heavily trafficked or highly visible areas need to be cleaned more often than areas which are seldom used, or where appearance is less important. The frequency of routine maintenance is dependent on the amount of traffic and soiling taking place and the standards set by the owner.

- **New Microfiber mop technology:** Closed, loop, microfiber mop heads can be used to clean both safety and smooth flooring. Detergent can be applied to the floor to pick up spills, but they do not loosen soil from the floor, use friction from brushes or scrubbing machines for soil removal.
- **Use recommended cleaning chemicals** - Use only recommended cleaning liquids or their equivalent in the correct dilution. Do not mix two different cleaning liquids together, and always follow the manufacturer's instructions. Always check the suitability of cleaners for use on vinyl floors. Do not use cleaner containing pine oil or phenolic sanitizer
- **Remove scratches and scuff marks regularly** - To remove any scratches or rubber heel marks by abrasion use the correct machine pad, or scrub by hand. For areas requiring renovation due to neglect or heavy soiling consult Altro Technical Services.

Inspection repair and maintenance program:

A regular repair and maintenance program should be adopted to identify areas of damage during the life of the floor. Areas to check regularly include:

- Welds
- Transitions
- Areas showing damage
- Drains
- Seals and abutments

Areas near heat sources Damage to Altro high performance vinyl flooring should be repaired as quickly as possible. Cuts in the flooring must be heat welded immediately in order to create a seal against moisture intrusion.

There are specific recommendations as to how best to accomplish certain repairs. Please contact your Altro distributor to discuss these.

In typically wet areas such as production kitchens and shower stalls, the Altrofix 30/31 polyurethane adhesive will slow down water migration but will not prevent it.

Maintenance guide for safety floors

Initial maintenance

1. Do not begin any maintenance procedure for at least 72 hours after installation.
2. Sweep and/or vacuum floor surface to remove all loose dust and debris.
3. Apply diluted* AltroClean 44™ to the floor. Allow to sit for a few minutes to allow the cleaner to attack the surface soil. DO NOT flood the floor unless the flooring system was designed for holding water and was installed per Altro's Detailing guide for wet environments. Always allow the adhesive to dry and cure before flooding any floor.
4. Scrub floor with an automatic scrubber (3 in 1 machine) or a standard low speed swing machine (150rpm to 350rpm) fitted with an Altro Unipad™
5. If using a standard low-speed swing machine, remove wash water with a wet vac.
6. Ensure the floor is thoroughly rinsed with fresh, clean water. No cleaning residue should remain on the floor.
7. Allow surface to dry before use.

Routine machine maintenance

1. Follow initial maintenance procedure outlined above.

Routine manual maintenance

1. Do not begin any maintenance procedure for at least 72 hours after installation.
2. Sweep and/or vacuum floor surface to remove all loose dust and debris.
3. Apply diluted* AltroClean 44™ to the floor. Allow to sit for a few minutes to allow the cleaner to attack the surface soil. DO NOT flood the floor unless the flooring system was designed for holding water and was installed per Altro's Detailing guide for wet environments. Always allow the adhesive to dry and cure before flooding any floor.

4. Scrub floor with a rectangular Altro Unipad or a deck brush attached to a mop handle.
5. Remove wash water with a wet vac, rough floor mop using a double bucket or squeegee toward a drain.
6. Ensure the floor is thoroughly rinsed with fresh, clean water. No cleaning residue should remain on the floor.
7. Allow surface to dry before use.

Dilution rates depend on the condition of the floor.

- For moderate soiling use a 1:40 dilution ratio.
- For heavy soiling use 1:10.

Maintenance guide for smooth floors

Initial maintenance

1. Do not begin any maintenance procedure for at least 72 hours after installation.
2. Sweep or vacuum floor surface to remove all loose dust and debris.
3. Using a 1:10 dilution of AltroClean 44™ with warm, clean water scrub floor thoroughly. DO NOT FLOOD THE FLOOR.
4. Scrub floor with an automatic scrubber (3 in 1 machine) or a standard low speed swing machine (150rpm to 350rpm) fitted with an Altro Unipad™.
5. If using a standard low-speed swing machine, remove wash water with a wet vac.
6. Ensure the floor is thoroughly rinsed with fresh, clean water. No cleaning residue should remain on the floor.
7. Allow surface to dry before use.

Maintenance without finish option

Using an auto scrubber

1. Follow initial maintenance procedure outlined above.
2. Sweep and/or vacuum floor surface to remove all loose dust and debris.
3. Apply diluted* AltroClean 44™ to the floor. Allow to sit for a few minutes to allow the cleaner to attack the surface soil. DO NOT FLOOD THE FLOOR.

4. Scrub floor with an automatic scrubber (3 in 1 machine) or a standard low speed swing machine (150rpm to 350rpm) fitted with a white, fine nylon pad.
5. If using a standard low-speed swing machine, remove wash water with a wet vac.
6. Ensure the floor is thoroughly rinsed with fresh, clean water. No cleaning residue should remain on the floor.
7. If a “higher gloss” look is desired, wait for the floor to dry thoroughly then apply a fine spray of diluted AltroClean 48W (1:40).
8. Using a low speed swing machine (150rpm - 350 rpm) fitted with a white, fine nylon pad buff to a shine.
9. If it is not possible to use an automatic scrubber or swing machine, scrub the floor with a rectangular Altro Unipad or a deck brush and then mop with a closed loop microfiber mop.

Maintenance with finish option

1. Follow initial maintenance procedure outlined above.
2. Once floor is dry, apply two coats of Johnson Over & Under®. This will seal the floor and only needs to occur once.
3. Allow floor to dry.
4. Apply two coats of Johnson Carefree Matte™ floor finish for the desired low gloss look. (2,000 square feet per gallon).
5. Allow the finish to become dry to the touch, (45 - 60 minutes) before applying the second coat. Apply no more than two coats within a 24 hour period.
6. For routine maintenance, sweep/vacuum floor to remove all loose dust and debris then damp mop or machine scrub using Johnson Stride™ according to label instructions.
7. Use an auto scrubber fitted with an Altro Unipad or any standard low speed swing machine.
8. Be sure to remove all wash water and cleaning residue from floor.
9. Allow surface to dry before use.

Contact information for suppliers of Altro cleaning products

Cleaning product	Contact		
AltroClean 44™	Altro USA	altro.com	1.800.377.5597
	FloorGuy	1877FloorGuy.com	1.877.356.6748
Profi Floor Cleaner/Oil and Grease Remover	Diversey	diversey.com	USA 1.888.352.2249 CAN 1.800.668.3131
	FloorGuy	1877FloorGuy.com	1.877.356.6748
Break-Up	Diversey	diversey.com	USA 1.888.352.2249 CAN 1.800.668.3131
Super Grease Buster	Hillyard	hillyard.com	1.800.365.1555

Many other companies recommend their own products for cleaning Altro flooring and many of these alternative products may be suitable for use. Be advised that Altro has not had the opportunity to test all the many products available and must state that any damage that may occur from an alternative product/chemical, or improper use, is the responsibility of the chemical manufacturer, its supplier, and the maintenance provider (all statements of suitability of alternative products must come from the product/chemical manufacturer).

Contact information for suppliers of pads, machines and equipment

Cleaning product	Contact		
Altro UniPad™	Altro USA	altro.com	1.800.377.5597
	FloorGuy	1877FloorGuy.com	1.877.356.6748
3M Floor Machine Pads	FloorGuy	1877FloorGuy.com	1.877.356.6748
Flo-Pac Swivel Scrub and Deck Brush	Carlisle	carlislefsp.com	1.888.654.8210
Taski Machines and Auto Scrubbers	Taski by Diversey	taskibydiversey.com	1.888.352.2249
Nilfisk	Advance Co.	advance-us.com	1.800.989.2235

*Altro UniPads are highly recommended for cleaning Altro flooring and are available as both a manual method, 14" x 4" flat cleaning pad as well as a 17" round scrubbing pad for machine use.



Tennant® T1 Micro scrubber



Tennant® T3 Autoscrubber



Altro UniPad™



Deck Brush



Microfiber Mop

Full installation details available on altro.com