



Cleaning and maintenance guide for Altro Dolce and Altro Dolce Essentials

Altro Dolce and Altro Dolce Essentials

Develop a regular cleaning program suited to the usage and traffic of the area - Heavily trafficked, high visibility areas, or in areas where staining agents are to be used (salons, labs) your flooring will need to be cleaned more often. It will also perform better, in these areas, using the preferred maintenance with finish program and opting to add additional protective finish coats as needed. Additionally, it is also important to remove rubber sole scuffs regularly, whether by hand or with mechanical scrubber.

Use recommended cleaning chemicals - Use only preferred cleaning products. Always follow manufacturer's instructions including the correct dilution ratio. Always spot check the suitability of cleaners on floors prior to initial maintenance. Do not mix two different cleaning liquids together. Do not use cleaner containing pine oil or phenolic sanitizer.

Remove scuff marks regularly - Scratching, scuffing, and gouging is a natural occurrence on all floors. It can be reduced with proper and adequate furniture rests and chair feet, proper maintenance, maintaining with finish, adequate dirt control and correct color selection.

Protect newly installed floors - All newly laid floor surfaces should be covered and protected from other trades during construction with a suitable non-staining, non-taped, protective covering.

Dirt control - A suitable dirt excluder outside all entrances and an entry mat will help protect flooring. Mats should be regularly cleaned to maintain their effectiveness.

Color selection - The importance of color selection cannot be overstated. Careful consideration must be given before choosing a color.

- Light colors will show more dirt and sole scuffs.
- Dark colors will show more scratching and abrasion.
- Medium tones are best in high traffic areas.
- Maintain light and dark colors using the preferred maintenance with finish protocols.

Some materials are known to cause staining on vinyl floors. Typical examples include:

- Asphalt and bitumen materials

- Cardboard / hardboard (wet)
- Some fire-retardant treatments used on carpets
- Dyes from printed literature or packaging
- Rubber-backed carpets and rubber mats
- Rubber furniture rests and wheels
- Shoe soles not made from non-staining materials
- Heat degradation
- Some chemicals used in cleaners (e.g. pine oil) and disinfectants

Initial maintenance

Note: Do not begin any maintenance procedure until all adhesives have set, generally 72 hours after the completion of the installation.

1. Thoroughly sweep or vacuum the flooring to remove loose dust and debris.
2. Prepare cleaning solution with fresh, warm water and AltroClean 44. A dilution rate of 1:40 (or up to 1:10 for heavy soiling) may be used.
AVOID FLOODING THE FLOOR.
3. Scrub the floor with a standard low-speed swing machine (150rpm – 350 rpm) fitted with an Altro Unipad or manually with a brush fitted with a square Altro Unipad. Alternatively an Auto Scrubber (3 in 1 machine) fitted with an Altro UniPad can be used.
4. Thoroughly rinse the floor with fresh, clean water and remove wash water with a wet vac. No cleaning residue should remain. Allow surface to dry thoroughly before use.
5. Apply 2 coats of sealer to the floor. This will seal the tile joints and only needs to occur once.

Altro recommends applying a finish. If you are not applying finish, initial maintenance ends here.

6. Apply finish to floor depending on product recommendations:
Altro Dolce, Altro Dolce Essentials 2 coats
7. Allow finish to become dry to the touch (45-60 minutes) in-between coats. Apply no more than 2 coats within 24 hours.
8. For additional protection or higher gloss level, apply additional coats as necessary.

Preferred routine maintenance with finish

1. Using AltroClean 44 dilution of 1:40 (or up to 1:10 for heavy soiling), manually or machine scrub the floor. Allow a few minutes for cleaner to attack surface soils before scrubbing. For an auto scrubber, ensure you are following directions outlined by the machine's manufacturer.
2. Thoroughly rinse the floor with fresh, clean water and remove wash water with a wet vac or dry mop. No cleaning residue should remain.
3. Allow surface to dry thoroughly.
4. Apply floor finish on a schedule that is determined by frequency of traffic and visual expectations, this can be as much as weekly or may be out as far as semi annually or even annually in some instances, again this is determined by the clients visual expectations.
5. For additional protection in areas where staining agents are used (salons, labs), additional coats of finish are recommended.
6. Allow finish to become dry to the touch (45-60 minutes) in-between coats. Apply no more than 2 coats within 24 hours. Floor should be thoroughly dry before exposure to traffic.

Recommended maintenance products

Recommended cleaners

AltroClean 44	altrostore.com
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Alternative products can be used that are intended for Altro Dolce Tile flooring. Consult the manufacturer of the product to determine suitability.

Recommended sealer

Diversey Over and Under	Floor Guy
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Recommended cleaner/maintainer

AltroClean 48W	altrostore.com
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Recommended finishes

Clarion 25	Buckeye International
Diversey Carefree Matte	Floor Guy
Diversey Complete	Floor Guy

of coats of finish based on floor selection

Altro Dolce	2
Altro Dolce Essentials	2

Additional coats of finish will be required for floors that will be maintained with high speed and ultra high speed cleaning/buffing equipment.

Equipment

Altro Unipad**	altrostore.com
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**Altro Unipads are highly preferred for cleaning Altro flooring and are available for both manual and machine cleaning.
Manual - 4" x 14" flat, Machine - 17" round

Visit us on altrostore.com to purchase cleaners and maintenance products.

For areas requiring advanced cleaning due to neglect or heavy soiling consult the Altro technical services department or 1877FloorGuy.com