

CONICA – General cleaning recommendations coatings

General cleaning recommendations coatings for CONICA industrial and decorative flooring coatings

Introduction

Like all other floor coverings, CONICA floor coatings and top coats are subject to the requirements of careful [cleaning and care to preserve the appearance](#) but also to [maintain the functionality](#).

However, [floor coverings](#) are usually the [most heavily loaded component](#), be it by foot traffic, chair rolls in the office, forklifts and pallet truck traffic, or even chemical and thermal loads.

Ultimately, the flooring must meet not only [requirements for hygiene, safety, and cleanliness](#), also industrially used surfaces are increasingly representative tasks, this includes the [long-term preservation](#) of the appearance but also such for [conductive floor coatings for the preservation of the function](#).

For these reasons, not only cleaning and care are crucial here, but also the prevention protection before commissioning can contribute to this. For this purpose, corresponding products and recommendations from various cleaning and care product manufacturers are available.

A. Prevention and avoid dirt

Planning [adequately sized clean-up zones with carpet/protection mats](#) to [prevent and reduce the amount of dirt entering](#) the building can already prevent damage to the floor covering. Even a length of 5 - 6 meters of the clean-off zone can reduce the dirt ingress by up to 70 - 80%. If necessary, e.g., in the wintertime an additional protection zone is produced with removable carpet mats.

Not only the cleaning alone, but also [further protective measures by means of soft protective caps or felt pads on chair and table legs and the use of the correct chair castors \(recommended type W according to DIN EN 12529\)](#) can help prevent and reduce damage and scratches on the floor surface.

The contact surfaces of chair and furniture glides should be rounded and flat at the edges. Sharp-edged furniture glides and worn and soiled chair castors increase wear and tear or can damage the surface of the covering and also require regular maintenance and cleaning.

Rubber, caoutchouc or PVC glides and chair castors as well as other coloured mats can lead to discoloration of the surfaces due to the migration of plasticizers. We therefore recommend using light-coloured furniture glides, e.g., made of felt.

In the case of early use [during the construction phase and before the actual transfer of use](#), the new floor covering must be [protected from dirt, wear and tear and damage with suitable cover plates and / or protective films](#).

B. Cleaning and effort

The cleaning effort and required cleaning frequency depend on various factors.

1) Load and usage:

[Floors are subject to different loads and uses](#) and are sometimes less frequented such in private residential rooms or very strong and frequented such in public areas e.g., as shops, foyers, hospitals or schools and kindergartens. In addition, industrial floors are subject to different loads. Production areas with a high amount of dirt or forklift traffic or clean rooms and laboratories with corresponding dirt locks. [The requirements essentially differ over hygiene and cleanliness requirements](#) of the user and can vary widely.

2) Surface texture and structure:

The [effort in cleaning](#) depends further on the [surface structure or texture](#). Homogeneous and smooth surfaces can generally be cleaned with less effort than finely rough and structured and with silica sand scattered and sealed coating surfaces.

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Here are the [occupational safety relevant requirements for non-slip surfaces](#) contrary to the requirements of a simple and economical cleaning of the floor covering. Here a project-specific coordination is required already in the planning phase to find a sufficient [compromise between occupational safety and hygiene](#) and to weigh the advantages and disadvantages.

[Occupational safety must be guaranteed](#) purely for legal reasons, but the scope of economic cleaning must be individually adapted. [For this we recommend consulting, a specialist company for planning as early as possible.](#)

3) Appearance:

The choice of [colours and decor](#) of the floor coverings also has an [influence](#) on the [cleaning and care costs](#). [Very light and very dark floor coverings may require more cleaning and care](#), especially on "plain" floor surfaces.

The degree of gloss also has a significant influence on the care, since matte surfaces have microscopically fine rough surfaces and thus has a larger surface and here the registered dirt has a larger adhesive surface.

High-gloss surfaces highlight dirt particles visually, creating the impression that the floor is "dirt-prone".

Note: [Not the floor covering produces the dirt!](#)

C. Cleaning and care types:

Worldwide, there is a very large variety of providers of various cleaning and care products and very different requirements in trade, industry, and healthcare facilities. Therefore, it is not possible for us to create a generally binding and universal cleaning and care instructions because the requirements are too wide-ranging. However, [with the following recommendation we would like to set up the generally used cleaning steps for the cleaning and care of CONICA floor coatings:](#)

a. Construction site basic cleaning

[After the completion of the installation](#) works, the flooring [must be protected](#) by cover and protective films before the handover.

Nevertheless, it is necessary after the removal of the protective and covering measures to clean the floor covering by a [construction site basic cleaning](#) from dust, dirt, and any existing adhesive residue of the tapes.

The [basic cleaning](#) is done depending on the pollution and is the "big cleaning". The removal of site dirt should be done with plenty of water and [under no circumstances with abrasive pads and never with hard brushes](#) by using an alkaline cleaner. Specialized companies with the appropriate equipment recommend the appropriate cleaning agents. Any existing stains must be treated with a suitable cleaning agent specially adapted to the type of stains (never solvents or undiluted cleaners).

After thorough cleaning, the coating must be [neutralized with clear water](#). After the floor covering has dried off, we recommend treating and protect the floor covering with a "first care" (protective coating) suitable for the respective application area.

Note: [Undiluted and over-concentrated detergents or non-neutralized cleaners can cause changes in gloss in individual cases, and in the worst-case discolorations on the floor coatings.](#)

We recommend making preliminary tests on sample plates or on inconspicuous places or adjoining rooms. Sample plates can be requested from your processing coating company or from CONICA AG.

b. Maintenance cleaning

A [maintenance cleaning and care](#) is carried out [daily to weekly](#) depending on the dirt entry and must be [adjusted to the respective requirements](#) in the object and [depending on the use](#).

[Hard, abrasive contaminants such as sand, loose grit, de-icing salt or even metal shavings in production must be specially considered and removed as quickly as possible](#) in order to prevent excessive and rapid wear of the surfaces. Loose, non-adherent soils, e.g., Dust and similar can be removed by wet cleaning (e.g., mop, floor wiper) or even dry disposable dust cloths. Adhesive contaminants e.g., by shoe abrasion or slight tire abrasion and spilled drinks and food leftovers can occasionally by wet wiping and if necessary, by special cleaning agents removed.

For larger surfaces or heavily frequented areas, the maintenance and intermediate cleaning can be carried out by regular "scrubber drier machine" to gently remove sticky dirt.

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Smaller surfaces are cleaned with the single-disc machine and subsequent suction of the dirty liquor or carry out both with a small scrubber drier in a single operation. It is essential to ensure that the correct cleaning pads or cleaning rollers are used. [The use of abrasive pads \(e.g., black, dark green\) should be avoided](#), or pre-tribalized at an inconspicuous location.

Note: [The colour code of cleaning pads and rollers is not standard](#). Therefore, cleaning tests must first be carried out in an inconspicuous place! (Red pads are usually recommended but may be very abrasive in other countries!). Please ask your supplier of cleaning agents and equipment for the right recommendation.

c. Basic cleaning

A [basic cleaning](#) will be carried out either according to a [fixed cleaning plan](#) or [according to depending](#) on the degree of soiling (for example once or twice a year) and is the "big cleaning". This also includes the [complete removal of the contaminated surface care / protective coating](#), as it usually picks up dried-up dirt and fine scratches in the surface of the care during the service life. This is usually done with an alkaline basic cleaner and mechanically with rubbing (no abrasive) pads or rollers. If necessary, a second cleaning step is required. Here, the basic cleaner must be given the time to replace the first care film. The specialized companies with the appropriate equipment recommend the corresponding pads. Adhesive stains can usually be removed with special cleaning agents that are adapted to the type of soiling. [After basic cleaning](#), the coating must be [neutralized with clear water](#). After it has dried, the floor coating is treated with a [new care coat \(protective coating\)](#). These results in a new additional protective film, fine scratches are filled and visible disappears.

Note: Undiluted and over-concentrated detergents or non-neutralized cleaners can cause changes in gloss in individual cases, and in the worst-case discolorations on the floor coatings. We recommend making preliminary tests on sample plates or on inconspicuous places or adjoining rooms. Sample plates can be requested from your processing coating company or from CONICA AG.

d. Care film (protective layer/polymeric wax)

The above-mentioned care products [provide the floor coatings with additional protection that is reversible and can be renewed](#). These care products additionally protect the floor from scratches and other damage and facilitate maintenance and intermediate cleaning. This preserves the attractive appearance and provides effective protection depending on usage.

There are various products available in different gloss grades from semi-gloss to semi mat. Partly high-gloss variants are available.

Note: [For dissipative and ESD floor systems, co-ordinated conductive care and cleaning agents must be used to preserve the functionality and conductive properties](#) (e.g., ESD areas) of the floor finish. If non-conductive care products are used or the conductive care products are applied too often or too thickly, the conductivity of the floor coating will be negatively affected.

Suppliers and advice for cleaning and care products

Germany:

Diversey Deutschland
GmbH & Co. OHG
Mallaustraße 50-56
68219 Mannheim
Germany
Telephone: 00 49 (0) 62 18757 - 0
Telefax: 0049 (0) 62 18757-8266
www.diverseysolutions.com/de
<http://diverseysolutions.com/>

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Maybachstraße 35
51381 Leverkusen
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Germany:

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Telephone: 0049 (0)8134 9305-0
Telefax: 0049 (0)8134 6466
www.kiehl-group.com
<https://www.kiehl-group.com/index.php?lang=EN>

Note

It is advisable to develop a cleaning concept adapted to the load and use with cleaning agent manufacturers (for example with the companies in the list above). In case of doubt, preliminary tests should be carried out on an inconspicuous place or in secondary areas.

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