

Traverse Quartz Vinyl Tile- R1 05/23

CARE & MAINTENANCE INFORMATION

This document is intended to cover Care & Maintenance for all Traverse Quartz Vinyl Tile products. If there are any questions or concerns, please reach out to info@traverseflooring.com

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Prior to acceptance of this document refer to website to confirm that you have the most current revision. For additional product resources, technical documents are available online.

1. RECOMMENDED CLEANERS, FINISHES, & FINISH REMOVERS

Excelsior NC-900 Neutral Cleaner is a pH neutral, all-purpose cleaner for the initial and daily cleaning of Resilient flooring products.

Excelsior FR-920 Vinyl Flooring Finish Remover is a highly concentrated finish remover designed to remove topically applied flooring finishes from Resilient Vinyl flooring products.

Excelsior MF-940 Matte Acrylic Floor Finish is a durable, scuff resistance acrylic floor finish, developed for Resilient flooring products.

Excelsior GF-950 Gloss Acrylic Floor Finish is a flexible, extended-wear acrylic floor finish, developed for Resilient flooring products.

Betco Floor Sealer - This floor sealer is designed as a basecoat to protect floors for years.

Betco Untouchable - Untouchable with Scuff Resistant Technology SRT is a low odor, black heel mark resistant floor finish that is an exceptional choice for those who want the highest gloss and wear with the least amount of labor.

Betco Invincible - Cleaning solution incorporating some polymer in the detergent solution for use as a daily cleaner & maintainer

Betco Recover Floor Stripper Elevate Recover provides unmatched protection against discoloration and removes multiple coats of metal interlock acrylic floor finish.

Diversey WiWax - Wiwax is a unique blend of waxes, polymers and detergents for use as a cleaner & maintainer

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Since there are many maintenance products available today for the commercial environment, we cannot test each available product for fitness of use. We have thoroughly tested these products and recommend their use. If you have a question regarding the fitness of use of other products, please contact customer service or technical services using the information below.

2. MAINTENANCE OVERVIEW

Consider color selection depending on area of use. Very light and very dark colors may show more dirt in a heavy traffic location.

Use entrance systems at entrances to reduce the amount of dirt entering the interior.

Floors require more or less maintenance depending on the level and type of traffic and location of the floor area within the building.

Reduce the potential for staining by eliminating the use of bitumen backed and ensuring any rubber backed mats are non-staining. Carefully review any proposed cleaning products & disinfectants to check for compatibility with vinyl flooring.

Traverse Quartz **U.S. Collection Tiles** do require an initial 2 coat Floor Sealer application. This seal coating greatly improves the durability of the product. Daily and routine maintenance must be performed to maintain the appearance of the product.

Traverse Quartz **European Collection Tiles** do not require an initial coat of Floor Sealer because the product is sealed during manufacture with a PUR factory applied coating. The factory applied coating greatly improves the durability of the product, but daily and routine maintenance must be performed to maintain the appearance of the product. We do consider this a Lower Maintenance product and in this case is meant to be understood as initially "No Finish Required" which leads to removal and reapplication of the finish. Over time, depending on the level of foot traffic, a finish may be necessary to provide the desired level of shine. These products will accept a finish, but once the finish is applied it will need to be maintained to ensure that finish performs as intended.

Always use untreated, new or thoroughly cleaned mops and pads when conducting daily or routine maintenance. As with any maintenance program, be sure to use proper PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) per 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.

*There is a list of things that we would recommend that you not do to these flooring products as we have seen damage from these items: **DO NOT** use vacuums that have a beater bar or electric brooms with hard plastic bottoms or no padding, as this may cause discoloration, scratching and loss of sheen. **DO NOT** use highly alkaline or acidic cleaners. **DO NOT** use detergents, abrasive cleaners or "mop and shine" type products (such as Bleach, Pine-Sol, Clorox Soft Scrub, Fabuloso, Rejuvenate, Mop & Glo, Mr. Clean, Murphy's Oil Soap and similar, unapproved cleaners), as they will dull the finish and sheen of the flooring material. **DO NOT** use Mineral Spirits, Kerosene, Gasoline, Naphtha and/or other solvents to clean Luxury Vinyl Tile. **DO NOT** use sweeping compounds or cleaning agents containing oils or solvents. **DO NOT** allow excess amounts of water to sit on floor for extended periods of time. **DO** wring out mops properly and adopt a damp mop maintenance program, instead of wet mopping.*

3. PRODUCT SPECIFIC CARE & MAINTENANCE

3.1 U.S. COLLECTION (Gauge - 2.5mm)

Initial maintenance is required on the U.S. Collection Quartz Tile to ensure anything left from the installation process is removed and the product is ready to begin its life cycle. Ensure that adhesive has cured for recommended period of time prior to conducting initial maintenance.

Depending on traffic, routine maintenance will need to be performed regularly within the first year of the installation. Within this time period, ensure daily maintenance is performed to maintain the appearance of the flooring material.

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3.1.1 INITIAL MAINTENANCE

Remove any protective coverings prior to cleaning. Use dust mop and vacuum flooring to remove any dirt, dust or debris.

Use neutral cleaner such as Excelsior NC 900 (or Betco or Diversey equivalent) diluted as necessary according to manufacturer recommendations to clean the floor area. Use a clean mop or pump-up sprayer to apply cleaning solution to the area and let stand for 5-10 minutes. 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.

If using a low-speed rotary floor machine (175 – 350 RPM), wet scrub the floor using 3M 5300 Blue Cleaner Pad or equivalent.

If using an auto-scrubber, wet scrub the using a 3M 5300 Blue Cleaner Pad or equivalent.

Use an auto-scrubber, wet vacuum or clean mop to remove any and all excess cleaning solution. Rinse the floor area and allow floor to dry completely. Ensure flooring area is clean.

It is required to apply 2 coats of Betco Floor Sealer (or Diversey Over and Under Plus floor sealer) to the product after the initial maintenance and prior to putting the floor into service.

Apply floor sealer according to manufacturer instructions. 2 coats of sealer should be applied while allowing each coat to dry completely before the next coat is applied. Ensure HVAC is operational to speed up dry times. Alternatively, air movers / blowers will help to speed up dry times.

3.1.2 DAILY MAINTENANCE

Ensure that initial maintenance has been conducted prior to conducting daily maintenance. Use dust mop and vacuum flooring to remove any dirt, dust or debris.

Apply a cleaner & maintainer such as Betco Invincible (or Excelcior CM 910 or Diversey Wiwax) to clean the floor area diluted according to manufacturer instructions. Use a clean mop to clean spills, dirt buildup and other debris. Change cleaning solution periodically when cleaning larger areas to avoid mopping dirt from one side of the interior to the other. Do NOT rinse floor after cleaning. Very heavily soiled flooring might need to be cleaned for a second time to remove all dirt. Allow surface to dry completely before allowing foot traffic.

3.1.3 ROUTINE OR PERIODIC MAINTENANCE

Over time, any dirt missed during daily maintenance may build up and the floor may need to be scrubbed as necessary. Use dust mop and vacuum flooring to remove any dirt, dust or debris.

Apply a cleaner & maintainer such as Betco Invincible (or Excelcior CM 910 or Diversey Wiwax) to clean the floor area diluted according to manufacturer instructions. Use a clean mop or pump-up sprayer to apply cleaning solution to the area and let stand for 5-10 minutes. 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.

If using a low-speed rotary floor machine (175 – 350 RPM), wet scrub the floor using a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad. If heavily soiled a 3M 5100 Red Buffer Pad may be needed and/or an additional cleaning.

If using an auto-scrubber, wet scrub the floor using a 3M 5100 Red Buffer Pad or equivalent. If heavily soiled an additional cleaning may be required.

Use an auto-scrubber, wet vacuum or clean mop to remove any and all excess cleaning solution. Do NOT rinse floor area after cleaning and allow floor to dry completely. Ensure flooring area is clean.

Once area is clean and dry and IF a higher shine is required, spray a fine mist or mop a thin coat of Betco Reinforce or Excelcior CM 910 or Diversey Wiwax over the floor area and allow to dry. Once dry, dry buff area with a low-speed rotary floor machine (175 – 350 RPM) using a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad or equivalent to bring up a higher shine.

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3.1.4 Optional Floor Finish

Although not initially required, some users of the product may prefer a higher gloss level than that achieved via the methods described above. If that is the case, then it is optional to apply 1 or 2 coats of acrylic floor finish to the surface of the product after the initial maintenance as described in section 3.1.1 and before beginning daily maintenance as described in section 3.1.2. ALWAYS select a non-yellowing finish.

3.2 EUROPEAN COLLECTION (Gauge - 2.0mm)

Initial maintenance is required on the European Collection Quartz tile to ensure anything left from the installation process is removed and the product is ready to begin its life cycle. Ensure that adhesive has cured for recommended period of time prior to conducting initial maintenance.

Depending on traffic, routine maintenance will need to be performed regularly within the first year of the installation. Within this time period, ensure daily maintenance is performed to maintain the appearance of the flooring material.

3.2.1 INITIAL MAINTENANCE

Remove any protective coverings prior to cleaning. Use dust mop and vacuum flooring to remove any dirt, dust or debris.

The European Collection has a factory applied PUR coating. No additional sealing is required.

Apply a neutral cleaner such as Excelsior NC900 (or equivalent from Betco or Diversey) to clean the floor area diluted according to manufacturer instructions. Use a clean mop or pump-up sprayer to apply cleaning solution to the area and let stand for 5-10 minutes. 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.

If using a low-speed rotary floor machine (175 – 350 RPM), wet scrub the floor using a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad or equivalent.

If using an auto-scrubber, wet scrub the floor using a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad or equivalent.

Use an auto-scrubber, wet vacuum or clean mop to remove any and all excess cleaning solution. Rinse the floor area and allow floor to dry completely. Ensure flooring area is clean.

3.2.2 DAILY MAINTENANCE

Ensure that initial maintenance has been conducted prior to conducting daily maintenance. Use dust mop and vacuum flooring to remove any dirt, dust or debris.

Apply a cleaner & maintainer such as Betco Invincible (or Excelsior CM 910 or Diversey Wiwax) to clean the floor area diluted according to manufacturer instructions. Use a clean mop to clean spills, dirt buildup and other debris. Do NOT rinse floor area and allow floor to dry completely. Ensure floor area is clean.

3.2.3 ROUTINE OR PERIODIC MAINTENANCE

Over time, any dirt missed during daily maintenance may build up and the floor may need to be scrubbed as necessary. Use dust mop and vacuum flooring to remove any dirt, dust or debris.

Apply a cleaner & maintainer such as Betco Invincible (or Excelsior CM 910 or Diversey Wiwax) to clean the floor area diluted according to manufacturer instructions. Use a clean mop or pump-up sprayer to apply cleaning solution to the area and let stand for 5-10 minutes. 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.

If using a low-speed rotary floor machine (175 – 350 RPM), wet scrub the floor using a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad. If heavily soiled a 3M 5100 Red Buffer Pad may be needed and/or an additional cleaning.

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If using an auto-scrubber, wet scrub the floor using a 3M 5100 Red Buffer Pad or equivalent. If heavily soiled an additional cleaning may be required.

Use an auto-scrubber, wet vacuum or clean mop to remove any and all excess cleaning solution. Do NOT rinse floor area and allow floor to dry completely. Ensure flooring area is clean.

Once area is clean and dry and IF a higher shine is required, spray a fine mist or mop a thin coat of Betco Reinforce or Diversey Wiwax over the floor area and allow to dry. Then dry buff area with a low-speed rotary floor machine (175 – 350 RPM) using a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad or equivalent to bring up a higher shine.

3.2.4 Optional Floor Finish

Although not initially required, some users of the product may prefer a higher gloss level than that achieved via the methods described above. If that is the case, then it is optional to apply 1 or 2 coats of acrylic floor finish to the surface of the product after the initial maintenance as described in section 3.2.1 and before beginning daily maintenance as described in section 3.2.2. ALWAYS select a non-yellowing finish.

4. FINISH REMOVAL AND REAPPLICATION

If a floor finish has been applied, it will need to be periodically removed and reapplied, with frequency 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.

For removal of floor finish, select floor stripping solution / floor finish remover diluted according to manufacturers instructions, which may vary in concentration depending on the level of finish buildup to be removed.

Use dust mop and vacuum to remove any dirt, dust or debris from flooring.

Using a new or thoroughly cleaned mop, apply the finish remover solution to the flooring material and allow it to stand on the surface for 10 - 20 minutes. Do not allow solution to dry.

If using a low-speed rotary floor machine (175 – 350 RPM), wet scrub the floor using a 3M 5300 Blue Cleaner Pad or equivalent. Wet vac up the cleaning solution and then rinse.

If using an auto-scrubber, wet scrub the floor using a 3M 5300 Blue Cleaner Pad or equivalent.

Use an auto-scrubber, wet vacuum or clean mop to remove any and all excess cleaning solution. Rinse area with clean, cool water and allow floor to dry completely. Ensure flooring area is clean and that all cleaning residue has been removed (this may require additional rinsing).

Re-apply the desired floor finish. 1-2 thin coats of either finish should be applied while allowing each coat to dry completely before the next coat is applied.

Coats will dry faster if HVAC is in operation + / - 20 minutes, instead of +/- 40 minutes without HVAC.

5. FLOORING PROTECTION

Do not slide or drag pallets or heavy equipment across the new flooring. When moving appliances or heavy furniture, protect flooring from scuffing and tearing using temporary floor protection.

All furniture, fixtures, and/or moving equipment casters must be made of a soft material and must have a contact point that takes the psi rating of the flooring into consideration.

All rolling chairs or seating must have a resilient flooring chair pad installed over the finished floor to protect floor covering.

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All fixed furniture legs must have permanent commercial grade felt or nylon floor protectors installed on all contact points and to reduce indentation. Floor protectors must have a flat contact point that takes the psi rating of the flooring into consideration and must cover the entire bottom surface of the furniture leg. Ensure all furniture castors and chair legs are clean and free of any and all dirt and debris. Routinely clean chair castors and furniture legs to ensure that dirt or debris has not built up or become embedded in castors or floor protectors.

Replace chair castors and floor protectors at regular intervals, especially if they become damaged or heavily soiled.

Place walk-off mats at outside entrances. Ensure mats are manufactured with non-staining backs to prevent discoloration.

6. ALTERNATE METHODS

6.1 Traverse Nano Coat 5 Year Coating - Locks in the look of the original tile colour. Optional semi matte or high gloss appearance. Eliminates strip and wax for a period of 5 years and is applied through a certified network of applicators only. The coating can be re-applied in year 6 for another 5 years of regular maintenance procedures without strip and wax, requiring only neutral cleaner for routine maintenance. This process significantly saves on scheduling time, reduces chemical use and lowers costs of ownership of the flooring.