



**MERIDIAN**  
ELEVATED ESSENTIALS

## LUXURY VINYL FLOORING

# Care & Maintenance

Keep your floor looking newer, longer.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR MERIDIAN LUXURY VINYL FLOORING:

Although Meridian luxury vinyl floors are durable, all floor coverings require some care to look their best, and many problems can be prevented before they occur. The type and frequency of traffic on your floor will determine the frequency of maintenance needed. The type of floor and even the color will also have some bearing on how much care may be necessary. For example, solid color floors will visually show scuffs, scratches, dirt, and general wear to a greater degree than multi-colors of chips or patterns. Of course, white or light colors will visually show staining to a greater degree than darker colors. For this reason, solid color and white floors should receive special attention in regard to preventative maintenance and amount of care provided. Good judgment when choosing the type and style of floor will help prevent maintenance problems before the floor is even installed.

### Steps for maintaining your Meridian luxury vinyl floor:

- After installation, all traffic and furniture should stay off the floor for at least 24 hours to allow the adhesive to dry. Do not wash any installation for 5 days.
- Upon completion of the installation, sweep or vacuum thoroughly and remove any adhesive residue from surface. Using a clean dampened cloth or mop with mineral spirits is fine for this. Remove any scuffs and excessive soil by careful scrubbing. Certain types of rubber heel marks may be removed by rubbing with a cloth dampened in mineral spirits.
- In order to prevent indentations and scratches, provide glass, plastic, or other non-staining cups with flat undersurfaces not less than 2" in width for the legs of heavy furniture or appliances. Equip swivel-type office chairs and other rolling furniture with broad surface nonstaining casters at least 2" in diameter. Remove small diameter buttons from the legs of straight chairs and replace with metal glides that have bearing surfaces not less than 1" in diameter.
- Protect your floor against burns. Burns from the glowing end of a cigarette, matches, or other extremely hot items can damage luxury vinyl floors.
- Do not flood floor or subject to frequent standing water. Flood mopping and hosing can loosen adhesive.
- Protect your floor from tracked-in-dirt and grit particles by using non-staining mats at all outside entrances. Take time to remove any imbedded grit particles from shoe soles before entering the room. Avoid the use of rubber-backed mats, as certain rubber compounds can permanently stain vinyl. Avoid tracking in tar or asphalt from driveways, as this can also discolor vinyl. Avoid the use of stiletto heels on your floor. They can cause permanent damage. Do not use vinegar, one-step cleaner/polishes, or oil soaps on Meridian luxury vinyl floors.
- All Meridian luxury vinyl floors have a good resistance to stains. They are not affected by most common household spills; however, any spill should be cleaned up immediately. The longer the spilled materials are left on the floor, the greater the risk of permanently staining the floor.
- Avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged periods. During peak sunlight hours, the use of the drapes or blinds is recommended. Prolonged direct sunlight can result in discoloration, and excessive temperatures might cause tile expansion.
- Do not use vinegar as a cleaning agent on Meridian luxury vinyl floors. Wet mop as part of routine maintenance using clean water and a mild detergent\*.

**\*Do not use:** Wire or nylon scouring pads; Furniture polish; Spirit based polish; Powder or liquid abrasive cleaners;

Bleach or strong detergents.

Remember, the most effective part of any floor maintenance program is the simplest: sweep, dust mop, or vacuum your Meridian luxury vinyl flooring daily, or more frequently if needed.

### **General Care and Maintenance:**

Proper care will help protect and maintain the appearance and performance of your Meridian luxury vinyl floor. A care program consists of key areas: 1) Preventive maintenance; 2) routine maintenance; and 3) spot and spill removal.

Allow the recommended minimum of 24 hours before moving heavy objects. New floors should not be saturated or wet cleaned for 5 days after installation. Only damp mopping is recommended between installation and the 5-day period.

### **Preventive Maintenance:**

- Always protect floors when moving heavy objects to prevent permanent scratches and tears. The use of plywood and heavy cardboard are examples of protective barriers.
- Use appropriate wide floor protectors under tables, chairs, and any other heavy home furnishing to avoid permanent damage.
- Walk-off mats should be used at all entrances to absorb soil and moisture. If mats are placed directly on top of luxury vinyl flooring, use mats without latex or rubber backings to avoid possible discoloration.

### **Routine Maintenance:**

- Daily removal of dirt and dust is important to prevent particles from abrading the surface of luxury vinyl floors. Sweeping, dust mopping, and vacuuming are recommendations to remove soil particles that can result in scratches and worn appearances. Do not use vacuums with rotating beater bars on hard surfaces.
- Periodic wet cleaning will be necessary to help maintain the floor's appearance. Always pre-vacuum or dust mop before any type of wet cleaning. Appropriate vinyl floor cleaning equipment and cleaning agents (neutral pH cleaners) are recommended. Do not use abrasive cleaners or cleaning agents that leave dull residues on the surface of the floors. Follow the cleaning manufacturer's instructions for damp mopping and application. If rinsing is necessary, use clean water and expedite drying with air movers or fans.

### **Spot and Spill Removal:**

- Meridian luxury vinyl flooring products are engineered to resist and minimize common staining.
- Absorb wet spills as quickly as possible by blotting with white paper or cloth towels. Rinse with water if necessary and blot dry.
- Dried spots should be removed by gentle agitation and rinsed with water. Blot dry.
- Use mild cleaning products or products formulated for vinyl floor cleaning. Do not use detergents or abrasive cleaners since these products can leave a dull residue.
- Use rubbing alcohol (isopropyl alcohol) with a clean white cloth for spots requiring a solvent type cleaner that water and cleaning agents cannot remove.

Please note that some stain conditions may become permanent when not properly treated.

**Safety caution:** The surfaces of luxury vinyl floors change during wet cleaning and finish applications. Use appropriate safety measures.

