

Tile & Floor

— DESIGN · SOURCE · CREATE —



Tips article: Looking after your floors & surfaces

When you've spent time and money choosing the right materials for your home, from floors to walls, worktops to splashbacks, you want them to stay looking their best for as long as possible. Our in-house expert, *Peggy Braybrook*, offers her advice on maintaining the look, feel and performance of a range of surfaces.



Maintenance & cleaning: our top tips

Engineered wood floors

Engineered wood floors are a great choice for high-traffic areas – our range is finished with a zero VOC oil, dried under UV light, which makes it extremely hard-wearing. However, as a natural material, your wood needs some love and care so protect it wherever you can:

- Keep dirt or gravel outside with a good doormat to clean your shoes on – ideally both inside and outside the door.
- Put soft, protective pads on the bottom of table and chair legs to avoid scratches.
- Dry clean with a vacuum or brush regularly. Occasionally use a damp cloth or mop.
- Avoid cleaning fluids containing ammonia – use only recommended cleaning products specific to oiled or lacquered floors.





- Mop weekly/bi-monthly with a well rung-out mop.
- If you spill water on your floor, wipe it off straightaway to avoid water stains.
- Never steam clean.

Oiled floors should be treated every 6-12 months depending on how well used the area is. Maintenance Oil will nourish and protect the wood.

We sell maintenance kits for oiled, lacquered or vinyl floors:

Maintenance Kit Oiled Surfaces – Ciranova UK >

Maintenance Kit Lacquered Surfaces - Ciranova UK >

Luxury vinyl tiles

Cleaning advice for vinyl is the same as for wood flooring, but with our Lacquered Floor Kit. Vinyl doesn't require sealing, but in the kit there is a hard floor polish which can be applied to the tiles every 12 months. This helps to protect them and disguise light scratches.

Porcelain tiles

Porcelain tiles are resistant to nearly everything – stains, heat, water, even UV light – making them one of the easiest surfaces to maintain.

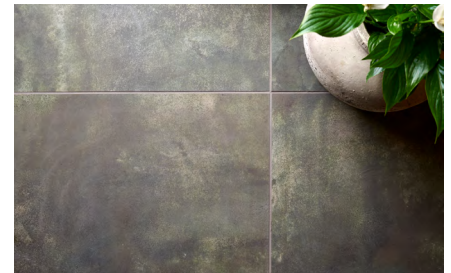
- Sweep or vacuum dust and dirt.
- Avoid cleaners containing ammonia, bleach or acids for regular cleaning –

corrosive chemicals can erode the tile's surface, as well as any grout.

- For everyday cleaning, use warm water and a mop or cloth.
- If you do have a stain, only clean the affected area.
- For bathroom tiles, wipe with a mild cleaning product on a weekly basis. Or add a few drops of cleaning product to a mixture of water and white vinegar, mix and spread over the tiles. Then rub with a non-abrasive sponge and rinse with warm water.
- Textured porcelain tiles require slightly more maintenance than smooth ones – clean more often and try to mop floor tiles daily.

Outdoor porcelain tiles

As porcelain tiles are highly moisture-resistant, they are very difficult to stain, and so extremely low-maintenance. Clean them once or twice a year to keep them looking their best, with a mop and squirt of washing up liquid in a bucket of warm water. For a deeper clean, use a jet wash, then simply leave the surface to dry.



Natural stone

As natural stone is porous, it will need to be cleaned then sealed correctly after, and sometimes prior to, installation. A good quality sealant need only be reapplied once every 6-8 years after a deep clean.

A natural stone outdoor terrace should be sealed straight after installation, and then most need to be re-sealed every four to six years. Make sure the area to be sealed has been deeply cleaned with recommended products to remove residue of old sealant, is completely clean, and that you've got at least 24 hours of dry weather ahead.

To take care of your natural stone worktops or bathroom surfaces:

- Always use a coaster, placemat or trivet and watch out for spillages – many citrus juices, other foods and drinks contain acids that will etch or dull the stone surface.
- Blot spills immediately.
- Clean frequently with warm water and a non-abrasive cloth sponge or mop.
- Don't use cleaners containing acid, such as bathroom/grout cleaner or powder cleaners and nylon scrub pads, as they can scratch the stone.
- Dry or squeegee the water from your shower walls after each use to prevent hard water or soap scum build-up.
- Pressure wash outdoor stone to clean off stubborn dirt or debris.

For natural stone floors, dust them using a dry dust mop and use mats or area rugs to minimise dirt, grit or sand that can scratch the floor.

We stock Fila MPgo Eco Xtreme sealant, which is:

- Water based
- Oil-repellent
- Environmentally friendly
- Low VOC

MPgo Eco Xtreme – FILA Solutions >

Grout

We supply Keracoll's Fugabella Color grout for use with ceramic and porcelain tiles, mosaic and natural stone, which is available in an incredible 50 colours! It's easy to maintain as it scores highly on water-repellence, surface hardness, resistance to the most common acidic substances, and it's got low water absorption. It's also naturally antibacterial, so a great choice for kitchens and bathrooms.

Dirt and mould can cling to limescale, so regular use of a distilled white vinegar spray is a good idea. Alternatively, make a paste from two parts bicarbonate of soda to one part water, then rub onto the grout using an old toothbrush or grout brush. Fill a spray bottle with vinegar and spray it over the bicarb mix (it'll bubble up), then use the brush to scrub away grime, before rinsing well with water.



Carpet

If you take good care of your carpet, it should last for a long time. Aim to vacuum at least once a week to avoid dirt becoming embedded in the fibres. Once a year, use a professional carpet cleaning company for a deep clean;

you might need to shampoo your carpet more regularly if you have children or pets.

Tackle spills quickly to avoid a stain: dab, or blot it gently, don't scrub as this will push the stain deeper into the carpet fibres and leave a rub mark.

You should also periodically rearrange the furniture. This prevents uneven discolouration from the sun hitting a particular spot. Plus, 'coasters' under heavy furniture such as sofas or tables, help to reduce dents in the carpet.



For more maintenance support, as well as expert design, product and installation advice, make an appointment at our Design Centre or speak to a specialist on the phone.



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PORCELAIN | STONE | PATTERNED | WOOD | CARPET | VINYL

