



ENVIRONMENTAL  
& SAFETY BENEFITS

# FLOOR CARE

## How To Strip Floors

851 Progress Court Oakville, Ontario L6J 5A8  
905-847-3000 Fax 905-847-1675

www.rochestermidland.ca

### PURPOSE:

To remove a floor finish (wax) when any of the following occurs:

- The colour begins to turn
- The finish begins to build up
- Mopping, spray buffing or re-waxing does not give the results desired.

### SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

Treated dust  
Vinegar  
Brush and dust pan  
Wet mop  
Putty knife  
Floor machine  
Wet/dry vacuum  
Stripping pads  
2 buckets  
Black (nylon) Stripping Pads  
Squeegee  
"Floor Hazard" signs  
Stripping solution  
Water proof shoe coverings  
Fresh water (use cool water)  
Water proof shoe coverings  
2 downward pressure wringers  
Doodle bug with black pad

### PROCEDURE:

- Prepare Area:**
  - Place "Floor Hazard" signs in easy-to-see locations at entrances to area being stripped.
  - Move furniture. Work around heavy furniture or equipment that cannot be moved. Tilt file cabinets and mount on blocks.
  - Sweep the floor with a treated dust mop or vacuum the floor.
  - Remove gum and other foreign material with a putty knife.
  - Place stripping pad on the machine and on the doodle bug.
  - Set equipment in area where work will begin.

In a room start in the farthest corner from the entrance.

- Follow instructions for using the stripping solution and pour into the bucket. Use cool tap water. Recommend testing THERMO STRIP or REPEEL at 1:8 solution (8 oz./gallon).

Increase the concentration when the finish requires it, but go no more concentrated than 1:4 (32oz./gallon).

Note: Hot water can loosen tile adhesive and cause solution to dry too fast.

- Dip mop head into stripping solution. Wring slightly so the mop head still drips a little. Fan out the mop head on the floor and start applying solution at the edges.
- Apply the solution in a 6' to 7' arc or side movement to cover the area between the edges. Cover only a 100 to 125 ft<sup>2</sup> area at a time. Enough solution should be on the floor to float a match.
- Where splashing on the walls and baseboards occurs, wipe off immediately with a damp cloth.
- Let the solution soak on the floor 4 to 5 minutes.
- Use the doodle-bug with black pad to remove build-up near edges. Using the doodle-bug on the edges minimizes splashes from a machine onto walls and baseboards.
- Using the floor machine with the Black (nylon) Stripping Pad, strip the area that is covered with solution. Overlap the strokes made by the machine.
- Use the mop and empty bucket or wet/dry vacuum to pick up dirty solution. **DO NOT ALLOW SOLUTION TO DRY ON THE FLOOR.**
- Rinse area using fresh water and mop head- which is slightly wrung out. Adding a small amount of cleaner will help.
- Clean mop head with water after the first rinsing of the floor is complete.
- Rinse two more times with fresh water. In the final rinse, add vinegar at 1/2 oz./gallon per the instruction, if available.
- Allow floor to dry. Re-strip any high gloss spots. Depending on the amount of build-up and/or type of floor finish, the floor may require a second application of stripper.
- Allow floor to dry at least one hour after final rinse. Check floor to be sure it is ready for finish by wiping the hand across a section of the floor. If a white powder comes up, the floor has not been rinsed properly and must be rinsed until no white powder comes up after the floor is dry. When the white powder no longer comes up on the hand, the floor is ready to be finished (waxed).

### Accomplishment:

After following this procedure the floor will be free of all sealers, finishes, dirt, grime, gum, other foreign matter and no powdery residue. The floor is then ready for finish to bond to the floor tile properly.

Revised: Dec 3/06  
Supersedes: (New)

All data statements and information presented herein are believed to be accurate and reliable but are not to be taken as a guarantee, express warranty or implied warranty or merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose, or representation, express or implied, for which seller assumes legal responsibility, and they are offered solely for your consideration, investigation and verification. Statements or suggestions concerning possible use of this product are made without representation or warranty that any such use is free of patent infringement and are not recommendations to infringe on any patent.