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## **GAMECOURT®** **SYNTHETIC FLOORING CARE & MAINTENANCE GUIDE**

The GAMECOURT® polyurethane synthetic flooring system, like all quality floor surfaces requires consistent cleaning and scheduled maintenance to ensure that it stays looking great. The schedule for cleaning depends on many factors including – various activities, how often the floor is used, and the volume of foot traffic on the floor. The more consistent the cleaning schedule, the better the appearance of the floor. The following general guidelines will help to keep your new sports floor looking great.

**STAY OFF YOUR NEWLY INSTALLED FLOOR FOR 1 WEEK!**

### **INITIAL MAINTENANCE FOR NEW FLOOR**

It is very **IMPORTANT** for the owner to perform INITIAL MAINTENANCE before the floor is open for use. If INITIAL MAINTENANCE is not performed, the floor may be difficult to clean. It is very important to perform initial maintenance. Please perform the following steps:

**IMPORTANT:** Wait 1 week after installation of the floor before doing the initial maintenance or any cleaning.

- 1) Sweep floor thoroughly with a clean, untreated dust mop.
- 2) Damp-mop entire floor surface with one of the recommended cleaners. Follow the cleaning solutions manufacturer's instructions for proper dilution.
- 3) Allow solution to dry on floor. Do not rinse.
- 4) Do NOT use an auto scrubber for 30 days.
- 5) Follow below Daily Maintenance for the first 30 days

### **DAILY MAINTENANCE**

- 1) Daily maintenance should be performed once a day to remove dirt and dust.
- 2) Immediately sweep or vacuum any dirt, pebbles, rocks, etc.
- 3) Dust mop the entire floor. Use yarn mops, micro-fiber mops, or soft bristled brooms, and avoid treated dust mops. The mop may be treated with Super Hil-Tone by Hillyard. Do not use oil-treated mops or brooms. In active areas, it is advisable to dust mop between events. CourtClean® Damp Mop System is an effective alternative to dust mopping that can remove dust and debris from an average sized gymnasium (6,000 to 8,000 square feet) in approximately 10 minutes. A minimal amount of water/solution is used, and the surface dries quickly. Visit [www.courtclean.com](http://www.courtclean.com) for details.
- 4) Spot clean obvious scuff marks. Most scuff marks can be removed by rubbing with a dry, white nylon pad. Other scuff marks can be removed using pure cleaning detergent or denatured mineral spirits. Work from the outside of the mark towards its center. Rinse with clean water and dry. Do not allow these cleaning products to remain on the floor for an extended time.

## ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

- 1) Routine Maintenance is recommended at least once a week.... it depends completely on use and how quickly the floor gets dirty.
- 2) Do not start Routine Maintenance until 30 days after the floor has installed.
- 2) Dust mop the floor as described in the "Daily Maintenance" above.
- 3) Scrub the entire floor using an auto-scrubber equipped with a RED nylon pad. Use a neutral pH detergent (a list of approved detergents is provided below). Dilute the cleaning solution according to the manufacturer's instructions. Using only one pass of the scrubber, dispense a liberal amount of solution, scrub the floor, and vacuum the dirty solution. Use this method for floors that need washing on a daily basis, such as gyms/cafeterias.
- 4) If scuff marks persist, remove these marks using a damp cloth of pure cleaning solution, or denatured mineral spirits. Rinse with clean water and dry. To prevent damage, do not allow these cleaning products to remain on the floor for an extended time. To remove heel marks easily, make a small cut in a new tennis ball and insert a broom handle. Gentle rubbing of the tennis ball on the mark will typically remove it. If not, use Spitfire All Purpose Power Cleaner RTU from Diversey, Inc. Apply the cleaner directly to the mark allowing it to briefly dwell, then rub with a clean white rag or tennis ball. **Do not use black pads. Never use colored rags to clean the floor. Never scrub the floor with hard polyester or nylon pads, steel wool, wire brushes, or abrasive cleaners as these can severely scratch and damage the floor and game lines.**

## DEEP CLEANING MAINTENANCE

If your floor has NOT been well maintained and is VERY DIRTY, a Deep cleaning is recommended. Higher PH cleaners can be used periodically for heavily soiled areas. Red pads should be used for deep cleaning. Deep cleaning is recommended at least once a year.

- 1) Scrub the entire floor with a low-speed automatic scrubbing machine (150-350 rpm), equipped with a red nylon pad and properly diluted cleaning solution. If a scrubber is unavailable, use a low-speed (150-350 rpm) flooring buffer and wet vac. Apply the cleaning solution and warm water. Approved cleaning solutions are listed below under Recommended Cleaners. Do not use hot water. Read the cleaning solution's label for concentration and mixing instructions. Apply a liberal amount of solution in a manageable area only and let it soak (dwell) for 10 to 15 minutes (do not allow solution to dry). The size of the space may require it to be subdivided and cleaned in sections. Do not vacuum or pick up cleaning solution on the first pass of the auto-scrubber.
- 2) Automated cleaning machines are more efficient since they use less water and fewer cleaning agents. They also reduce the time required to maintain a floor, particularly in large spaces like a gym. Heavier dilutions of cleaning solution will not create a cleaner floor. Follow the cleaning solutions manufacturer's instructions for proper dilution.
- 3) While applying more cleaning solution, begin scrubbing the entire floor or section again starting at the point where the first pass began. Vacuum the dirty cleaning solution on the second pass. **Do not allow the solution to dry between passes.** If this occurs, reduce the size of the area you are cleaning and/or apply more cleaning solution. Allowing the dirty solution to dry will only make cleaning more difficult and cause residue buildup.
- 4) Rinse with clean water using the auto-scrubber by replacing the cleaning solution with cold water. Lightly scrub the entire floor and vacuum the waste water. All cleaning solution residue must be removed by rinsing, even if the solution claims to be "no rinse."
- 5) If scuff marks persist, remove these marks using a damp cloth of pure cleaning solution, or denatured mineral spirits. Rinse with clean water and dry. To prevent damage, do not allow these cleaning products to remain on the floor for an extended time. To remove heel marks easily, make a small cut in a new tennis ball and insert a broom handle. Gentle rubbing of the tennis ball on the mark will typically remove it. If not, use Spitfire All Purpose Power Cleaner RTU from Diversey, Inc. Apply the cleaner directly to the mark allowing it to briefly dwell, then rub with a clean white rag or tennis ball. **Do not use black pads. Never use colored rags to clean the floor. Never scrub the floor with hard polyester or nylon pads, steel wool, wire brushes, or abrasive cleaners as these can severely scratch and damage the floor and game lines.**

## RECOMMENDED CLEANERS

**Please contact the below recommended cleaning solution companies directly. They will be able to locate local distributors of their products, provide technical information and cleaning demonstrations.**

## HB Fuller Construction Products

- Microbial Sports Floor Cleaner (Neutral pH 7.3-8.2 cleaner for initial / routine maintenance & deep cleaning)

Visit [www.hbfuller.com](http://www.hbfuller.com). Call 833-672-1482 for product inquiry or 888-351-3523 for customer service.

## Diversey, Inc.

- Profi TM/MC Floor Cleaner/Oil & Grease Remover (Neutral pH 9 cleaner for routine maintenance & deep cleaning)
- Stride Fragrance Free Neutral Cleaner (Neutral pH 7 cleaner for initial / routine maintenance & deep cleaning)

Visit [www.diversey.com](http://www.diversey.com). Call 800-842-2341 for customer service or 800-558-2332, option 5 for technical support.

## Hillyard, Inc.

- Shine-All Cleaner (pH 9 aggressive cleaner for routine maintenance & deep cleaning)
- Clean Scrub or Top Clean Cleaner (pH 7 cleaner for initial / routine maintenance & deep cleaning)
- Super Hil-Tone (for daily mop treatment)

Visit [www.hillyard.com](http://www.hillyard.com) or call 800-365-1555.

## OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- 1) Stay off new floor for 1 week after the floor is installed.
- 2) Before opening the floor up for use, perform the INITIAL MAINTENANCE (listed above).
- 3) Do not install bleachers for 14 days after your new floor is installed.
- 4) **DO NOT AUTOSCRUB FOR 1 MONTH.**
- 5) A **WET** magic eraser can be used to remove scuff marks. **DO NOT USE A DRY MAGIC ERASER.**
- 6) Wet mop up any spills immediately to prevent stain. Don't allow water or liquids to stand on the floor. Use a diluted neutral cleaner in the Recommended Cleaners section and rinse thoroughly to avoid heavy buildup of residues. Certain organic solvents (acetone, fingernail polish remover, alcohol, etc.) and petroleum-based products (oil, gasoline, tar, etc.) can cause damage. Never use acid or caustic based cleaners such as ceramic tile cleaners, bowl cleaners, etc. Do not use any ammonia or alcohol-based cleaners.
- 7) Do not use commercially treated dust mops. Do not use sandpaper, steel wool, abrasive powders, or soaps containing solvents.
- 8) Ball point and felt tipped pen marks or permanent markers can permanently mark the floor. Ballpoint pen, permanent marker, some paints, and tar can be removed with Mark-Off or Mark-Off Plus Graffiti Remover, from Hydra-Tone Chemicals, Inc. Call 859-534-5630 or visit [www.hydra-tone.com](http://www.hydra-tone.com).
- 9) During winter, Urea pellets are a preferred alternative to use outside instead of typical ice melting salts. Typical ice melting salts could stain the floor if not cleaned off immediately.
- 10) **About 80% of surface soiling is brought in from outside, 90% of that soiling can be avoided by an effective and correctly dimensioned entrance mat(s).** Proper walk-off mats at entrances can contribute to a cleaner indoor space. Not all mats can effectively reduce indoor soiling, therefore, care should be taken to select mats that are designed to remove dirt and grit from shoes. Without proper entrance mats, cleaning of the floor can be unnecessarily laborious or cause an unsafe surface.
- 11) Protect all table and chair legs using rubber bumpers or glides.
- 12) If using battery operated auto scrubber or other equipment, make sure battery acid does not leak onto floor.
- 13) Do not use high-speed floor equipment (maximum RPM is 350) on your floor.
- 14) Do not use any wax of any kind on your floor. Make sure to check for wax in any cleaning agent or treatment. Never use chemical strippers such as those used to remove waxes/sealers from VCT flooring.
- 15) **Alcohol-based hand sanitizers should not be used on or around your floor. These products can inadvertently discolor the flooring surface if spilled.**
- 16) Disinfectants can sanitize a surface but are not typically effective cleaners and are not recommended as the sole cleaning solution for maintenance. A cleaning regimen with approved cleaners is sufficient to maintain the floor.
- 17) Do not use citrus cleaners containing d'limonene, an industrial solvent that can permanently stain vinyl flooring. This is not to be confused with cleaning products that are citrus-scented. Products like Stride Citrus Cleaner include a fragrance only and do not contain d'limonene.

- 18) Phenolic Type Disinfectants are very caustic and may cause adverse effects to the physical properties of the flooring materials, including leaving a slippery residue, which may cause a hazardous condition. If phenolics are used, after each application, thoroughly rinse the surface with clean water and wet vac the solution.
- 19) It is highly recommended that players and users wear non-black rubber sole shoes while on the floor.
- 20) Do not use spikes on the floor.
- 21) Users should not wear sharp studded or sharp pointed shoes when entering the playing area to prevent damages to the floor.
- 22) Protect all table and chair legs using rubber bumpers or glides.
- 23) Prevent sharp objects or metal objects from being dragged across or pressed into the surface.
- 24) Always place polyethylene and Masonite under scissor lifts or other equipment to protect the floor.
- 25) Damage due to baseball or softball impact: Baseball or softball impact: UGS Sting-Free®, dimpled or stitched baseballs or softballs hit at a high-rate of speed may, at times, scuff the specialized coating on the floor. Any scuffing or marking caused by Sting-Free®, dimpled or stitched baseballs or softballs are not a warranty item. It is the owner's responsibility to ensure that the appropriate floor protection coverings are laid where all Sting-Free®, dimpled or stitched baseballs and softballs that are hit at a velocities over 30 mph may interface with the finished sports surface.
- 26) Do not allow black rubber tires from automobiles and trucks to be set on the floor for prolonged periods of time without protection. They will leave a permanent stain.
- 27) Malfunctioning bleachers or mobile bleachers not handled correctly could damage the floor

### **INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS**

- 1) It is best to maintain a room temperature between 65°F and 85°F at all times. Humidity should be between 30% and 50% at all times. Not only are these ranges more comfortable for active participants, but they also maintain a stable condition for many other building materials.

### **BLEACHERS, ROLLING LOADS, AND STATIC LOADS**

- 1) Most bleacher models can be upgraded to accommodate lower PSI load requirements. Contact the bleacher manufacturer for details. Bleachers should be stored in the fully closed position when not in use. All bleacher systems should utilize the maximized wheel count. Bleacher "trucks" can include 5 to 6 wheels per truck (track).
- 2) Respect static and dynamic load limitations of the flooring.
- 3) Limit switches for powered bleacher systems must be set correctly and fully operational. Damage caused by the improper use or design of powered bleachers is not covered under warranty.

### **PORTABLE ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT**

- 1) Portable equipment such as volleyball nets and basketball goals should have protective coasters under each wheel or rest during temporary placement. If these units are to be stored on the floor while not in use, a small sheet of plywood or other non-staining material should be used to disperse loads.
- 2) If your floor was installed with "Moisture Barrier Underlayment", you may require additional protection from heavier rolling loads.

### **LIFTS AND OTHER MOTORIZED EQUIPMENT**

- 1) When subjecting the floor to significant rolling loads or heavy equipment such as scissor lifts, scaffolding, four-wheel dollies, etc. and/or point loads that exceed 250 PSI we recommend the following;
  - a. Put down Masonite or plywood before driving lifts on the floor to prevent damage from nails or other sharp objects embedded in tires. Larger battery-operated units are very heavy, making it necessary to double the layers of Masonite or protective plywood. When doubling the layers, offset the seams. The plywood can also be easily relocated down the travel path of the lift. Small units can be protected with ¼" Masonite or an equivalent.
  - b. Medium-sized units may use ½" plywood or an equivalent, and larger units may require as much as ¾" of plywood or Masonite.

Consult your sports flooring installer with any questions. Understanding these guidelines and seeking the guidance of a local provider is the only way to guarantee that proper procedures are applied. Unapproved maintenance procedures and/or products may void the warranty.