STAGESTEP®
a Company of Gerflor

MAINTENANCE GUIDE

2025 EDITION

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2025 EDITION

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STARTING A FLOOR
Maintenance Program

If you are responsible for a dance, theatrical, performing arts, sports or aerobic surface, you need to develop a maintenance program. For every flooring system, there are a number of factors that impact cleaning frequency, equipment and supplies needed.

Four reasons for maintenance:

- Keeping the floor clean and disinfected.
- Protecting the surface
- Appearance
- Safety

DO IT YOURSELF
or Outsource

First, determine which maintenance factors are most important.
Each requires a different approach and commitment:

- Appearance
- Cleanliness
- Non-slip consistency
- Safety
- Longevity
- Sanitation

Second, decide if you are going to maintain the floor(s) yourself or hire a professional.
Even if you have determined to do it yourself, get a quote from a professional. You will have a better idea of process, time and cost.

Most flooring maintenance professionals have no idea what you need for your floor. By and large, appearance is their only objective. They are apt to leave you with a bright, shiny and very slippery floor, unless you are there to tell them exactly what you need.

WHY MAINTENANCE

Your floor is no different than your car, you have to maintain it or it will not work. Every floor made by every manufacturer needs a maintenance program appropriate for the floor, its use(s) and the conditions and circumstances under which it was installed.

It does not matter how much money you spent on your flooring system, or if you have a high-end specific-use flooring system, you need to initiate a maintenance program, or your floor will eventually fail.

WHY YOU NEED
A Maintenance Program

Six reasons why:

- **Appearance**
A sloppy looking floor makes for an undisciplined environment. This is not a message or core value we want to impart to our customers and students.

- **Health**
A good maintenance program takes into consideration the health of the people working on it. Bacteria, fungus, mildew, and dirt can impact end uses in ways that all spell trouble.

- **Performance**
A well-maintained flooring system contributes to the desired result of the end-user. A floor compatible with what you want to do makes for better performance. Better performance makes happier instructors, students, customers, and artists.

- **Safety**
The primary reason people invest in flooring is to provide a safe environment. Neglecting your floor's proper maintenance can jeopardize safety. Taking care of your floor means you won't have to take care of injured dancers.

- **Reliability**
Consistency and reliability are the cornerstone of both safety and performance. Controlling the environment, keeping the floor clean and in good condition will ensure a consistent surface.

- **Longevity**
A flooring system is a major investment. Take care of this piece of equipment and it will last many years. The better the care and maintenance, the longer the floor will serve you and your community of dancers.

THE BASIC
Maintenance Program

All floors get dirty.

Dust, dirt, sweat, shoe marks, food, soda and gum are the prime offenders. The more the floor is used, the more it needs to be cleaned. Follow this maintenance program and your floor should stay in great condition:

• Dry mop your floor daily. Do not use a treated mop.

• Clean your floor weekly with a pH neutral detergent/degreaser. Cleaning products created for home use are not appropriate for commercial and professional situations. The desired aesthetics and coefficient of friction are very different from your floors at home. You need a general purpose, mid-range PH (measures acidity and alkalinity) detergent/degreaser. It cleans without destroying finishes and without leaving any surface residue.

• Remove dye and scuff marks with a special solvent.

• Change top tape and clean with adhesive residue remover every three to four months.

• Use as deemed necessary. Many cleaners leave residue on the floor that make it shiny or resistant to dirt. When you use a cleaner that leaves a residue of any kind, you inevitably change the coefficient of friction. If you use inappropriate cleaning agents, your floor becomes stickier or more slippery after application. If there is one thing you want in a specialty movement floor, it is consistency.

Stagestep® offers three detergent/degreasers: ProClean, ProClean NS, ProClean D No-Rinse and ProClean Ultra. Each can be used with a mop or floor cleaning machine, usually with an aqua pad, green or red (red pads are more aggressive) pad. The two-bucket technique is more effective and efficient if you are using a mop. One bucket using warm water and containing the detergent/ degreaser; the second bucket contains just plain warm water. Rinse out the mop in the second bucket as you continue mopping.

When you use most detergents/degreasers with a high concentration of water, you will not have to rinse your floor. Never use plain water to clean your floor. It will not pick up body oils (sweat) or body lotion. Moisture remaining on the floor after mopping with ProClean can wiped dry to remove any residual dirt and/or rinsed.

Floors cleaned and treated with ProClean NS should air dry.

PROCLEAN®

ProClean is your “go to” cleaning solution. If your floor is very dirty, you may have to mop more than once or use a floor cleaning machine.

Directions:

Weekly Maintenance Protocol and Application or as needed:

1. Broom sweep or vacuum daily to remove coarse dirt, dust and debris.

2. Prepare mixture of 2 ounces ProClean to one gallon water.

3. Use a microfiber mop pad and rectangular bucket. Bu sure to rinse dirty mop pad with clear water. When mop pad no longer rinses clean, replace with clean mop pad. Mop pads can be washed and reused. Microfiber mops are preferable because they are able to retain more dirt including tap shoe residue.

Alternatively, use a cotton or cotton/synthetic mop and 2 buckets, both with wringers. One bucket contains your mixture of ProClean and water, the second bucket contains warm water to rinse mop and wring out dirty water. (The second bucket is for rinsing the mop only.)

4. Damp mop floor in sections. Apply liberally but do not flood mop. Allow solution to stand for a minute or two (4-6 minutes for dirtier floors) before removing remaining liquid.

5. Rinse mop in second bucket with clear water.

6. Although ProClean is a non-rinse product, it is preferable to wipe dry with a clean mop or towel and/or rinse lightly with clear water.

Automatic Floor Scrubbing Machine Application (aqua or green floor pad, 125-200 RPM):

1. Broom sweep or vacuum daily to remove coarse dirt, dust and debris.

2. Prepare mixture of 1-2 ounces ProClean to one gallon water

3. Apply, scrub and pick-up as you would with any
low-foam cleaner.

4. Although ProClean is a non-rinse product, it is preferable to wipe dry with a clean mop or towel and/or rinse lightly with clear water.

First Aid:

If in Eyes: Rinse with water for a few minutes. Consult a physician if symptoms occur.
If on Skin or Hair: Rinse with water. Consult a physician if symptoms occur.
If Ingested: Get medical attention if symptoms occur.
Storage: No specific measures identified.
Disposal: Can be flushed to sanitary sewer. Discard empty container in trash.
Ingredients: Linear Alcohol Ethoxylate (C.A.S. #68439-46-3)

PROCLEAN® NS

ProClean NS (Non-Slip) for floors that are both dirty and slippery. It leaves a safe chemical coating that builds up a nonslip surface as it cleans the floor. **Make sure to shake well.**

Directions:

Initial Application:

1. Broom sweep or vacuum to remove coarse dirt. Mop floor with ProClean as directed to clean before ProClean NS application.

2. Shake ProClean NS well.

3. Apply ProClean NS using Medium to Heavy soil mixture or 20-24 to 24-32 ounces of NS (based on past experience) to one gallon of water, repeating 2, 3 or 4 times during initial application to create the right degree of slip resistance. Subsequent applications should be done as soon as floor is dry to the touch and can be walked on without tracking. Shoes worn should have clean soles and typically not worn outside.

Weekly Maintenance Protocol and Application or as needed:

1. Sweep or dry dust mop (to be done daily).
2. Shake ProClean NS well.
3. Prepare mixture:

Mixture:

Light soil: 16 ounces Proclean NS to one gallon water
Medium soil: 20-24 ounces Proclean NS to one gallon water
Heavy soil: 24-32 ounces Proclean NS to one gallon water

4. Use cotton or cotton/synthetic mop and 2 buckets, both with wringers. One bucket contains your mixture of ProClean NS and water, the second bucket contains warm water to rinse mop and wring out dirty water. (The second bucket is for rinsing the mop only.)

5. Damp mop floor in sections. Do not flood mop. Do not rinse.

6. Allow floor to air dry completely.

Do not wet mop or rinse Proclean ns treated floor until you are ready to thoroughly clean and reapply initial application. It will diminish non-slip treatment. Only sweep or dry dust mop, or mop with proclean ns.

Automatic Floor Scrubbing Machine Application (aqua or green floor pad, 125-200 RPM):

ProClean NS can be applied during the Weekly Maintenance using an automatic scrubbing machine (125-200 RPM only). Use Light Soil mixture. You can apply, scrub and vacuum moisture in one step. Do not flood. Do not rinse. For weekly cleaning, use an aqua pad. For heavy-duty cleaning, use a green pad.

Note: To remove ProClean NS from surface use ProClean as directed and repeat if needed to return floor to original condition. This is also necessary if you intend to use ProClean D No-Rinse to disinfect the floor. ProClean NS is not to be used on the same floor as Slip NoMor.

First Aid

If in eyes: Rinse with water for a few minutes. consult physician if symptoms occur.
If on skin: Rinse with water. Consult physician if symptoms occur.
Storage: No specific measures identified.
Disposal: Can be flushed to sanitary sewer. Discard empty container in trash.
Ingredients: 2-Aminoethanol (CAS# 141-43-5), 2-Butoxyethanol (CAS# 111-76-2).

PROCLEAN® D NO-RINSE

ProClean D No-Rinse is an EPA certified product. Complete directions and specifications can be found on the label. Follow the directions given on the bottle.

ProClean D No-Rinse is your “go-to” disinfectant cleaner. Killing bacteria, fungus, algae, and viruses (e.g. effective against Covid-19, hepatitis-B-virus) and controls mildew. Use more often during flu and cold season or whenever you deem necessary.

ProClean D No-Rinse is suitable for non-porous, hard, washable water-resistant surfaces and objects such as walls and dance floors.

• Dilute ProClean D No-Rinse 2 oz. to 1 gallon of water.

• Mop onto floor surface which must remain wet for up to 10 minutes. Do not flood mop. Treated surface should not be used until entirely dry.

• Although ProClean D No-Rinse is a non-rinse product, it is preferable to wipe dry with a clean mop or towel and/or rinse lightly with clear water after the desired wet time.

Note: Undiluted or insufficiently diluted ProClean D No-Rinse will act as a stripper and may remove floor finishes that have been applied after purchase. Do not mix ProClean D No-Rinse with other cleaning, anti-slip and/or disinfectant products.

Note: When ProClean D No-Rinse is sprayed on, the surface will need to be rinsed before reapplying. Without this additional step residue will build-up and make surface sticky.

PROCLEAN® ULTRA

ProClean Ultra is your “deep cleaning” solution. If your floor is very dirty, this is the product for you. Use a low-RPM floor cleaning machine.

Directions:

Heavy Duty Cleaning Application:

1. Sweep or dry dust mop.

2. Prepare mixture of 2 ounces ProClean Ultra to one gallon water.

3. Use a microfiber mop pad and rectangular bucket. Bu sure to rinse dirty mop pad with clear water. When mop pad no longer rinses clean, replace with clean mop pad. Mop pads can be washed and reused. Microfiber mops are preferable because they can retain more dirt including tap shoe residue.

Alternatively, use a cotton or cotton/synthetic mop and 2 buckets, both with wringers. One bucket contains your mixture of ProClean Ultra and water, the second bucket contains warm water to rinse mop and wring out dirty water. (The second bucket is for rinsing the mop only.)

4. Damp mop floor in sections. Apply liberally but do not flood mop. Allow solution to stand for a minute or two (4-6 minutes for heavily soiled floors) before removing remaining liquid.

5. Rinse mop in second bucket with clear water.

6. After completion of mopping with solution, rinse floor with clear warm water.

7. You can dry mop after to wipe clean and dry.

Automatic Floor Scrubbing Machine Application (green or red floor pad, 125-200 RPM):

1. Sweep or dry dust mop.

2. Prepare mixture of 1-2 ounces ProClean Ultra to one gallon water

3. Apply, scrub and pick-up water with machine.

4. After completion of mopping with solution, rinse floor with clear warm water.

5. You can dry mop after to wipe clean and dry.

First Aid

If in eyes: Rinse with water for a few minutes. Consult physician if symptoms occur.
If on skin: Rinse with water. Consult a physician if symptoms occur.

Storage: No specific measures identified.
Disposal: Can be flushed to sanitary sewer. Discard empty container in trash.
Ingredients: Carbitol (CAS# 111-90-0), 1-methoxy-2 propanol (CAS# 107-98-2).

SIMPLYGONE™

SimplyGone is a stain remover and cleaner for wood and vinyl that can be used over the entire floor or for spot cleaning.

Remove Food Stains, Drink Stains, Grease, Oil, Most Shoe Polish, Heavy Grime & Scuff Marks

• Just apply, agitate, wait five minutes, then wipe off.

It is non-flammable and non-toxic and has an unlimited shelf life. Apply liberally to mark. On stubborn marks agitate with soft brush. Wipe with white towel or terry cloth. Repeat procedure if necessary. Rinse with water.

Directions:

1. Apply liberally to mark.

2. On stubborn marks agitate with soft brush.

3. Wipe with white towel or terry cloth.

4. Repeat procedure if necessary.

5. Rinse cleaned area with water.

First Aid

If in eyes: Rinse with water for a few minutes. consult physician if symptoms occur.
If on skin: Rinse with water. Consult physician if symptoms occur.

Storage: No specific measures identified.
Disposal: Can be flushed to sanitary sewer. Discard empty container in trash.

WIPEOUT® PLUS

A spot remover and universal agent for the removal of rubber marks or scuff marks, heel marks, adhesive residue and stubborn stains.

• Timeliness is an important factor when cleaning a scuff mark. Like a tomato sauce stain on a shirt, the faster the cleaning process begins, the more likely the results will be good. See Scuff Marks below.

Directions:

1. Apply to dance and sports floors: vinyl, linoleum, wood and rubber.

2. For floors without a polish or sealer, spray Wipeout Plus directly onto the soiled area. Allow to react a short time, remove residue with a cloth or non-abrasive white pad.

3. Wipe with clean water.

4. Clean with ProClean as directed on label.

Notes: For polymer-coated floors or sensitive surfaces like sealed wood or cork flooring, spray Wipeout Plus onto a cloth and wipe carefully. Follow steps 3 and 4 above and then reapply surface treatment.

If your floor has a finish, it is possible Wipeout Plus will remove it. The faster you flush with water, the less likely this will occur.

If your floor is a total wasteland of scuffs and dye marks, and you used a finish on it, it might be time to re-finish the floor.

Technical Data: pH level: 5.5 (concentrate)

Ingredients: Less than 5% anionic tensides. Contains preservatives. Other ingredients include care components, process materials and aromas.

Storage: Store closed in a cool, dry place. Protect from frost. Store closed in a cool, dry place. Protect from frost.

SCUFF MARKS

The traditional scuff mark is a classic problem.

Scuff marks typically are the black streaks typically left by footwear that has a hard rubber bottom, such as heels, hard-soled shoes, or sneakers.

With the additional force of percussive movement, such as tap or clogging, the problem is compounded by the abrasive, burnishing, and grinding nature of the transference of materials to the floor surface. Both the shoe soles and the floor is made of plastic.

At some point, the scuff mark which is plastic, will migrate into the vinyl floor, which is also plastic. Normal cleaning procedures may not get the job done.

There are two ways to address these problems, and in some instances, a combination of both work well.

• Aggressive chemical cleaning agents that can dissolve and “lift” the marks off the floor.

• Mechanical means utilizing a floor machine, brushes and/or aggressive pads (red or black) to muscle the offending marks off the floor.

Note: That which can dissolve foreign matter off your floor may very well dissolve your floor along with any floor finish you may have had on your floor. The first time out test any new product or technique. Read maintenance instructions for do’s and don’ts. High RPM floor machines (over 200 RPM) will heat surface and can leave floor smooth and slippery.

Wipeout Plus and SimplyGone are products recommended for scuff marks.

DYE MARKS

While scuff marks can be troublesome, there is a much more sinister problem that looks very similar.

Dye marks are produced when heat and perspiration cause shoe dye to leach through the shoe onto the floor.

It is like spilling paint. It is time for a spot solvent remover.

There is an inherent problem where the substance that dissolves the dye mark can also dissolve your floor. The longer dye marks remain on a vinyl floor, the harder they are to remove. These marks will migrate directly into vinyl, making them almost impossible to get out.

We recommend Wipeout Plus, a relatively safe and effective agent for picking up dye marks.

- Apply directly to spot, wait 30 seconds, agitate with brush or rough rag and flush with water to remove all vestiges of Wipeout Plus. Follow directions.

TAP MARKS

Another type of mark that infuriates dance floor owners is the grey/black marks produced by disintegrating aluminum taps.

Aluminum compound taps break down leaving a residue (the metal turns black when exposed to friction or heat) which ends up sticking to the vinyl and everything else. This residue is in the form of tiny chards or “little bitsy razor blades” which stab or get stuck in the relatively soft vinyl floor. This would be the same for a wood floor.

Solution (anyone or a combination of the following):

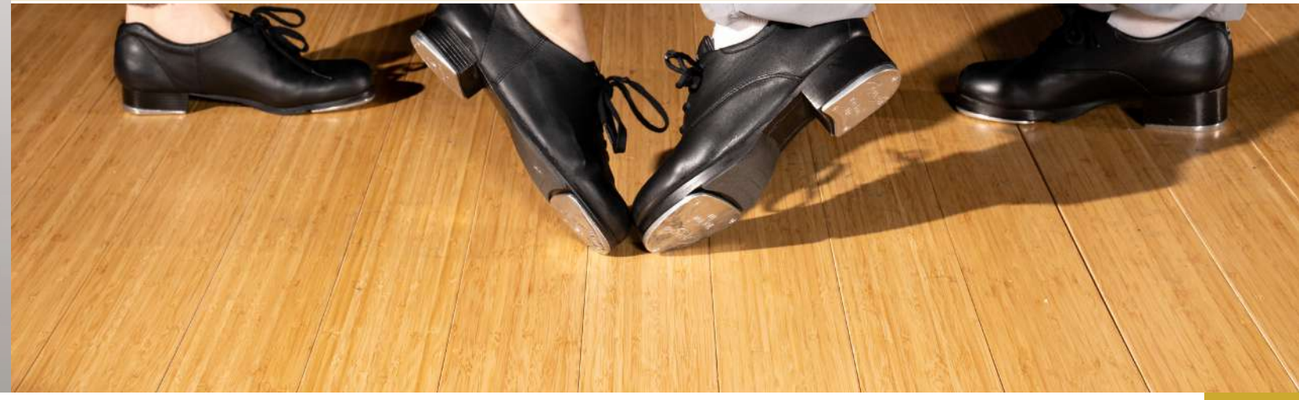
- To preserve the quality of your floor, use only steel or aluminum taps, if possible. However, these days, even high quality tap shoes will leave this dirty residue behind.

- Use artificial chamois cloth on the bottom of a broom to dry mop your floor. The shards of aluminum will stick to the chamois. Wash out the chamois cloth and reuse.

- Use dry microfiber mophead on your floor with a back-and-forth motion to loosen the shards and pick up the aluminum compound. Wash out the mophead and reuse.

- Wet down the floor with a solution comprised of 4 oz of ProClean®or better yet, ProClean® Ultra to a gallon of water, then use a low-speed RPM (150-200 revolution per minute) floor scrubber with water recovery to loosen aluminum compound particles and suck up this residue. An alternative to a floor scrubber is to use a monodisc floor machine along with a wet/dry shop vac to suck up the aluminum compound while still suspended in the water on the floor. Rinse the floor well, especially after using ProClean Ultra.

Note: Soap and water are ineffective in cleaning up this metal dust.



TAPSHIELD®

TapShield Must be Applied to the Taps in a Specific Way

- First the tap (new or used) must be cleaned with a green pad and sudsy water or with high grit/low abrasive sandpaper, and then wiped dry/clean.

- TapShield is applied to each tap 4 times allowing the first 3 applications to dry for 15-20 minutes and giving the last coating overnight to completely dry and cure. You will want to prop up the shoes or turn them upside down.

- Mark the bottom of the shoe so you know it was treated. This coating should last a full season. TapShield is available in individual or studio size bottles.

Use TapShield after removing the tap residue to protect against a recurrence.

Applied directly to taps, our unique product prevents the residue made from aluminum compound from getting on the floor.

SLIPPERY FLOORS

Every movement activity has an ideal co-efficient of friction that provides optimum performance and safety.

Unfortunately, it is different for every discipline. Differing footwear and activities change your perspective on the dynamics of your flooring surface. Tappers like fast floors. Ballroom dancers, fitness and athletic participants prefer even faster floors. Ballet dancers like slow floors. Faster floors have less coefficient of friction.

The key to adjusting the floor to meet your movement needs is to assess the condition and maintenance of your floor. In many cases, floors get slippery or sticky because they are not being cleaned properly, or not being cleaned at all. In many other cases, humidity which is too high or too low, will cause a floor to be too slippery.

Clean the floor on a regular basis with appropriate products.

Does the floor perform better right after cleaning then deteriorate over time?

If so, clean the floor more often. Use a detergent/degreaser or manufacturer recommended cleaning product. Many home cleaning agents contain chemicals that make floors more slippery.

Check your HVAC system

Ensuring the temperature and humidity are under control. Both can cause major changes in the coefficient of friction. Use a dehumidifier overnight if humidity is an issue. Temperature should be between 68° and 78° F and humidity should be about 50%.

Dry mop the floor daily. If you find that your floor is still too slippery, Stagestep® offers two products that make floor surfaces less slippery or slower: ProClean NS and Slip NoMor.

ProClean NS, a multi-purpose cleaner and non-slip agent. Each time you use ProClean NS to clean your floor it adds a non-slip element to the surface. (See above.)

SLIP NOMOR®

Slip NoMor is a liquid anti-slip floor treatment. Adheres to wood, vinyl, linoleum, stone — any non-porous surface you move on. Slip NoMor is a temporary non-slip agent that may last up to one week depending upon use, humidity, and dust. Floor conditions and requirements may vary. Always test the surface prior to each use to ensure the product will work as needed before applying to the entire floor surface.

Directions:

1. Broom sweep or vacuum to remove coarse dirt. Mop floor with ProClean as directed to clean before Slip NoMor application.

2. Shake Slip NoMor well.

3. Best to use Slip NoMor with a dedicated mop and bucket.

4. Prepare mixture of 1 part Slip NoMor to 20 parts water.

5. Apply to clean floor surface with damp mop. Do not flood mop.

6. Allow solution to dry on floor.

7. When finished, clean mop and pail twice with a mild detergent and hot water.

Floor conditions and requirements may vary.

Notes:

Residue left on the floor after drying indicates that your concentration was too heavy. Remove residue from floor with a hot water rinse and reapply Slip NoMor.

This product should not be used on the same floor as ProClean NS.

Slip NoMor must be removed with clean, hot water rinse prior to cleaning.

Do not repeat Slip NoMor application without removing the previous treatment.

Do not damp mop with clear water in between applications of Slip NoMor. It will diminish non-slip treatment.

First Aid

If in eyes: Rinse cautiously with water for 15 minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. Immediately call a poison control center or doctor.
If on skin (or hair): Immediately remove all contaminated clothing. Wash affected area with plenty of water.
If skin irritation occurs: Get medical attention. Wash all contaminated clothing before reuse.
Storage: Store in a cool, well-ventilated place. Protect from frost. Keep away from foodstuffs.
Disposal: Must be made according to official regulations. Whatever cannot be saved for recovery or recycling should be managed in an appropriate and approved waste disposal facility. Processing, use or contamination of this product may change the waste management options. State/provincial and local disposal regulations may differ from federal disposal regulations. Dispose of container and unused contents in accordance with federal, state/provincial and local requirements.
Ingredients: Amorphous Silicon Dioxide (C.A.S. #7631-86-9).

THE DIRT INVASION

Stopping the dirt, grime, foreign materials and moisture before it lands on your floor can save you time and money.

• Some of dirt and foreign materials that gets on your floor comes from outside your facility.

Solution

• Install indoor entrance mats both at your exit/entrance and at the doorway into the studio. These are high tech items in that they scrape, remove dirt, and dry the shoe bottom just by walking on it.

• They can be installed as portable systems or recessed permanently.

• They eliminate about 80% of the outside particulate matter that gets on your floor.

WAVE SET

When rolled out, a series of waves run across the width of the floor that now will not lie flat.

If your flooring has been rolled up, lying flat for a while, been stored without a tube, or has had weighted objects put on top of it, it is possible you have wave set.

Solution

• Roll the floor up the opposite way around a tube and keep it in a warm place for a day or two. Then, unroll to see if you have fixed, or at the very least improved, the condition of the flooring.

• Use heat (with caution) and pressure. A hair dryer is the best way to apply heat. Too much heat can damage your floor. Warm up a wave then put weight on it overnight. If it has not improved by the next day, you may have an unfixable floor.

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

A major cause of floor surface problems is environmental.

Results

• Softer surfaces can be damaged more quickly and more extensively than harder surfaces in a warmer environment.

• Certain colors and patterns can either show or hide scuff marks.

• There are floor surfaces and finishes that resist staining better than others.

• Issues regarding air quality, temperature, humidity, and static electricity impact the wear, comfort, and consistency of your floor.

Solution

• Contain and control the environment to reduce maintenance.

HOT AND COLD

Humidity and temperature are two key factors in keeping your floor safe and clean.

• The warmer the room, the softer the (non-wood) floor surface becomes. • The darker the color of the floor, the more heat is absorbed and retained.

• Non-wood floor surfaces can get so soft that heel impressions can become permanent. The floor becomes more vulnerable to cuts, abrasions and other damage.

• Temperature changes of 10-20 or more degrees can have a major impact on the viability of the floor surface when the floor was installed using tape.

• If your floor has been semi-permanently installed and the temperature gets much warmer than when it was laid, it will probably expand, bubble up, and create waves. If you used a taping system it will have to be reset.

• If the floor gets cold, it contracts, hardens and less flexible, increasing the possibility of cracking and fracturing.

• Temperature change comes about because of sunlight through windows/ skylights, wind penetration at doors and windows, slabs and ceilings that are not insulated, heat given off by dancers, and erratic thermostat settings.

• Wood subfloors and surfaces are especially vulnerable to the effects of temperature and high humidity. Wood can cup, contract, warp and swell, resulting in excess wear and splintering. It also creates an environment where mold can develop.

Most conditions that cause this kind of deterioration can be reversed, and the floor can be salvaged if addressed immediately. ***Call our technical support for assistance.***

MOISTURE

Moisture can be both friend and foe to any performance surface/subfloor system.

Too little and the floor can be a slip hazard, too much and you can have surface warping of wood or subfloor. High moisture and temperature can ferment mold and mildew. It is a balancing act that determines the overall performance of your floor, and the ability to maintain it.

Too Much Moisture

Caused by high humidity, unprotected concrete slabs, flood mopping or improperly functioning heating or air conditioning.

Results

• Excessive moisture can cause slippery floors, attract excessive dust and dirt, breakdown tape and adhesives, and lead to both surface and subfloor failure. When there is too much moisture in a room the humidity of the space will rise above the standard 40-60% needed to maintain a good dance floor environment. The air in the room will hold moisture throughout the day while the rooms are warm and in use (Typically the HVAC system handles the moisture in the air, but as humidity goes above 60% the system is not as effective.

• As the rooms cool down overnight or when not in use, this excess moisture will settle out of the air onto the floor surface—bonding with dirt, dust, body oil, hair products, skin creams, etc. creating a recipe that lowers the co-efficient of friction and can turn any floor into an ice-skating rink. In addition, the moisture will also begin to collect in the cool spaces beneath the subfloor, where excessive moisture can lead to the breakdown of wood, and the growth of mold.

Solution

• Moisture from concrete slabs should be anticipated and can be addressed with a moisture barrier. Flood mopping where water and cleaning agents are poured directly onto the floor can cause water to seep into and below the subfloor and also evaporate excessive moisture into the room. High humidity areas are both a function of your geographic location and the overall health of your HVAC system.

• If you are in this type of location, have your HVAC inspected and be sure it is functioning properly. If all is good, and the inside studio humidity is over 60% you will need to invest in a dehumidifier.

Note: Do not take the humidity below 40%.

TOO LITTLE MOISTURE

Caused by dry, arid locations, lower floor locations (basement) and improperly functioning HVAC systems.

Results

Floors become slippery from loose dry dust and other contaminants on the floor. Drying out of adhesive and tapes lead to bond failure. Increased risk or excessive static electricity build up which can lead to failure of sound system equipment and even possible injury from electric shock.

Solution

Check your HVAC to make sure it is functioning properly and not removing too much moisture from your environment. Next, check that the relative humidity is between 40% - 60%. This is critical for a performance floor/subfloor to function properly.

- Adjust HVAC to allow for more humidity.
- Add a humidifier, this can be done with a stand-alone unit or one that is attached to your current HVAC system.
- Wet mop floor frequently.
- Your goal is to get your space 40-60% relative humidity.
- Monitor room temperature.
- Add blinds or drapes to block direct sunlight.
- Take dance shoes on and off in the studio to reduce transfer of outside dirt.
- Make sure room is insulated properly.

STATIC ELECTRICITY

In a dry atmosphere, usually caused by a heating system and or winter weather, the relative humidity drops. Friction caused by walking on carpets produces static electricity.

Results

A static electricity charge can be painful and give you a shock. It can also blow out your sound system. Static electricity turns shoes into a dust and dirt magnet and the first slide, shuffle, skip or hop deposits a mess on your floor.

Solution

Install a humidifier in your HVAC system and wet mop your floor in the morning before class to address this issue. Initial Application on Vinyl Floors.

FLOORSHIELD II® FINISH
For Vinyl-Initial Application

Initial Application on Vinyl Floors

Maintain temperature in the 68° to 78° range. Windows and all outside doors should be closed during application and drying. Floor should not be exposed to sunlight. Radiant heated floors should be turned off several hours before finishing.

Preparation:

Deep clean or strip the Floor (as required):

1. Remove coarse dirt by vacuum or sweeping.

If DEEP CLEANING:

2a. Dilute ProClean® Ultra as required 2-4 oz to 1 gallon of water.

If STRIPPING:

2b. Dilute stripper as required. New unfinished floors only require LIGHT BUILD-UP dilution.

DILUTIONS:

LIGHT BUILD-UP 8 oz per gallon hot/warm water
MEDIUM BUILD-UP 16 oz per gallon hot/warm water
HEAVY BUILD-UP 24 oz per gallon hot/warm water

3. Apply solution liberally to cover a workspace of about 100 square feet. Apply liberally, but not so heavily to run into puddles or run under tiles.

4. Allow 3 to 5 minutes for solution to penetrate. DO NOT ALLOW SOLUTION TO DRY.

5. Run low RPM (150-200 revolutions per minute) floor scrubbing machine, or agitate with cotton mop or microfiber mop, over surface of floor. (Best to use floor scrubber when cleaning floor for tap shoe residue.)

FLOORSHIELD II® FINISH
For Vinyl-Initial Application

6. Pick up dirty solution with floor scrubber watery recovery, wet vac or mop. (Best to use vacuum to suck up tap shoe residue.)

7. Rinse the floor thoroughly with clear water. Continue rinsing until there is no residual cleaning product.

8. Allow floor to completely dry before proceeding to apply finish.

Finish the Floor:

1. Shake bottle of FloorShield II® Finish thoroughly. **VERY IMPORTANT TO SHAKE WELL.**

2. Pour into pan or directly on flooring if you are practiced. Use the applicator(s) supplied with the FloorShield II® Finish to apply 2 coats to the floor. One coat is applied to vinyl flooring, the second coat is applied perpendicular to the first coat.

When applying the finish, do not put pressure on the applicator. FloorShield II® Finish should be applied so that solution will self-level. Each bottle of finish covers 500/sf for 2 coats.

3. Apply FloorShield II® Finish in straight, even strokes that will cover floor fully.

4. Allow to dry completely. Do not re-work finish while it is drying. Floor should not be subject to air circulation from fans or open widows.

5. When dry, an additional coat, or coats, may be applied if needed. We recommend a minimum of two coats applied perpendicularly to prior coat.

Each bottle of finish covers a little more than 500/sf for 2 coats. You must apply the 2 coats of finish within a 24-hour period but ideally as soon after prior coat is completely dry to the touch.

6. FloorShield II® Finish will continue to harden over a week. Allow 36 hours to pass before barefoot dancing on the floor, tap dancing 48 hours.

FLOORSHIELD II® FINISH
For Wood-Initial Application

Initial Application on Wood Floors

Room temperature should be maintained between 68°-78° F and relative humidity between 40-60%. Windows and all outside doors should be closed during application and drying. Floor should not be exposed to sunlight. Radiant heated floors should be turned off several hours before finishing. Floor must be coarse sanded, fine sanded, clean, dry, free of dust, grease, oil and wax. Wood floor must be prepared same as any wood floor to be finished.

Preparation:

1. Wood floor must be prepared same as any wood floor to be finished.

a) Use a coarse-grit sandpaper to remove old finishes or paint layers, then gradually switch to finer-grit sandpapers for a smooth finish. Always sand parallel to the wood grain to avoid scratches. After sanding, use a vacuum or tack cloth to remove any dust particles.

b) Use 120-grit sandpaper on refinished pieces and 80-grit on new wood. After sanding the entire surface thoroughly, wipe off the dust and all loose sandpaper grit with a clean cloth. Then, sand with 180-grit until you've removed all the marks left by the 120-grit, and the surface appears level.

c) Sweep and vacuum floor thoroughly to remove both dust and debris. Sand the floor with fine-grit sandpaper prior to coating with FloorShield II® Finish. Vacuum and wipe the floor again after sanding to remove any dust.

FLOORSHIELD II® FINISH
For Wood-Initial Application

Finish the Floor:

1. Shake bottle of FloorShield II® Finish thoroughly. VERY IMPORTANT TO SHAKE WELL.

2. Pour into pan or directly on flooring if you are practiced. Use the applicator(s) supplied with the FloorShield II® Finish to apply multiple coats to the floor. First coat is applied to wood flooring in the direction of the grain, the second coat is applied perpendicular to the first coat. When applying the finish, do not put pressure on the applicator. FloorShield II® Finish should be applied so that solution will self-level. Each bottle of finish covers 500/sf for 2 coats.

3. Apply FloorShield II® Finish in straight, even strokes that will cover floor fully.

4. Allow to dry completely. Do not re-work finish while it is drying. Floor should not be subject to air circulation from fans or open widows.

5. If grain is raised, lightly fine sand before applying next coat. After sanding always damp mop floor so that it is clean and free of dust.

6. When dry, an additional coat, or coats, may be applied if needed. We recommend a minimum of two coats applied perpendicularly to prior coat (3 coats minimum during the initial application after sanding as outlined above). Each bottle of finish covers a little more than 500/sf for 2 coats. You must apply the 2-3-4 coats of finish within a 24-hour period but ideally as soon after prior coat is completely dry to the touch.

7. FloorShield II® Finish will continue to harden over a week. Allow 36 hours to pass before barefoot dancing on the floor, tap dancing 48 hours.

FLOORSHIELD II® FINISH
For Re-Application

Re-Application on Vinyl and Wood Floors

Re-Application implies an application of FloorShield II®Finish to a FloorShield II® finished floor. A floor coated with any other finish product will require an Initial Application, the directions for which, see above.

Room temperature should be maintained between 68°-78° F and relative humidity between 40-60%. Windows and all outside doors should be closed during application and drying. Floor should not be exposed to sunlight. Radiant heated floors should be turned off several hours before finishing.

Preparation/Scuff the Floor:

1. Place stripper pad (maroon or black) onto a floor machine and use dry, gently with low RPM machine. The objective is remove any old finish which is about to flake off and also gently scratch old finish for additional surface area for new finish to coat. Heavily scratched wood floors may require more extensive sanding/screening with a coarse sanding followed by a fine sanding.

2. Remove coarse dirt by vacuum or sweeping.

3. Do a warm water rinse to clean the floor of any dust, debris, or residue. Make sure all residue/dust resulting from the scuffing is removed from the floor or the new finish will not adhere.

FLOORSHIELD II® FINISH
For Re-Application

Finish the Floor:

Room temperature should be maintained between 68°-78° F and relative humidity between 40-60%. Windows and all outside doors should be closed during application and drying. Floor should not be exposed to sunlight. Radiant heated floors should be turned off several hours before finishing.

1. Shake bottle of FloorShield II® Finish thoroughly. VERY IMPORTANT TO SHAKE WELL.

2. Pour directly on flooring. Use the applicator(s) supplied with the FloorShield II® Finish to apply 2 coats to the floor. The coats should be applied perpendicularly which generally assures no spot is left uncoated. Be careful to apply coating to entire floor evenly. When applying the finish, do not put pressure on the applicator. FloorShield II® Finish should be applied so that solution will self-level. Each bottle of finish covers 500+/sf for at least 2 coats.

3. Apply FloorShield II® Finish in straight, even strokes that will cover floor fully.

4. Allow to dry completely. Do not re-work finish while it is drying. Floor should not be subject to air circulation from fans or open widows.

5. When dry, an additional coat, or coats, may be applied if needed. We recommend a minimum of two coats applied perpendicularly to prior coat. You must apply the 2 or more coats of finish within a 24-hour period but ideally as soon after prior coat is completely dry to the touch.

6. Allow the natural drying time. FloorShield II® Finish will continue to harden over next several days. Allow 36 hours before barefoot dancing on the floor, 48 hours before tap dancing.

MONO DISC FLOORING PADS

1. Buffing Pads:

• Buffing pads are one of the least aggressive options. They effectively remove light scuffs and dirt while leaving behind a sparkling finish and shine.

• These pads are perfect for light-duty use and will not cause damage to most types of flooring surfaces.

• Suitable for a wide range of commercial and industrial settings, buffing pads are designed for low-speed machines.

• **Color:** Red or white

• **Frequency:** 1-5 times per week

2. Polishing Pads:

• Polishing pads are the softest type of floor pad.

• Use these pads with low-speed floor polishers for a smooth and even application.

• Note that they are not recommended for high-speed machines.

• **Color:** White or gold

• **Frequency:** 1-5 times per week

3. Scrubbing Pads:

• Scrubbing pads work aggressively without removing the finish of a floor. They eliminate heavy dirt and scuff marks from various surfaces but not all Marley or vinyl floors.

• Best used with low-speed machines, they ensure efficient and effective cleaning without damaging the floor finish.

• These pads are robust and can withstand frequent use in high-traffic zones.

Remember that the choice of pad depends on your specific cleaning needs, the type of flooring, and the equipment you're using.

OUTDOOR USE

If you are using flooring outside, know that exposure to the sun is detrimental to the floor and will void the warranty. You should be careful of two sun-related issues.

1. Excessive temperature will soften and expand flooring, making it vulnerable to damage. The sun emits UV radiation that will attack the plasticizers in the floor that make it flexible.

2. Prolonged exposure to sunlight will cause your floor to become ridged, shrink and crack. Cover the flooring with a tarp when not in use.

• **Never leave flooring outside without protecting it from the elements.**

HELPFUL
Moving & Storing Hints

• Keep the tubes or cores if you have any future plans to move the flooring for the purpose of touring, annual concerts at another venue, or moving your studio to another location.

• Store vertically in a place where should the roll fall no one will get hurt or on a vinyl transport wtth rod through core to prevent bending. DO NOT STORE HORIZONTAL ON A FLAT FLOOR.

• Protect your floor when moving it from dirt, grime, and contact damage using bubble wrap, boxes, and/or plastic/shrink wrap.

• While water itself will not damage most PVC floors, it can create an ideal environment for mold. Immediately dry the floor and inspect for any mold spots. You should be especially concerned if you have foamed-back flooring because water can permanently damage the foam if not removed immediately.

• Timestep® requires extra care when rolling up and rolling back out. It is best if the temperature of the room is between 68° and 80° F. Always hold with two hands at the long ends of the roll or panel. Never grab with any force along the side. You could break off a piece. Timestep® Black is particularly fragile. And again, always store in vertical position and never, ever, flip the floor over. Always unroll or unravel so that the smooth surface is up.

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GLASSLESS MIRROR CLEANING
& Wood-Railed Ballet Barre

Glassless Mirror Cleaning

DO's:

• Clean using a lint free, microfiber cloth with plain Windex (or the included cleaning solution in the cleaning kit).

• First, dampen the cloth with the solution until it's saturated, but not dripping.

• Pass the microfiber cloth over the mirror with gentle, downward strokes, starting at the top and working your way down.

DON'T's:

• Do not clean in a circular, scrubbing, or harsh motion.

• Never apply the cleaning solution directly to the mirror surface.

• Paper towels or other abrasive materials should not be used to clean the mirrors.

Wood-Railed Ballet Barre

DO:

• Use medium steel or brass wool to rub down ballet barres when the wood is too rough and also when it gets too smooth, oily or dirty

DON'T:

• Use harsh chemicals or household wood cleaners and waxes.