

Quick Links

[Facilities Website](#)

[Safety Data Sheets \(SDS\)](#)

Some of these links lead to web-based resources that are not product-specific.

A variety of different construction methods and materials are used in the production of resilient flooring. Each of the different types of resilient flooring may have different desirable properties or require different maintenance methods due to construction or sensitivities to chemicals or abrasion. Care should be taken to select a flooring material that meets your individual needs and to maintain it in a method consistent with its type.

Where the term “Resilient” comes from:

Resilient flooring refers to those surfaces that are able to return to original form without damage when bent, pulled, stretched, or compressed. An example of a resilient flooring surface would be a sheet vinyl which can be rolled up for transportation and laid flat during application. An example of a non-resilient flooring would be a stone tile, which if bent (even slightly) cracks and must be replaced.

A Closer Look at resilient floor types:

VCT: Vinyl Composition Tile is composed of between 65 and 85 percent crushed limestone with binders, fillers, and dye. Standard thickness is 1/8 inch with a consistent construction throughout the entire thickness of the tile. The most common size is 12 x12 inch.

VET: Vinyl Enhanced Tile is similar to VCT tile, but has a higher binder (vinyl) content than standard VCT. VET is considered to be a subset of VCT.

SVT: Solid Vinyl Tile is similar to VCT tile, but contains a higher binder (vinyl) content than VCT and VET. According to the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) a tile must contain 34% vinyl or higher to be considered SVT.

LVT: Luxury Vinyl Tile is an industry term used to describe what ASTM defines as a Class III SVT tile. These tiles must contain a wear layer of minimum thickness 0.5mm with a minimum 90% vinyl content. All base layers must contain a minimum of 30% vinyl. Construction is multilayer consisting of a backing, filler layer, printed film, and wear layer.

HVT: Homogeneous Vinyl Tile is constructed such that the entire thickness of the tile is the same material.

Homogeneous Sheet Vinyl: Homogeneous Sheet Vinyl construction is consistent throughout the thickness of the material.

Sheet Vinyl (layered): Sheet Vinyl has a construction similar to that of LVT but is more flexible to facilitate transportation and application in large rolls.

Linoleum: Linoleum is often marketed as a “green” flooring surface and is made from a mixture of linseed or vegetable oils, wood flour, and fillers. Most often is has a jute (like burlap) backing. Linoleum is sensitive to high pH cleaners, and if coated, requires the use of Linoleum safe strippers and low abrasive floor pads.

Rubber: Rubber flooring is available in sheet goods and tiles. Most rubber flooring is of homogeneous construction and is often recommended by manufacturers to be maintained without coatings. Diamond pads are often used to clean and maintain rubber flooring.

How does this affect the use of cleaning and maintenance products?

The manufacturer of any particular flooring material should be consulted for specific recommendations, guidelines and warranty detail. The below guidance is offered as general comments and may not apply to any specific situation.

Cleaning:

Generally speaking neutral cleaners are best suited for floor cleaning. Care should be taken if solvent or alkaline (high pH) cleaners are to be used as rubber and linoleum floors can be sensitive to these chemistries.

Coating:

Flooring manufacturers regularly apply a protective coating to floor tiles before they are shipped to keep them from sticking together in transport. This must be scrubbed off prior to coating or there can be adhesion issues.

Many floors today are marketed as “no-coat”. Often these floors may begin to show some wear and customers desire to coat them. As with tile, they should be well scrubbed prior to coating. Note that some newer flooring materials are very low surface energy and there may be some challenges with adhesion of floor coating products.

Stripping:

Homogeneous tile and sheet products (i.e. VCT) generally can be abraded with little to no change in appearance and therefore can have aggressive stripping pads used during the maintenance process.

Flooring that is soft, or produced using layers (heterogeneous) such as linoleum and LVT should be stripped using non abrasive pads or the least aggressive stripping pad that will complete the task.

Coated linoleum floors require the use of stripping chemicals as standard strippers can discolor, and damage linoleum.

How can I learn more?

For further guidance or specific questions contact your local 3M representative

Health and Safety

CAUTION

When handling any chemical products, read the manufacturers' container labels and the Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for important health, safety and environmental information. To obtain SDS sheets for 3M products go to [3M.com/SDS](https://www.3m.com/SDS), or by mail or in case of an emergency, call 1-888-364-3577 or 1-651-737-6501.

When using any equipment, always follow the manufacturers' instructions for safe operation.

Technical Information

Technical information and data, recommendations, and other statements provided by 3M are based on information, tests, or experience which 3M believes to be reliable, but the accuracy or completeness of such information is not guaranteed. Such technical information and data are intended for persons with knowledge and technical skills sufficient to assess and apply their own informed judgment to the information. The typical values shown should not be used for the purpose of specification limits. If you have questions about this Product, contact the **Customer Service Department at 1-800-852-9722**.

Product Use

Many factors beyond 3M's control and uniquely within user's knowledge and control can affect the use and performance of a 3M product in a particular application. Given the variety of factors that can affect the use and performance of a 3M product, user is solely responsible for evaluating the 3M product and determining whether it is fit for a particular purpose and suitable for user's method of application.

Warranty

3M warrants that each 3M product will be free from defects in material and manufacture for 90 days from the date of purchase from 3M's authorized distributor. 3M MAKES NO OTHER EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

Limited Remedy

If a 3M product does not conform to this warranty, the sole and exclusive remedy is, at 3M's option, replacement of the 3M product or refund of the purchase price.

No Extension of Warranty

In the case of an approved warranty claim, the replacement Product will carry only the remaining term of the original warranty period.

Limitation of Liability

Except where prohibited by law, 3M will not be liable for any loss or damage arising from the 3M product, whether direct, indirect, special, incidental or consequential, regardless of the legal theory asserted.