

Water-wise floor cleaning in a commercial setting
The new must do



The world is facing a **water crisis** that will touch every part of the globe.

"The future political impact of water scarcity may be devastating," says Jean Chrétien, former Canadian Prime Minister and co-chair of the InterAction Council. "Using water the way we have in the past simply will not sustain humanity in future."

In South Africa, this water scarcity has already become a reality, with many parts of our beautiful country currently facing severe drought.

Reducing our use of water has now become a necessity, while washing clothes and dishes, in personal-hygiene routines and when cooking and doing other daily tasks.



Floor cleaning is another area where, in the past, the use of water has often been frivolous and unnecessary.

Contrary to popular belief, dry-cleaning methods are more efficient for many floors than wet-cleaning methods are. They are also quicker on a day-to-day basis. Despite this, many buildings and companies continue to have their vinyl floors wet cleaned, to the point of being irresponsible.

Bacteria thrive on warmth, moisture, dust and grit. Unless done very carefully, wet cleaning provides the ideal environment for bacteria to spread.

Saving water, and improving hygiene at the same time, is the new **MUST DO** in every industry.

PUR
VINYL

> A vinyl floor with a PUR (polyurethane) coating which is cross linked and UV-cured. This PUR coating ensures lifelong polish-free maintenance and results in a maintenance-cost

>

saving
of 48%

>

OVER
20
YEARS

Dry Clean Daily

Remember to also clean areas which have not been walked on:

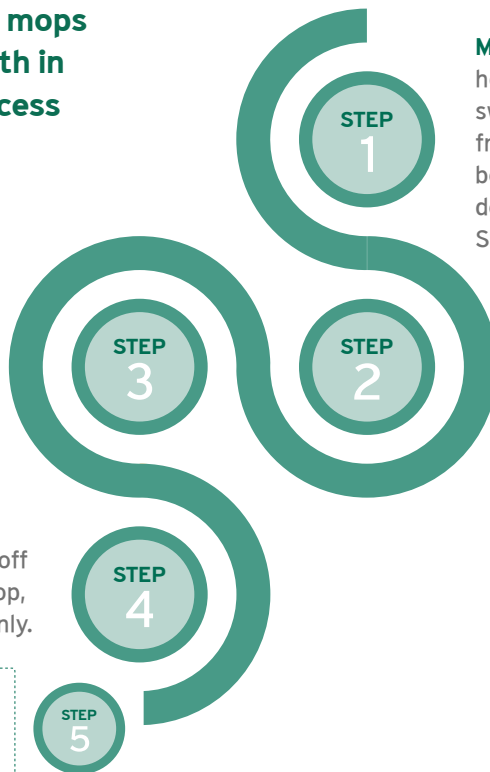


Use 4 different microfibre mops and at least 1 masslinn cloth in the daily dry-cleaning process

Mop 3 To remove really stubborn stains, spot or damp microfibre mop where required using a neutral detergent such as Proclean (diluted as per the manufacturer's instructions).

Mop 4 (*very important*) Wipe off the detergent with a clean mop, dampened with clear water only.

As an optional STEP 5 buff or burnish with a high-speed disc machine if required.



Mop 1 (with cloth) Cover the mop head with a masslinn cloth and dry sweep to remove dry dirt and dust from the floor. Most days that will be enough, but if you notice that a deeper clean is required, follow Steps 2 to 4.

Mop 2 Dampen a microfibre mop with clear water and remove any marks or stains.

A neutral detergent is very mild and contains no alkalies or bleaches. Generally only available from specialist distributors such as Nilfisk.

Interim/Weekly Clean (depending on conditions)



To remove light scuff marks

Dry buff with a ± 1000 rpm **ultra-high speed** burnisher using a clean 3M pink eraser or white pad.



To remove heavy scuff marks

Scrub with a **low speed** burnisher and neutral detergent, e.g. Proclean, diluted 100 ml:10 ℓ with cold water using the green Eco Brilliance pad.

To create a slightly higher sheen use a red pad with a spray buff product, e.g. Probuff and a high-speed machine.



The Quarterly / Annual Clean

- While a non-PUR vinyl floor may require a scrub and wet vac every month, a PUR floor should only need this treatment every three to twelve months, depending on floor traffic. In fact, a scrub and wet vac should only be done when the dry-cleaning system is proving ineffective.
- Specific conditions, e.g. in wet areas, scrub rooms and operating theatres, may however mean that weekly disinfectant scrubs are needed.
- Scrub should be done with a ± 165 rpm machine using a neutral detergent such as Proclean diluted 20:1 with cold water.











Never use a black pad to scrub a PUR coated floor.

- After scrubbing, it is critical to rinse the floor well with clear water, using a wet vac to easily and completely remove the soapy water (which will contain dirt, grime and contaminants). A wet-vac rinse is far more efficient than a bucket-and-mop system. After rinsing, dry buff with a white pad to restore finish.
- In large commercial settings, an auto-scrubber and commercial wet vac should be used.

To create a higher sheen on the floor, use a 1000 rpm machine fitted with a clean white 3M pad or green Eco brilliance pad.



Please do:	Please don't:
 Follow the manufacturer's instructions for floor cleaning and maintenance	 Use a bucket-and-mop system: you are just moving dirt from room to room with dirty mops and dirty (wasted) water
 Use a reputable commercial-cleaning company	 Sweep with a conventional broom instead of with a microfibre mop or masslinn-cloth applicator: you are simply aerating dust which will settle back on the floor later
 Use a reputable company to train your staff if you plan to use your own cleaning team. Ask for advice from a company which fully understands your flooring's requirements, such as the one which supplies your cleaning materials	 Use copious amounts of detergent and/or omit to rinse detergent off: dirt sticks more easily to the soapy film left on the floor (especially when using a bucket-and-mop system)
 Use sufficient good quality entrance/barrier matting to protect your floor. This will minimise the required cleaning and maintenance regime	 Use polish on a PUR vinyl floor

Following this cleaning regime will ensure minimum water usage, low maintenance costs and excellent hygiene.

What you need to know about microfibre mop heads

Microfibre mop heads should be washed regularly and are easy to replace when necessary. They must be laundered at a high temperature to ensure that they are properly disinfected. Some are disposable, which may be essential when cleaning intensive-care units (ICUs), operating theatres and other infection-sensitive areas.

What you need to know about masslinn cloths

The open, honeycomb structure of masslinn cloths effectively traps, holds and removes dust, which is a vehicle for spreading germs. Oil-impregnated masslin cloths are particularly effective. The large, thicker cloths are for cleaning general areas where dust particles may be relatively big, and the smaller, lighter cloths are for areas such as ICUs.

BLUE MASSLINN H/OPITAL

- a light, single-use cloth
- ideal for high-risk areas

YELLOW MASSLINN

- a heavier cloth that can be used on both sides
- ideal for larger areas

WHITE MASSLINN 2000

- has a tacky binder instead of an oily impregnation
- ideal for heavy-duty cleaning

Improving hygiene



To prevent cross-contamination, mop heads and masslinn cloths can and should be easily changed as cleaners move from room to room or ward to ward.

Colour coding is highly recommended. Use different coloured tags or mop-head sleeves for each area.



