

CLEANING METZ SLIP RESISTANT TILES

Slip resistant floors are those with either a textured surface or having raised profiles – some have a combination of both. These characteristics mean that 2 basic cleaning rules must be followed to maintain tiles in clean serviceable condition.

Generally floors with greater slip resistance are used in areas that receive more soiling and contamination - outdoor areas, kitchens, wet areas, food courts etc. Other areas receive more soiling from the sheer volume of traffic, public infrastructure, entries and foyers, shopping centres, roadside QSR and café hubs.

All slip resistant floor surfaces will be more effectively cleaned by following these two rules and most cleaning processes benefit from improved rinsing.

RULES

Floor Cleaner - only purpose made floor cleaners should be used to clean floors! All purpose, wash up, bleaches, oven cleaners, sanitisers, solvents & no-rinse cleaners should not be used.

Rinse - rinsing away the used dirty cleaning solution is essential. Spent detergent and soiling must be removed, otherwise it will simply dry back onto the floor and build-up over time leaving an unsightly residue that will be slippery when wet.

METZ SLIP RESISTANT FLOOR TILES

Metz MicroGRIP® and Sicodur® highly slip resistant tiles provide sufficient slip resistance to be wet cleaned while remaining operational. Staff and users in general will be able to traverse the area being cleaned with a minimal risk of slipping.

Where spillages have occurred it is important to be able to remove the problem as quickly as possible to reduce spreading of the mess and inevitably some degree of water/cleaning solution will be required.

A. Traditional Wet Cleaning Method

The correctly mixed solution is applied to the floor area with mild agitation and allowed sufficient contact time to "work", prior to rinsing. The liquid is then directed to a floor waste (squeegee) or vacuuming.

 [Cleaning a Metz MicroGRIP® P5 slip resistant floor - standard/wet mop method](#)

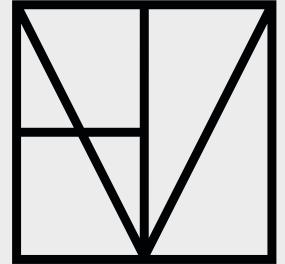
alternatively



B. Damp Cleaning Method

Damp mopping the floor with a microfibre cleaning pad such as the Oates® Decitex.

 [Cleaning a Metz MicroGRIP® Floor with the Oates® Decitex System](#)



METZ.®



TOOLS, EQUIPMENT AND METHODS

A. Traditional Wet Cleaning Method

- Smaller areas especially with equipment and fixtures present. Manual cleaning with handheld 3M Doodlebug, Oates Eager Beaver or other similar brick mop.
- Larger areas - mechanical cleaning machine of appropriate size, ideally with a cleaning solution supply tank plus built in vacuum and waste tank. First pass – cleaning solution with vacuum off. Second pass - water only (rinsing) with vacuum on.

Soft white pads are recommended for both manual and machine cleaning

B. Damp Cleaning Method

- Smaller areas especially with equipment and fixtures present. Manual cleaning with handheld Oates Decitex or other similar microfibre mop (damp only – not wet).
- Larger areas - mechanical cleaning machine of appropriate size, ideally with a cleaning solution supply tank plus built in vacuum and waste tank. Single pass with vacuum on. Alternate between using cleaning solution and water only.



SPILLAGES

Water is the simplest spillage to deal with, however on less slip resistant floors can be the most consequential being clear and easily missed by users. Spills containing particulates will generally require mopping up or vacuuming. Non-linting synthetic mops and a wringer bucket and wipe dry towelling rags or a wetvac are ideal.



Caution - Mechanical Scrubbing Machines

Mechanical scrubbing units vary enormously in their degree of scrubbing action. Harsh and excessive scrubbing will lower the slip resistance characteristics of any surface. Most Metz tiles will only require mild agitation of the cleaning solution and not heavy scrubbing.

Metz only recommend soft brushes or pads. From most suppliers these will be white in colour. Harsh abrasive pads and brushes will quickly deteriorate the slip resistance especially with frequent use.

Finish	Application	Recommended Method	Wet	Damp	Proprietary floor cleaner	Appropriate rinsing method
Metz Sicodur®	Commercial kitchens/food area floors	Brick mop with white pad/machine	✓	X	Heavy dose	Thorough rinse
Metz MicroGRIP®	Wet areas, pool surrounds, outdoor	Brick mop with white pad/machine	✓		Medium dose	Thorough rinse
	Mainly dry heavy duty areas	Brick mop with white pad/machine	✓	✓	Medium dose	Rinse and vacuum
Metz NanoGRIP®	Occasionally wet areas (smaller)	Brick mop with white pad/Decitex	•	✓	Light dose	Decitex (water only)
	Occasionally wet areas (larger)	Machine	•	✓	Light dose	Machine rinse & vacuum
Metz Natural finish	Smaller areas	Decitex	X	✓	Light dose (occasionally)	Decitex (water only)
	Larger areas	Machine	X	✓	Light dose (occasionally)	Machine rinse & vacuum

• For NanoGRIP® and Natural finishes - Wet Cleaning should only be carried out when areas are isolated from users

DEEP CLEAN

Any shortcomings in a cleaning process will eventually result in a floor that is retaining soiling on the surface. The most common failing is lack of efficient rinsing action. Fortunately these issues are easily fixed with a simple deep clean.

Mildly acidic cleaners are often very effective at providing an excellent deep-clean because they assist to break up any residues from the regular cleaning products that are usually alkaline. CLR is a common retail brand but most cleaning supply businesses will offer a commercial selection.

Apply a small quantity of neat product to the floor tile.. about 50ml makes a nice little puddle and leave for a few minutes to react. Wipe clean with dry cloth and evaluate.



POST CONSTRUCTION CLEAN

Residues left from construction processes - commonly called "construction dust" (typically from plaster setting compounds and cements, grouts etc) are extremely fine and can bond tenaciously to textured slip resistant surfaces. Again, these type of contaminants respond well to mildly acidic cleaners ... often referred to as "acid replacement technology" products.

Test the effectiveness of removal of construction residues as per above for deep cleaning. With cement based marks, the neat cleaning solution will often turn milky in colour, indicating the presence of cement.

METHOD

Apply the mixed solution to the floor and allow time to work. Post construction cleaning is likely to require more contact time and higher dose of chemical than a periodic deep clean. Agitation only and not harsh scrubbing is required.

CAUTION

Post construction cleaning noted above is no substitute for properly removing grout during the tiling process. Neither is it a substitute for protecting a completed tiled floor from contamination by the works of subsequent trades. Acidic cleaning products may affect the colour and appearance of cement based grouts. Epoxy grouting requires extra care and complete removal from the face of the tiles during installation. Hardened epoxy smears and haze are notoriously difficult to remove from the face of a tile.



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