



altro

# Cleaning guide for LVT floors

## Altro Lavencia LVT

**Develop a regular cleaning program suited to the usage and traffic of the area** - Heavily trafficked, high visibility areas, or in areas where staining agents are to be used (salons, labs) your flooring will need to be cleaned more often. It will also perform better, in these areas, using the preferred maintenance with finish program and opting to add additional protective finish coats as needed. Additionally, it is also important to remove rubber sole scuffs regularly, whether by hand or with mechanical scrubber.

**Use recommended cleaning chemicals** - Use only preferred cleaning liquids. Always follow manufacturer's instructions including the correct dilution ratio. Always spot check the suitability of cleaners on vinyl floors prior to initial maintenance. Do not mix two different cleaning liquids together. Do not use cleaner containing pine oil or phenolic sanitizer.

**Remove scuff marks regularly** - To remove any rubber heel marks by abrasion, use the correct machine pad or scrub by hand. For areas requiring renovation due to neglect or heavy soiling, consult Altro Technical Services.

**Protect newly installed floors** - All newly laid floor surfaces should be covered and protected from other trades during construction with a suitable non-staining, non-taped, protective covering.

**Dirt control** - A suitable dirt excluder outside all entrances and an entry mat will help protect flooring. Mats should be regularly cleaned to maintain their effectiveness.

**Color selection** -The importance of color selection cannot be overstated. Careful consideration must be given before choosing a color.

- Light colors will show more dirt and sole scuffs.
- Dark colors will show more scratching and abrasion.
- Medium tones are best in high traffic areas.
- Maintain light and dark colors using the preferred maintenance with finish protocols.

**Some materials are known to cause staining on vinyl floors.**  
Typical examples include:

- Asphalt and bitumen materials
- Cardboard / hardboard (wet)
- Some fire-retardant treatments used on carpets
- Dyes from printed literature or packaging

- Rubber-backed carpets and rubber mats
- Rubber furniture rests and wheels
- Shoe soles not made from non-staining materials
- Heat degradation
- Chemicals used in cleaners e.g. pine oil and phenolic sanitizer

## Initial maintenance

1. Do not begin any maintenance procedure until all adhesives have set (excluding loose lay floors that do not require the use of adhesive), generally 72 hours after the completion of the installation.
2. Sweep or vacuum floor surface to remove all loose dust and debris.
3. Prepare cleaning solution with fresh, warm water and AltroClean 44. A dilution rate of 1:40 (or up to 1:10 for heavy soiling) may be used. **DO NOT FLOOD THE FLOOR.**
4. Scrub with an auto scrubber (3 in 1 machine) or a standard low speed swing machine (150rpm to 350rpm) fitted with an Altro Unipad or equivalent pad.
5. If using a standard low-speed swing machine, remove wash water with a wet vac. Ensure the floor is thoroughly rinsed with fresh, clean water. No cleaning residue should remain on the floor.
6. Allow surface to dry thoroughly before use.

## Regular maintenance

1. Sweep/vacuum floor to remove all loose dust and debris.
2. Choose a maintenance method below (with finish / without finish)

## Routine maintenance without finish

### Using an auto scrubber

1. Add dilution to auto scrubber. Dilution consists of 1 part AltroClean 48W to 40 parts clean, warm water. For heavily soiled floors; Use 1 part AltroClean 48W to 10 parts clean, warm water.
2. Fit auto scrubber with white, fine, nylon pads and scrub floor.
3. If a higher gloss look is desired, wait for the floor to dry thoroughly then apply a fine spray of the AltroClean 48W dilution. Buff to a shine using a low speed swing machine (150rpm to 350rpm) fitted with a white, fine nylon pad.

## Using a low speed swing machine

1. Dilute cleaner and place in mop bucket. Dilution consists of 1 part AltroClean 48W to 40 parts clean, warm water. For heavily soiled floors; use 1 part AltroClean 48W to 10 parts clean, warm water.
2. Mop the floor with the solution and allow a few minutes for the cleaner to attack the surface soil.
3. Scrub with low speed swing machine (150rpm to 350rpm) using an Altro Unipad or white, fine nylon pad.
4. Remove wash water with a wet vac. Ensure the floor is thoroughly rinsed with fresh, clean water. No cleaning residue should remain on the floor.
5. If a higher gloss look is desired, wait for the floor to dry thoroughly then apply a fine spray of the AltroClean 48W dilution. Buff to a shine using a white, fine nylon pad.

## Routine maintenance with finish (optional)

1. Using AltroClean 44 dilution of 1:40 (or up to 1:10 for heavy soiling), hand scrub or machine scrub.

**If hand scrubbing** - mop the floor with the cleaner and allow a few minutes for the cleaner to attack surface soils before scrubbing.

**If machine scrubbing** - Ensure that you are following directions outlined by the machine's manufacturer.

2. Remove wash water with a wet vac or dry mop. Ensure the floor is thoroughly rinsed with fresh, clean water. No cleaning residue should remain on the floor.
3. Allow surface to dry thoroughly.
4. Apply up to 2 coats of finish to floor.
5. For additional protection in areas where staining agents are used (salons, labs), for a higher gloss level or for areas maintained with high speed and ultra high speed buffing equipment apply additional coats of finish until desired amount is achieved.
6. Allow finish to become dry to the touch (45-60 minutes) in-between coats. Apply no more than 2 coats within 24 hours.
7. Allow floor to dry thoroughly before trafficking.

## Recommended maintenance products

Cleaners	
AltroClean 44 & Altro Clean 48W	Altro, Floor Guy
Diversey Stride	Floor Guy
Profi Floor Cleaner	Floor Guy

Cleaner / maintainer	
AltroClean 48W	Altro, Floor Guy
Taski Wiwax	Floor Guy

Finishes (optional)	
Diversey Carefree Matte	Floor Guy
Diversey Complete	Floor Guy

Equipment	
Altro Unipad*	Altro, Floor Guy
3M Floor Machine Pads	Floor Guy
Flo-Pac Swivel Scrub	Carlisle
Deck Brush	Carlisle
Taski Machines	Diversey
Auto Scrubbers	Diversey
Nilfisk	Advance Co.

Company contact	Phone / website
Altro	800.377.5597, altro.com
Floor Guy	877.356.6748, 1877floorguy.com
Carlisle	888.654.8210, carlislefsp.com
Diversey	888.352.2249, taskibydiverse.com
Advance Co.	800.989.2235, advance-us.com

High quality cleaning chemicals and equipment ensure efficient maintenance and represent only a small proportion of maintenance costs. The suppliers listed in the chart above offer excellent products.

Altro Unipads are highly recommended for cleaning Altro flooring and are available for both manual and machine cleaning.

They are offered in two sizes; Manual - 4" x 14" Flat and Machine - 17" Round.

For areas requiring advanced cleaning due to neglect or heavy soiling consult the Altro technical services department or 1877FloorGuy.com