

Maintenance Overview

Cork is a unique material that, when homogenous, can be sanded and refinished or, when veneer, can be screened and recoated for the lifetime of the floor or wall. Cork also develops a natural patina over time that is unique and part of the character of cork. Mediterra cork comes pre-finished with a water-based, commercial urethane finish designed to provide long term protection of the cork. When installed vertically and above chair rail height, Mediterra is a tackable surface and is available unfinished to better hide the appearance of tack or pin marks. It is the responsibility of the end user to maintain the finish over time to ensure long-term protection and ease of maintenance. Mediterra requires daily and routine care and maintenance with cleaning equipment to maintain the desired appearance. The frequency of daily and routine maintenance will depend upon the amount and type of traffic in the area.

Protection is a critical part of any long-term maintenance

program for cork materials. Ensure that all chair casters and glides are manufactured from materials that are intended for resilient flooring to avoid indentation and flooring or finish damage. Ensure that all furniture feet have proper floor protection devices installed to avoid premature wear, scratches and other damage. **See Section 6 for details on floor protection.**

Always use untreated, new or thoroughly cleaned mops and pads when conducting daily or routine maintenance. Do not use hydrocarbons (Kerosene, Gasoline, Naphtha, etc.) Re-Tire other solvents to clean flooring. As with any maintenance program, be sure to use proper PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) per the cleaning product SDS and ensure all maintenance procedures are conducted per the cleaning products instructions. The use of Caution Tape and /or Wet Floor Signs are recommended to prevent slips and falls.

Additional Information

Approved Cleaners

Hilway Direct Neutral Cleaner

Approved Finishes

Loba Supra AT Urethane Floor Finish

Technical Support

Additional technical resources and documents are available online at **capricollections.com**. For additional technical support, send an e-mail to **support@capricollections.com**

1. PRE-MAINTENANCE

- Prior to moving furniture or heavy equipment, sweep the floor and cover with an appropriate protective product, such as Masonite, Ram Board or equivalent, to prevent scuffing and scratching that may not come out during the maintenance procedures.
- **Do not** use vacuums that have a beater bar or electric brooms with hard plastic bottoms or no padding, as this may cause discoloration, scratching and loss of sheen.
- **Do not** use detergents, highly alkaline, acidic or abrasive cleaners or "mop and shine" type products, as they will dull the finish and sheen of the flooring material.
- **Do not** use sweeping compounds or cleaning agents containing oils or solvents.
- **Do not** scrub, buff or mop the area per the adhesives traffic limits (48-72 hours) to allow proper curing of the adhesive.
- **Do not** wet mop or over-saturate the area when cleaning.
- **Do not** allow liquids to puddle or pool for long periods of time on the surface.
- **Do not** allow the cleaning solution or topical moisture to work its way beneath the flooring material, as this can result in an adhesive installation failure.
- On floors that have had Loba Supra AT newly applied, do

not clean floor with floor cleaners or cover floor with area rugs until finish has cured for 10 days.

2. INITIAL MAINTENANCE

Ensure that adhesive has cured for recommended period of time prior to conducting initial maintenance. Remove any protective coverings prior to cleaning. Sweep or dust mop and vacuum flooring to remove any dirt, dust or debris.

Mix 6 - 7 oz. of Hilway Direct Neutral Cleaner per gallon of cool and clean potable water (1:20). Use a clean microfiber mop lightly dampened with the cleaning solution to clean the entire floor. Avoid wet mopping, puddling and pooling the cleaning liquid. Let solution stand for 5-10 minutes.

Use a clean mop to remove any and all excess cleaning solution. Rinse area with clean, cool water and a clean, lightly dampened mop to ensure that all cleaning residue has been removed. Allow area to dry completely before allowing foot traffic.

Do not use an auto-scrubber to clean floor unless an additional coat of finish has been applied on-site in order to prevent liquid from penetrating seams.

3. DAILY MAINTENANCE

Ensure that initial maintenance and finish application (if necessary) has been conducted prior to conducting daily maintenance. Sweep or dust mop and vacuum flooring to remove any dirt, dust or debris. Do not use vacuums that have

a beater bar or electric brooms with hard plastic bottoms or no padding, as this may cause discoloration, scratching and loss of sheen. When using a mop, use a two bucket system for cleaning - one bucket with cleaning solutions and another bucket with clean, potable water for rinsing.

If using a mop, mix 0.5-1 ounce or 20 mL (1:200) of Hilway Direct Neutral Cleaner per gallon of clean, potable water. Use a clean, damp mop to clean spills, build-up, dirty areas or overall cleaning. Avoid wet mopping, puddling and pooling of cleaning liquid.

If using an auto-scrubbing machine, mix 0.25-0.5 or 10 mL (1:400) of Hilway Direct Neutral Cleaner per gallon of warm and clean potable water. Clean floor while wet using a 22 gauge soft bristled scrubbing brush or a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad.

Ensure flooring area is clean and that all cleaning residue has been removed (this may require rinsing with clean, cool water). Allow area to dry completely before allowing foot traffic.

4. INITIAL FINISH APPLICATION

For instructions on applying an initial coat of finish to pre-finished Mediterra, please see Section 5. Prior to finish application on **unfinished** Mediterra, ensure cork flooring is flat, smooth and free of dust, dirt and debris. Ensure that HVAC is operation - installation area and flooring material must be between 60° and 75° F during application and curing. Avoid direct forced air, drafts and direct sunlight during application and curing. Do not dilute finish.

Homogeneous cork patterns must be sanded with a high speed floor buffer and a 80-150 grit sanding screen. Veneer patterns must be sanded with a low speed floor buffer and a 150 grit sanding screen with a 3M 4100 White Super Polish Pad directly above - do not use a sanding screen below 150 grit, as veneer could become permanently damaged. Once sanded, fully vacuum the floor to remove all dust, dirt and debris.

Loba Supra AT is a two-component product. Shake both components of Supra AT vigorously prior to mixing. Add the Supra AT Hardener (Part B) directly to the Supra AT Base (Part A), reseal and shake vigorously to mix both components together. Pour mixed material into a clean bucket with a clean, unused liner bag or a clean paint tray. Do not apply finish directly to floor.

Use a Loba Micro 120 microfiber roller to apply the finish in an even, consistent coat. Avoid puddles, pooling, skips and voids - correct imperfections as quickly as possible during application. Prevent all foot traffic, dust and debris from entering the area and allow material to dry for a minimum of 2 hours. Once the first coat has dried, apply the second coat of Loba Supra AT as above **within 24 hours**. Allow the finish to dry overnight.

Abrade the second coat of finish with low-speed floor buffer and a 150-180 grit sanding screen, 3M Maroon Between Coats Pad or equivalent to provide inter-coat abrasion. Vacuum the floor thoroughly to remove all dust, dirt and debris. Remove fine dust by using a lightly damp terry cloth, tack mop or microfiber mop with clean, potable water. Apply the first and

final coat as above.

Allow finish to cure for 4-6 hours before allowing light foot traffic. Do not resume normal use for 24-48 hours. Finish will fully cure in 7 days - avoid objects that could scratch or damage the floor until the finish has fully cured. Do not use flooring cleaners or cover with area rugs until finish for first 10 days.

Floor finish should only be applied by an experienced, professional floor finisher or installer. Review the Loba Supra AT Technical Data Sheet prior to installation.

5. FINISH SCREEN & RECOAT

Whether pre-finished or finished on-site, Mediterra will need to be recoated over time, depending on wear, traffic and the frequency of daily maintenance. Mediterra may also have an additional coat of finish applied after installation to correct minor damage and/or provide additional protection to the floor. Ensure that HVAC is operation - installation area and flooring material must be between 60° and 75° F during application and curing. Avoid direct forced air, drafts and direct sunlight during application and curing. Do not dilute finish. Sweep or dust mop and vacuum flooring to remove any dirt, dust or debris prior to preparation.

Using a low-speed floor buffer (180 – 360 RPM) and a 3M White Super Polishing pad as a spacer, abrade the floor with a 3M Maroon Surface Prep Pad or equivalent to remove the surface of the finish. For corners, edges and hard to reach areas, cut a 3M Maroon Surface Pre Pad to a suitable size and abrade by hand. Once complete, the floor should have a uniform dull appearance.

Vacuum the floor to remove all dust, dirt and debris. Clean the floor with a terry cloth, microfiber towel or a flat microfiber mop and clean, potable water. Allow floor to dry completely prior to proceeding.

Apply the Loba Supra AT per the installation instructions in at least 1 coat. Allow finish to cure for 4-6 hours before allowing light foot traffic. Do not resume normal use for 24-48 hours. Finish will fully cure in 7 days - avoid objects that could scratch or damage the floor until the finish has fully cured. Do not use flooring cleaners or cover with area rugs until finish for first 10 days.

Extreme floor damage on homogenous colors or patterns may require the floor be fully sanded using a multi-head sander and refinished. Contact Capri technical support for all issues related to heavy damage and full refinishing.

Floor finish should only be applied by an experienced, professional floor finisher or installer. Review the Loba Supra AT Technical Data Sheet prior to installation.

6. FLOORING PROTECTION

Protect newly installed flooring with construction grade paper or protective boards, such as Masonite or Ram Board, to protect flooring from damage by other trades. Do not slide or drag pallets or heavy equipment across the new flooring. Limit usage

and foot traffic according to the adhesive's requirements. When moving appliances or heavy furniture, protect flooring from scuffing and tearing using temporary floor protection.

All furniture casters or glides must be intended for resilient flooring and made of a soft material (such as a felt, rubber or a poly-based material). Casters and glides must have a flat contact point that is at least 1 sq. in. or 1.125 in. in diameter to limit indentation and flooring or finish damage. All rolling seating in desk areas must have a resilient flooring chair pad installed over the finished floor to protect floor covering. **Do not use nylon/hard plastic glides or casters.**

All fixed furniture legs or corners must have permanent floor protectors installed on all contact points to reduce indentation, wear, scratching and other flooring or finish damage. Floor protectors must be intended for resilient flooring and made of a soft material (such as a felt, rubber or a poly-based material). Floor protectors must have a flat contact point of at least 1 sq. in. or 1.125 in. diameter and must cover the entire bottom surface of the furniture leg. **Do not use nylon/hard plastic floor protectors or furniture feet.**

Ensure all furniture castors and chair legs and are clean and free of all dirt and debris. Routinely clean chair castors and furniture legs to ensure that dirt or debris has not built up or become embedded in castors or floor protectors. Replace chair castors and floor protectors at regular intervals, especially if they become damaged or heavily soiled.

Place walk-off mats at outside entrances. Prevent water and moisture from accumulating underneath walk-off mats. Ensure mats are manufactured with non-staining backs to prevent discoloration.

For more information regarding cleaner application, floor finish application or finish removal, please consult all associated product data sheet, SDS and warranty information.