

## Maintenance Overview

Vulcanized rubber products do not require a protective wax or floor finish when the parameters of a maintenance program can be followed. However, these products do require initial maintenance be performed to remove mold release chemicals, as well as daily and routine care and maintenance with cleaning equipment to maintain the desired appearance. While the frequency of daily and routine maintenance will depend upon the amount and type of traffic in the area, maintenance will likely be more frequent within the first year of installation. Over time, vulcanized rubber will require less frequent routine maintenance as a protective film builds on the surface of

the material. If the stair treads are in an area that will not be maintained regularly, a floor finish may be used to ease maintenance.

When conducting daily maintenance, always use untreated, new or thoroughly cleaned mops and pads. Do not use hydrocarbons (Kerosene, Gasoline, Naphtha, etc.) or 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  
Hilway Direct Plus (as a Cleaner/Maintainer)

### Approved Finish Removers

AllSafe Stripper

### Approved Finishes

Hilway Direct Plus Acrylic Finish

### Technical Support

Additional technical resources and documents are available online at [capricollections.com](http://capricollections.com). For additional technical support, send an e-mail to [support@capricollections.com](mailto: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 initial maintenance.
- **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 may dull or damage the finish of the flooring material.
- **Do not** use sweeping compounds or cleaning agents that contain hydrocarbons 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** flood the area when cleaning.
- **Do not** allow the cleaning solution or topical moisture to work its way beneath the flooring material, as this can result in an adhesive failure.

## 2. INITIAL MAINTENANCE

Prior to use, Nuovo Stair Treads must be scrubbed to remove mold release agents and ease daily or routine maintenance. Ensure that adhesive has cured for recommended period of time prior to conducting initial maintenance. Remove all protective coverings prior to cleaning. Sweep or dust mop stair treads to remove all dirt, dust or debris.

Mix 6 - 7 oz. of Hilway Direct Neutral Cleaner per gallon of warm and clean potable water (1:20) and use a clean mop to apply cleaning solution to area. Let solution stand for 5-10 minutes.

Use a 22 gauge soft bristled deck brush or an upright pad holder and 3M 4100 White Polishing pads to scrub stair treads in order to remove dust, dirt, debris and remaining mold release chemicals. If heavily soiled, an additional cleaning may be required.

Use a wet vacuum or clean mop to remove all excess cleaning solution. Using a clean mop, rinse area with clean, cool water and ensure that all cleaning residue has been removed (this may require additional rinsing). Allow area to dry completely before allowing foot traffic.

## 3. INITIAL FINISH APPLICATION

Vulcanized rubber materials do not normally require floor finish, as the material can be maintained routine maintenance or dry-buffing. However, in areas where routine maintenance is inconvenient or will not be performed, the material may be protected with a floor finish.

Ensure that initial maintenance has been conducted prior to applying the Hilway Direct Plus. Stair treads must be free of dust, dirt, debris, adhesive or cleaning residues and any potential contaminates. **Do not** dilute finish or apply to surfaces below 50° F.

Shake floor finish container vigorously prior to application. Use a microfiber mop to apply finish in a thin, even film per the installation instructions in 2-3 coats. Allow each coat to dry completely before applying additional coats. Avoid direct forced air, drafts and direct sunlight during application and

curing.

Once the second coat is dry, evaluate the stair treads to determine if an additional coat is necessary. If heavy use is expected, a third coat is recommended. Allow the final coat of finish to dry overnight before allowing normal traffic. Wait 24 hours before allowing heavy traffic and rolling loads.

To prolong the life of the finish, the finish should receive routine maintenance via a cleaner/maintainer. Please see section 5 for more information.

**For additional information regarding the finish and finish application, please see the Hilway Direct Plus Technical Data Sheet.**

#### 4. DAILY MAINTENANCE

Ensure that initial maintenance and finish application 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.

Mix 0.5-1 ounce or 20 mL (1:200) of Hilway Direct Neutral Cleaner per gallon of clean, potable water. Use a clean mop to clean spills, build-up, dirty areas or overall cleaning. Allow floor to dry completely before allowing foot traffic.

#### 5. ROUTINE MAINTENANCE - CLEANER/MAINTAINER

Do not dry buff stair treads within the first 90 days following installation. To protect flooring material within this time period, conduct routine maintenance with the Hilway Direct Plus as a cleaner/maintainer every 1-2 weeks.

Ensure that initial maintenance has been conducted prior to conducting routine maintenance. Flooring area must be free of dust, dirt and debris. When using the Hilway Direct Plus as a cleaner/maintainer, use a two bucket system for application - one bucket with the cleaner/maintainer solution and another bucket with clean, potable water for rinsing.

Mix 1 ounce or 30 mL (1:128) of Hilway Direct Plus per gallon of warm, clean potable water. Use a clean microfiber mop to clean the entire floor.

Use a clean, dry mop to remove any and all excess cleaning solution. Do not rinse the flooring after cleaning. Allow area to dry completely before allowing foot traffic.

#### 6. ROUTINE MAINTENANCE - DRY-BUFFING

Dry-buffing should not be performed on materials that have been installed for less than 90 days. Ensure daily maintenance has been conducted, if necessary, prior to dry-buffing. 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 warm and clean potable water (1:20) and use a clean mop to apply cleaning solution to area. Let solution stand for 5-10 minutes.

Use a 22 gauge soft bristled deck brush or an upright pad holder and 3M 5100 Red Cleaning pads to scrub stair treads. If heavily soiled, an additional cleaning may be required.

Use a wet vacuum or clean mop to remove any and all excess cleaning solution. Using a clean mop, rinse area with clean, cool water and ensure that all cleaning residue has been removed (this may require additional rinsing). Allow area to dry completely before allowing foot traffic.

Once clean, dry buff area with a clean, soft terry cloth wrapped around a deck brush or an upright pad holder and 3M 5100 Red Cleaning pads.

Depending on traffic, dry-buffing will need to be performed regularly within the first year of installation to allow the flooring surface to build a protective layer. Within this time period, ensure daily maintenance is performed to maintain the appearance of the flooring material.

#### 7. FINISH REMOVAL & REAPPLICATION

If Hilway Direct Plus has been applied to the flooring material, the finish may need to be regularly removed and reapplied, depending on traffic. The timing of removal will depend on the age and condition of the finish, as well as the frequency of daily/routine maintenance.

Sweep or dust mop and vacuum stair treads to remove any dirt, dust or debris. Using a new or thoroughly cleaned mop, apply Allsafe Stripper undiluted to the flooring material and allow to remain on the surface for 15 - 20 minutes. Do not allow finish remover to dry onto the floor.

Using a 22 gauge soft bristled deck brush, scrub stair treads while wet to remove finish. Use a wet vacuum or clean mop to remove any and all excess cleaning solution. Rinse area with clean, cool water and allow stair treads to dry entirely.

Reapply the desired floor finish per the installation instructions in 2 - 3 coats. Allow each coat to dry completely before applying additional coats.

**For additional information regarding the finish and finish removal, please see the Hilway Direct Plus or AllSafe Stripper Technical Data Sheets.**

#### 8. MATERIAL PROTECTION

Protect newly installed stair treads, risers and stringers with construction-grade paper to prevent damage by other trades. Do not slide or drag heavy equipment across new stair tread installations. Limit usage and foot traffic according to the adhesive's requirements. When moving appliances or heavy furniture, protect stair treads from scuffing and tearing using temporary floor protection.

Ensure all furniture castors that may come in contact with the stair treads must have a minimum 1" flat contact point and be free of all dirt and debris.

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.