



The Tile Care & Maintenance Guide

Love your floors for years to come!



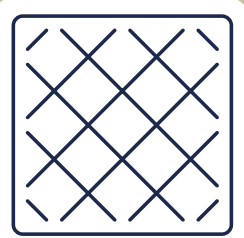
We don't just deliver floors—we provide peace of mind.

Whether you've just completed a renovation or are a first-time home buyer, knowing how to care for your new floors may be unfamiliar.

Many homeowners don't realize that every flooring material has its own care requirements—and that traditional cleaning methods may not be safe or effective for today's advanced surfaces. That's why we created this guide: to offer clear, practical care instructions tailored to your specific flooring type. With the right steps, you'll not only preserve the look and feel of your new floors but also protect the investment you've made.

But this guide is more than a manual—it's part of the ongoing commitment Floor Coverings International® has made to you as your trusted, local flooring partner, offering expert-level support before, during, and long after installation.

Thank you for trusting us. We're proud to be part of your home—today and for years to come.



Care and Maintenance

Caring for Tile

Your tile floors are more than just a surface — they're the foundation of your home's daily life, enduring everything from playful kids and energetic pets to everyday spills and messes. Proper maintenance not only keeps them looking beautiful but also protects your investment and ensures a clean, safe space for your family.

Care Checklist

Clean Tile Floors Regularly

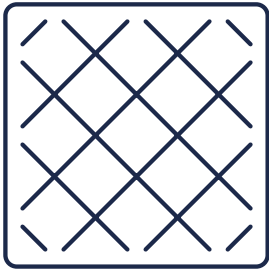
Dirt, grit, and debris can scratch and dull tile surfaces over time. Sweep or vacuum your floors a few times a week to remove loose dirt. Mop every other week after thorough vacuuming. Steam mops are generally safe to use on ceramic and porcelain tile, as these materials are heat and moisture-resistant. However, it's important to always refer to the manufacturer guidelines.

Change Your Cleaning Solution Frequently

Avoid mopping with dirty water, which can leave a hazy soap film and grime on your tiles. Refresh your mop water often, and always sweep before mopping.

Use Non-Abrasive Cleaners

Even if your tile is scratch-resistant, harsh or abrasive cleaners can damage or dull the finish over time.



Caring for Tile

General Care Tips



How to Care for Porcelain Tile

Porcelain tile is durable, water-resistant, and often made to mimic wood or stone. It is important to know that care differs slightly depending on whether your porcelain tile is polished or unpolished:

Unpolished (Unglazed) Porcelain Tile

- Use a soft-bristle brush with a mixture of warm water and vinegar to gently scrub the floor. Keep the surface wet for a few minutes, then rinse with hot water and dry with a clean microfiber towel.

Polished (Glazed) Porcelain Tile

- Wipe with hot water and scrub stains with a bristle brush. Clean with a diluted vinegar solution or a gentle tile cleaner. Rinse with hot water and dry thoroughly.

Always consult your manufacturer's care instructions to avoid damage or voiding your warranty.



How to Care for Ceramic Tile

Ceramic tile floors are straightforward to maintain:

- Mix warm water with mild dish soap to create a gentle cleaning solution.
- Use a flat mop or microfiber cloth to clean the floor.
- Buff dry with a clean cloth to remove residue and speed drying.



How to Clean Grout

We use a stain-resistant grout that does not require sealing. A high-performance penetrating grout sealer may still be applied if desired for extra protection. Please keep in mind that grout sealing does not prevent grout from getting dirty, but prevents grout from becoming stained. Grout will still need to be cleaned regularly. Our recommendation is to use a company that specializes in grout cleaning.





Care and Maintenance

Caring for Tile

Care Tips for Life with Pets & Children

Daily Spot Cleaning

- Wipe up spills, pet accidents, or muddy paw prints as soon as they happen to prevent staining or grout discoloration.
- Use pet and child-safe cleaners—natural solutions like diluted vinegar or enzyme-based cleaners work well for removing organic messes without harmful residues.

Use Rugs and Mats

- Place rugs or mats in high-traffic areas (entryways, play zones, under pet bowls) to catch dirt and prevent scratching.
- Choose machine-washable, non-slip mats for easier cleaning and safety.

Trim Pet Nails

- Regularly trim your pet's nails to reduce the risk of scratching glazed or polished tile surfaces.

Vacuum Frequently

- Crumbs, pet hair, and small debris are not only unsightly but can cause micro-abrasions over time.
- Use a vacuum designed for hard floors (with soft wheels and no beater bar) to avoid scratching.

Choose the Right Sealant

- If your grout isn't sealed, consider applying a sealant to protect it from spills, stains, and odors—especially important with pets and kids.

Avoid Slippery Surfaces

- For homes with running toddlers or energetic pets, matte or textured tiles offer better slip resistance than highly polished tiles.



Care and Maintenance

Warranties

Partnering with Leading Flooring Manufacturers

Floor Coverings International® partners with leading manufacturers like **Shaw Floors** and **Mohawk** to bring you the highest quality flooring options on the market. These trusted brands are known for their innovation, durability, and design excellence, ensuring that every project meets the highest standards. Our manufacturers also offer warranty coverage for product defects, ensuring that issues like stains on a stain-resistant carpet are addressed. It's important to note that these warranties generally do not cover regular wear and tear.

By working directly with these industry leaders, Floor Coverings International® provides exclusive selections, cutting-edge materials, and expert guidance to help customers find the perfect flooring for their homes.

Full Coverage, Full Confidence

Since you purchase your flooring and installation together from us, you're fully protected! And if any issues arise, we handle it and represent you directly with the manufacturer.



Floor Coverings International® offers a warranty of at least one (1) year on installation and workmanship with extended warranties available at select locations.* Most competitors only cover one year or less.* Also, products showcased in the Mobile Flooring Showroom® come with a factory-direct limited warranty provided by the manufacturer. These guarantees will cover manufacturer defects and typically last for up to 10 years.

**This guarantee may vary based on project location or for commercial-grade installations.*