



# SOFT AND HARD FLOOR GUIDE

BEST PRACTICES FOR CARING FOR  
YOUR FACILITIES' FLOORS



## SOFT FLOOR CARE GUIDE

### EMPLOYING SOFT FLOOR AND CARPET MAINTENANCE BEST PRACTICES

Soft floor coverings, like carpet, require a reasonable yet methodical schedule of cleaning techniques, both for maintaining the appearance and the longevity of your carpet. Dirt, mold, and pollutants love to hide in carpets. Not only are dirty carpets unsightly, but they can negatively affect indoor air quality. Studies have shown that properly cleaned carpets help reduce asthma and allergy symptoms<sup>1</sup>. Routine carpet extraction and sanitization are important to ensure the safety and health of all employees and facility visitors.

Vacuuming is an important step in keeping your carpet neat and clean. However, over-vacuuming an area can create wear and tear on the carpet fibers. By keeping a consistent schedule of vacuuming low traffic areas once a week, and high traffic areas every day, you can create the ideal balance between the life of the carpet and the cleanliness and attractiveness of your facility.

Vacuuming alone isn't enough. Rapid-dry carpet cleaning is a great way to keep your carpets looking well cared-for in between deep, restorative cleans. Frequency for interim cleaning will depend on the wear your carpet sees on a day-to-day basis, but will generally be from three to six weeks. After six months to a year, your carpet deserves a deep, restorative carpet cleaning with an extractor.

### D.I.R.T. METHOD FOR CARPET

A great way to remember your soft floor-cleaning routine is **D.I.R.T.**: daily carpet care; interim solutions; restorative care; and treatment of spots.

**D****DAILY****Frequency:** Every day**Result:** Clean daily dirt from high traffic areas**Action:** Vacuum**I****INTERIM****Frequency:** 1–6 months**Result:** Remove dirt with limited disruption**Action:** Rapid Drying Carpet Cleaning Technology**R****RESTORATIVE****Frequency:** 6–12+ months**Result:** Deep cleaning**Action:** Extraction**T****TREAT  
PROBLEM  
AREAS****Frequency:** Immediately as needed**Result:** Quickly remove stains**Action:** Spot treatment

Whether you need a lightweight backpack vacuum for office stairways or the lobby, a wide-area cleaning path vacuum for aisles, or a low-profile upright canister vacuum to clean under desks and furniture, there's a Tennant vacuum to help you keep your facility looking its best. Choose from our comprehensive selection of professional grade upright, backpack, wet-dry and canister industrial vacuum cleaners.

## SOFT FLOORS, SMART CARE



### V-WA-30 WIDE AREA WALK BEHIND VACUUM

- + Up to 30 in / 762 mm cleaning path at the touch of a button.
- + Contribute to Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ) with four-stage HEPA filtration.
- + Clean hard-to-reach areas with low profile design.

### V-BP-6 AND V-BP-6B COMMERCIAL BACKPACK VACUUM

- + Maintains indoor air quality with standard HEPA filtration.
- + Improved comfort with adjustable Deuter® hiking harness.
- + Increase productivity up to 30% (vs corded backpack vacuums) with easily-swappable lithium-ion batteries.



### V-CAN-16 DRY CANISTER VACUUM

- + Easy to use ergonomic design.
- + 3-stage filtration to maintain good indoor air quality.
- + Promotes sustainable cleaning programs with vacuum housings constructed with up to 55% recycled plastic.

## ADDITIONAL SOFT FLOOR CLEANING TIPS



Fast-drying interim cleaning products, paired with spot cleaners, allow more frequent cleaning with less chance of permanent staining. Some newer products dry in as little as 30 minutes<sup>2</sup>.



Vacuums with true HEPA filters help control airborne particles associated with allergens. Lower quality filters fail to capture smaller particles and can reduce air quality.



Entrance or barrier mats prevent soil from being tracked inside. The EPA recommends vacuuming mats daily with a beater-brush vacuum in two directions. The Carpet and Rug Institute suggests swapping out barrier mats regularly<sup>3</sup>.

## TENNANT'S READYSPACE® RAPID-DRYING CARPET CLEANING TECHNOLOGY

- + Faster drying that leaves carpets clean and ready for use in less than 30 minutes.
- + Reduces potential for mold and odors in carpet compared to deep extraction.
- + Uses 80% less water for cleaning applications.
- + Up to 90% less water in carpet compared to deep extraction.

Tennant has engineered dependable carpet cleaning machines for every environment — from compact carpet extractors to ride-on dual technology extractors that perform interim and deep cleaning. This is in addition to manufacturing top-tier carpet extractors and pioneering cleaning innovations.

### E5 COMPACT CARPET EXTRACTOR

- + Cleans hard-to-reach areas around and under objects like beds, desks and tables with a compact, low-profile design.
- + Get maximum performance across the entire cleaning path from dual overlapping spray jets and strong vacuum suction.
- + Adjust to different carpet depths with unique double-tuft, float-adjust brush with no manual adjustment.
- + Reduce risk of mold, bacteria, and odors with fully cleanable Hygienic® tank.
- + Fill, empty and clean tanks faster and easier thanks to ergonomic tank design.



### R14 RIDE-ON CARPET EXTRACTOR

- + Innovative Tennant ReadySpace® technology for frequent cleaning with rapid drying.
- + Deep extraction technology provides an exceptional deep clean and extends carpet life and fresh appearance.
- + Easily transition between two cleaning technologies with no tools required.
- + Uses up to 80% less water to clean and get up to 90% water recovery with ReadySpace® technology and vacuum shoe design.
- + Create a safer environment with features that reduce risk of mold and odors.

## HARD FLOOR CARE GUIDE

### MAINTAINING HARD FLOORS

The material and coating of your hard floors are important factors in determining which products and equipment will produce the best results. If done infrequently, or incorrectly, floors can discolor, show signs of wear, or cause the coating to peel away. Whether self-cleaning or using a contractor, a site inspection or consultation with a floor care specialist helps establish the best routine.

Hard floors should be cleaned daily to remove surface dust and dirt. A floor scrubber can help you perform this job swiftly and efficiently with minimal water<sup>4</sup>. Treat problem areas, like spills or wet areas, immediately. Your floor should also receive a daily or weekly burnishing to restore shine without damaging the coating.

A deep, restorative clean, removing old finish and applying a new coat, should be performed every 3–12 months. Though it sounds labor-intensive, an orbital scrubber makes it cost-effective.

### D.I.R.T. METHOD FOR HARD FLOORS

**D****DAILY****Frequency:** Every day**Result:** Remove dirt**Action:** Scrubbing**I****INTERIM****Frequency:** 1–7 days**Result:** Restore finished floor shine**Action:** Burnishing**R****RESTORATIVE****Frequency:** 3–12 months**Result:** Remove worn finish**Action:** Mechanically strip and add new finish**T****TREAT  
PROBLEM  
AREAS****Frequency:** Immediately as needed**Result:** Clean spills or wet areas**Action:** Scrub with compact machine

When your floors require frequent, thorough and hygienic scrubbing, dependable Tennant floor scrubbers will help you keep your facility looking its best. Choose the high-quality construction of Tennant scrubbers, designed to stand up to the harshest — and handle the most delicate — environments.

## MAINTAINING HARD FLOORS

Boost productivity while setting a new standard for clean with Tennant's lineup of autonomous scrubbers. These revolutionary, reliable floor scrubbers are as effective as they are efficient, and each is designed to work safely alongside staff. Build an autonomous vision for your business with a family of robotic scrubbers that offers an accessible path toward innovation.



### X4 ROVR, X6 ROVR™, T380AMR, T7AMR AND T16AMR

- + Highly maneuverable and autonomous.
- + Easy to use.
- + Can safely operate around all visitors and users of a facility.

Small, tight spaces have traditionally been cleaned manually with a mop and bucket, as many machines are too large or cumbersome. Innovations such as the Tennant CS16 micro scrubber are designed specifically for these challenging areas. Their narrow scrub paths increase efficiency, freeing staff to focus on higher-value cleaning tasks.

### CS16 MICRO-SCRUBBER

- + Narrow scrub path and adjustable handle that make it easy to use in small, tight spaces.
- + Cleans in both forward and reverse motion while ensuring nearly 100% water recovery.



Investing in durable, easy-to-maintain machines like the Tennant T260 Floor Scrubber can help deliver greater efficiency with fewer interruptions.



### T260 WALK-BEHIND FLOOR SCRUBBER

- + Pre-set cleaning options with no set-up.
- + Consistent cleaning results.
- + Maneuver small spaces with high visibility.
- + A large recovery tank opening for easy access, and upkeep.
- + User-friendly design ensures less downtime.



## T500 WALK-BEHIND FLOOR SCRUBBER

- + Delivers predictable results with operator lock-out, on-demand tutorial videos & Zone Settings™.
- + Enhanced battery life and optimized long-term performance.
- + Various scrubbing head options (disk, cylindrical, orbital) with a 2,000-hour/3-year warranty.



## POLISHED CONCRETE GUIDE

### PRESERVING POLISHED CONCRETE

Polished concrete is often promoted as a “maintenance-free” floor system with long life and attractive pricing. When properly maintained, it provides excellent traction and an easy routine without waxing, stripping, staining, or buffing.

### PROTECT YOUR SHINE

#### ALWAYS

Place mats at entrances to catch dirt.  
Sweep grit immediately to avoid scratching, especially in entryways.  
Mop spills immediately — polished concrete can stain.

#### DAILY

Use microfiber mops for dusting.  
Use low-pressure scrubbers with correct pads and brushes.  
If detergents are used, do not let them dry on the surface (may stain).

Facilities managers should maintain the shine of polished concrete using dust-minimizing, quiet polishing solutions, even during open hours. To keep floors in optimal condition, utilize tools like the Diamabrush chemical-free polishing system and Trizact 3M™ Stone Floor Protection System. These solutions ensure smooth, shiny floors and are compatible with standard Tennant floor scrubbers, simplifying training for cleaning staff.

## WHERE POLISH MEETS PERFORMANCE.



### T300 AND T300E WALK-BEHIND FLOOR SCRUBBER

- + Clean virtually any hard surface, including porous stone, grout and finished concrete.
- + Versatile Program Zone Settings™ and machine configurations for specialized cleaning needs.
- + 2,000 hour / 3-year Orbital Head Isolator Warranty.
- + Uses ec-H2O NanoClean® technology for effective cleaning with reduced environmental impact.

## HOW TO KEEP YOUR FACILITY SAFE, HEALTHY AND CLEAN

Proper cleaning methods for hard and soft floors not only maintain appearance, but also prevent slips, falls, and hazards. Routine maintenance is the best bet for keeping them safe, clean, and healthy. It is essential for all employees, guests, and customers.



### TENNANT'S MISSION

As an industry leader, Tennant Company's mission is to change the way the world cleans. With products and solutions designed to create cleaner, safer, healthier environments, Tennant helps facilities in a wide variety of industries build programs that protect customers and staff.

**Contact:** Call 800.553.8033 | Visit **website**

**Formula:** D.I.R.T Method + Correct Cleaning Equipment = Clean, Safe Floors

### SOURCES

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- 2 Tennant, "ReadySpace Rapid-Drying Technology" [https://www.tennantco.com/en\\_us/machines/technologies-and-innovations/readyspace.html](https://www.tennantco.com/en_us/machines/technologies-and-innovations/readyspace.html)
- 3 Regional Distributors, Inc., "A Guide To Preventative Matting: Your First Line of Defense," March 9, 2022, <https://blog.regdist.com/preventative-floor-matting-guide>
- 4 Tennant, "Improving Indoor Air Quality in Schools," January 16, 2019, [https://www.tennantco.com/en\\_us/blog/breathe-easier.html](https://www.tennantco.com/en_us/blog/breathe-easier.html)