

# Maintenance instructions Rigid Core Planks



# Maintenance instructions

## Rigid Core Planks

A well-maintained floor is a prerequisite for the floor to retain its finish and beautiful appearance year after year. Continuous maintenance also makes it harder for stains to adhere to and facilitates future cleaning.

### General information

The frequency of cleaning your floor depends on how much it is used. Regular cleaning and maintenance extend the lifespan of the floor.

Many products, such as floors and textiles, undergo colour changes when exposed to UV light. A covered surface on the floor can lead to colour changes, which is not a product defect. For example, if you cover a part of the floor with a rug, move it occasionally to achieve a more even colour change of the floor. Another way is to roll up the rugs when you go on holiday to even out the colour.

We recommend Bjelin's Ecoline products or equivalent cleaning products for vinyl floors. The floors should be cleaned with cold pH-neutral detergent (pH 7–7.5) diluted in tap water. Cleaning agents containing ammonia should not be used.

### Preventing dirt and damage

Sand, gravel, and moisture can cause wear and tear on your floor. Therefore, use a sufficiently large area for coarse dirt outside and an absorbent doormat inside the door. This is especially important at entrances to public buildings, as mentioned below. These measures ensure that your floor lasts longer and keeps cleaning and maintenance at a minimum.

Never drag furniture across the floor; instead, lift it. Use felt pads on the legs of your furniture to protect the floor. These pads need to be replaced periodically. When using chairs with wheels, ensure that the wheels are made of soft rubber material. Placing a mat under the chair provides even better protection for the floor.

### Construction cleaning (only applicable for heavily soiled floors)

1. Vacuum the floor surface and dry mop the areas afterward using a microfibre mop. Regularly replace the mop with a clean one.
2. This step is only for construction cleaning and if the floor has been exposed to construction dust. Add an acidic cleaning agent such as vinegar (12%) to water in a ratio of 1:20. Ensure not to apply excessive liquid, allowing the floor to dry within 2–3 minutes. A mop usually covers approximately 20–25 m<sup>2</sup> before needing to be replaced with a clean one. Remember, only a clean mop can effectively clean. The acidic cleaning agent or vinegar mixture helps to loosen particles that have adhered to the floor, such as dust from gypsum or putty.

3. Next, damp mop the surface with a clean microfibre mop moistened with tap water. Change the mop as needed and avoid using more liquid than necessary. The surface should be dry within 2–3 minutes. This process neutralizes the vinegar mixture, and the construction dust is removed from the floor by the microfibre mop.

4. Apply a thin layer of Bjelin Ecoline Magic Cleaner or an equivalent product to the floor surface and spread it evenly using a microfibre mop. Allow this layer to dry, ensuring not to use more than what allows the floor to dry within 2–3 minutes. Then, let the Bjelin Ecoline Magic Cleaner work for 10 minutes. The purpose of Bjelin Ecoline Magic Cleaner is to dissolve and loosen any remaining dirt on the floor. One spray bottle is sufficient for approximately 20–25 m<sup>2</sup>.

5. Finally, wipe the surface with a clean microfibre mop moistened with tap water. Change the mop as needed and remember that only a clean mop can effectively clean. One mop covers approximately 20–25 m<sup>2</sup> before needing to be replaced. Do not use more water than what allows the floor to dry within 2–3 minutes.

### Daily cleaning

Mainly use dry cleaning methods such as vacuum cleaners, dust mops, or microfibre mops. If necessary, the floor can be damp mopped after cleaning using a microfibre mop with Bjelin Ecoline Wash Care Spray. Apply the spray directly to the floor just before wiping it with a microfibre cloth. Do not use more cleaning solution than what allows the floor to dry within 2–3 minutes. Regularly wash your mops in a washing machine. You can also use a diluted neutral cleaning solution with tap water. Always avoid overusing the cleaning solution, regardless of the chosen method. Bjelin Ecoline Wash Care is also available as a concentrate, which you can mix with regular tap water. We discourage the use of soaps or products containing ammonia.

### Stain removal

Remove stains as quickly as possible. They are easiest to remove when fresh. Start with a dry or slightly damp cloth. Be cautious with strong stain removers as they can affect the surface finish.

Bjelin Ecoline Wash Care Spray is recommended for both daily cleaning and stain removal. Apply the cleaning agent directly to the stain and let it sit for 2–3 minutes. Wipe it off with a microfibre mop. This cleaning solution is usually sufficient for removing most stains and should be used as a first option.

For tougher stains, Bjelin Ecoline Magic Cleaner Spray is recommended. It is a stronger cleaning agent that restores the floor's surface. Apply it sparingly, ensuring the surface is dry within 2–3 minutes. Let the cleaning agent sit for 10 minutes before cleaning with a microfibre cloth and regular tap water. Repeat if necessary. Use this method primarily for intensive stain removal.

Read and follow the instructions provided with the cleaning agent, and never overuse regardless of the method you choose. Ensure the surface is dry within 2–3 minutes.

### Periodic maintenance

After many years of use, the surface of your floor may have lost some of its shine and become slightly more difficult to clean due to wear and scratches. In that case, we recommend thoroughly cleaning your floor, complemented by daily cleaning, and then treating your floor with Bjelin Ecoline Refresher.

### We recommend following these steps:

1. Start with initial cleaning by vacuuming and damp mopping. If necessary, perform a deep clean using Bjelin Ecoline Magic Cleaner or a similar product as instructed above.
2. Apply Bjelin Ecoline Refresher or a similar product using an application mop. The refresher will dry in approximately 30 minutes. Test it in a less visible area, such as behind a door, to ensure you achieve the desired result.

### Maintenance in public spaces

In public spaces, floors are subject to much higher levels of wear and tear compared to residential settings. Create a thorough maintenance schedule and follow it to prolong the lifespan of the floor. Adhere to the cleaning and maintenance recommendations described for residential settings but with more frequent intervals. The schedule may vary from room to room, depending on usage. Preventing moisture and dirt from entering

public areas is crucial in reducing the risk of wear and tear. Outside entrances to public environments should have scraper mats, preferably under a roof, followed by coarse mats inside the door, and then moisture-absorbing mats. Moisture-absorbing mats may need to be replaced regularly as they can fill up quickly. The size of the entrance should be sufficiently spacious to prevent the floor from getting damp and to keep dirt within the entrance area. It is often suggested to take 7 steps in each zone to achieve adequate drying. A well-functioning entrance has a significant impact not only on the lifespan of the floor but also on cleaning and maintenance costs.

### Maintenance in public environments is performed as follows:

1. Start with initial cleaning by vacuuming and damp mopping. If necessary, clean the floor using Bjelin Ecoline Magic Cleaner or a similar product as instructed above.
2. Apply Bjelin Ecoline Refresher or a similar product using an application mop. The refresher will dry in approximately 30 minutes. Test it in a less visible area, such as behind a door, to ensure you achieve the desired result. Alternatively, you can use a vinyl floor wax polish following the manufacturer's instructions.

If you have a coloured floor, do not wait too long before refreshing the surface. Once you have worn through the surface, it becomes challenging to restore it. When applying an additional coat, the pores are filled, resulting in a smoother surface. Please note that a topcoat applied over the factory surface treatment typically has inferior properties to the original treatment.

### Further information

For further information about maintenance, please visit [www.uk.bjelin.com](http://www.uk.bjelin.com) or contact [uk-support@bjelin.com](mailto:uk-support@bjelin.com)



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