

SEALING FLOORS

PURPOSE

To prepare the floor to accept floor finish by filling the pores of a new floor or of an old porous floor which has been stripped.

SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT NEEDED

- Clean bucket and wringer
- Dust mop
- Wet / dry vacuum
- Finish mop handle with new finish mop
- Wet floor signs
- Sealer
- Plastic liner
- Fresh cool water

PROCEDURE

1) Prepare area

- a) Place "Wet Floor" signs in easy-to-see locations at entrances to area where floor is being sealed.
- b) Move furniture. Work around heavy furniture that cannot be moved. Tilt file cabinets and put on blocks. Set equipment in the area where the work will begin.
- c) Dry mop or vacuum the floor.
- d) Having prepared floor by stripping you can get equipment in place and begin at furthest point from exit.

2) Prepare equipment

Thoroughly wet the mop to be used and wring out to remove water. This will leave mop strings moist so the mop will not fill up with sealer. This will save you sealer and money.

Put a plastic bag (liner) into the bucket that is to be used for the sealer solution, then fill the liner with the sealer. Try not to create foam when pouring into bucket. Take the equipment to the work area. Using the plastic bag liner keeps the bucket clean and keeps the sealer from becoming contaminated with any residue that might be in the bucket. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for using the sealer.

3) Apply the sealer

- a) Dip the mop head into the sealer. Wring out gently so mop head is wet, but does not drip.
- b) Apply the sealer to the floor along the baseboards. First work in sections of 10'x10'.
- c) Using a side to side (figure eight) motion, apply the sealer to the floor area starting at the furthest corner and moving backward toward the door. Overlap

the strokes. Avoid having puddles of sealer on the floor, and getting the solution on the baseboards.

d) Allow the floor to dry completely before applying any more coats. (Usually two coats are sufficient).

When finished, take the plastic liner containing the remaining sealer out of the bucket and dispose of the waste properly.

4) Clean up

Immediately clean up equipment at the conclusion of the procedure. All buckets and wringers must be thoroughly washed, and cleaned.

Always use a clean mop head when scrubbing, sealing, or applying a finish, use old mop heads for applying stripping solutions.