

APPLYING FLOOR FINISH

PURPOSE

To provide a protective floor surface which is easy to maintain, clean, and attractive.

Note: the thickness of 3 coats of finish is less than the thickness of wax paper, therefore, the finish must be applied properly to do the job.

SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT

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

PROCEDURE

1) Prepare area

- a) Place "Wet Floor" signs in easy-to-see locations at entrances to area where finish is being applied.
- b) Move furniture. Work around heavy furniture that cannot be moved. Tilt file cabinets and put on blocks.
- c) Dust mop or vacuum the floors.
- d) Set equipment in the area where the work will begin.

2) Prepare equipment

Put a plastic bag (liner) into the bucket that is to be used for the finish, then fill the liner with the appropriate finish. Fill a second bucket two-thirds with clean, cool water. Take the equipment to the work area.

Using the plastic bag liner keeps the bucket clean and keeps the finish from becoming contaminated with any residue that might be in the bucket. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for using the finish.

3) Apply first coat of finish

Take the clean mop and immerse the mop in the finish. Wring the mop out slightly to eliminate dripping. Apply a THIN coat of finish to the floor. Start applying the floor finish by running the mop along the baseboard. Do not apply finish to the vertical portions of baseboard and walls. Cover the remaining floor area, using "figure 8" strokes. Turn the mop head often and re-dip in finish before the mop head becomes dried out and streaks the floor. Be sure to cover the entire floor by overlapping the strokes. Avoid splashing the floor finish. Allow the first coat of finish to dry completely, approximately 20-30 minutes or until the floor no longer feels tacky to the touch.

4) Apply second coat of finish

Repeat the above instructions applying finish. You may wish to avoid building up edges by keeping a few inches away from baseboards. Apply a THIN coat of finish. This second application should be made using the "figure 8" pattern which reduces

5) Additional coats

Repeat the above instructions using floor finish for the next two and all-subsequent coats. More coats allow more protection.