



ECOrx

TECHNICAL MANUAL

Installation - Maintenance - Warranty

Warranty revised on 11/18/11. Supersedes all previous versions. Check website for updates.

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INSTALLATION

Job Site Conditions

Installation should not begin until after all other trades are finished in the area. If the job requires other trades to work in the area after installing ECOrx, protect the ECOrx product with an appropriate cover. Kraft paper or plastic works well.

Areas to receive flooring should be weather tight and maintained at a minimum uniform temperature of 65° F (18° C) for 48 hours prior to, during, and after installation.

Subfloors

ECOrx underlayment may be installed over concrete, approved cementitious-based, self-leveling materials such as Ardex K-15 or equivalent and APA rated plywood.

NOTE: Ardex Engineered Cements
400 Ardex Park Drive
Aliquippa, PA 15001
Toll-Free Phone: (888) 512-7339
(724) 203-5000

NOTE: Gypsum-based patching and leveling compounds are not acceptable.

Wood Subfloors: Wood subfloors should be double construction with a minimum thickness of 1". The floor must be rigid and free from movement. ECORE recommends a minimum 18" of well-ventilated air space below. However, it is up to the installer to determine suitability.

Underlayment: The preferred underlayment panel is APA underlayment grade plywood, minimum thickness of 1/4" with a fully sanded face.

NOTE: Particle board, chip board, Masonite, and luan are not considered suitable underlayments.

Concrete Base: The concrete shall have a minimum compressive strength of 3000 psi. It must be fully cured and permanently dry.

Subfloor Requirements and Preparation

The concrete shall be dry, clean, smooth, level and structurally sound. It should be free of dust, solvent, paint, wax, oil, grease, asphalt, sealers, curing and hardening compounds, alkaline salts, old adhesive residue and other extraneous materials according to ASTM F710.

Mechanically remove all traces of old adhesives, paint, or other debris by scraping, sanding, or scarifying the substrate. Do not use solvents.

The surface should be flat to the equivalent of 3/16" (4.8 mm) in 10 feet (3.0). Grind all high spots level and fill low spots with an approved Portland based patching compound.

All saw cuts (control joints), cracks, indentations, and other non-moving joints in the concrete must be filled with an approved cementitious-based patching compound.

Always allow patching materials to dry thoroughly and install according to the manufacturer's instructions. Excess moisture in patching material may cause bonding problems or a bubbling reaction with the E-Grip III adhesive.

Expansion joints in the concrete are designed to allow for expansion and contraction of the concrete. If a floor covering is installed over an expansion joint, it more than likely will fail in that area. Use expansion joint covers designed for resilient flooring.

Maximum moisture vapor emission of the concrete must not exceed 5.5 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft. in a 24-hour period as measured by the calcium chloride moisture emission test conducted in accordance to ASTM F1869. Moisture can also be measured using the RH Relative Humidity test method per the ASTM F2170 standard. Moisture content should not exceed 85% RH. If levels are higher using either test method, than one of ECORE's recommended vapor retardants must be utilized.

NOTE: For moisture remediation, ECORE International recommends the following two vapor retardant products:

1. Ardex MC – 724-203-5000
www.ardex.com

2. Bostik Durabond D-250
888-592-8558 – www.bostik-us.com

It is essential that a pH test be taken on all concrete floors. If the pH is greater than 9, it must be neutralized prior to beginning the installation.

Adhesive bond tests should be conducted in several locations throughout the area. Glue down 3' x 3' pieces of the flooring with E-Grip III and a 1/16" square-notch trowel. Allow to set for 72 hours before attempting to remove. A sufficient amount of force should be required to remove the underlayment pad and there should be adhesive on both the subfloor and the back of the underlayment pad.

HAZARDS

SILICA WARNING: Concrete, floor patching compounds, toppings, and leveling compounds can contain free crystalline silica. Respirable crystalline silica (particles 1–10 micrometers) can be produced by cutting, sawing, grinding, or drilling. Respirable silica is classified by OSHA as an IA carcinogen and is known to cause silicosis and other respiratory diseases. Avoid actions that cause dust to become airborne. Use local or general ventilation or protective equipment to reduce exposure below applicable exposure limits.

ASBESTOS WARNING: Resilient flooring, backing, lining felt, paint or asphaltic "cutback" adhesives can contain asbestos fibers. Avoid actions that cause dust to become airborne. Do not sand, dry sweep, dry scrape, drill, saw, beadblast or mechanically chip or pulverize. Regulations may require that the material be tested to determine asbestos content. Consult the documents titled *Recommended Work Practices for Removal of Existing Resilient Floor Coverings*, available from the Resilient Floor Covering Institute.

LEAD WARNING: Certain paints can contain lead. Exposure to excessive amounts of lead dust presents a health hazard. Refer to applicable federal, state, and local laws and the publication *Lead Based Paint: Guidelines for Hazard Identification and Abatement in Public and Indian Housing*, available from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Material Storage and Handling

(ECOnights, ECOearth, ECOrocks, ECOstone, ECOsand, and ECOrx underlayment) Roll material should always be stored lying down. Storing rubber on end will curl the edges, resulting in permanent memory of the material. All edges with memory curl must be straight edge cut before installation. Do not store rolls higher than 4 rolls or for more than six months. MATERIAL SHOULD ONLY BE STORED ON A CLEAN, DRY, SMOOTH SURFACE. Rolls should be stored with the end of the sheet facing up. If ECOrx material is stored upside down, the weight of the roll may cause the end of the sheet to compress, resulting in residual indentation.

The material and adhesive must be acclimated at room temperature for a minimum of 48 hours before starting installation.

Installing Factory Laminated ECOrx

MATERIAL STORAGE AND HANDLING

- A. Material should be delivered to the job site in its original unopened packaging with all labels intact.
- B. Roll material should always be stored laying down. Storing rubber on end will curl the edges, resulting in permanent memory of the material. All edges with memory curl must be straight edge cut before installation. Do not store rolls higher than 4 rolls or for more than six months. MATERIAL SHOULD ONLY BE STORED ON A CLEAN, DRY, SMOOTH, SURFACE. Rolls should be stored with the end of the sheet facing up. If ECOrx material is stored upside down, the weight of the roll may cause the end of the sheet to compress, resulting in residual indentation.
- C. **Inspect all material for visual defects prior to beginning the installation. No labor claim will be honored on material installed with visual defects. Verify the material delivered is the correct style, color, and amount. Any discrepancies must be reported immediately before beginning installation.**

NOTE: ECOsurfaces flooring is manufactured from recycled materials and slight variance in shade and color chip dispersion is normal. It is the installer's responsibility to inspect all products to ensure the correct style, thickness, and color. Any moderate to severe discrepancies should be reported immediately before beginning installation.

- D. The material and adhesive must be acclimated at room temperature for a minimum of 24 hours before starting installation.
- E. All ECOrx rolls must be unrolled and installed in the same direction (directional arrows are stamped on bottom of the rolls). Rolls are labeled with batch numbers and roll numbers. Do not mix batch numbers together and install all rolls in consecutive order. (See diagram 1.) Laying rolls in the opposite direction and out of sequence will cause color variations between the rolls.

NOTE: One side of each cardboard core containing ECOrx rolls is marked with red dye. Unroll the flooring so that all of the cores have the markings on the same side.

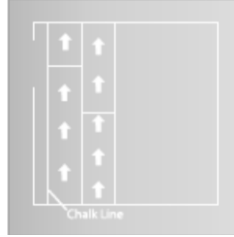


Diagram 1

- F. Roll material is stretched slightly when it is rolled at the factory. At the job site the installer should allow all rolls to relax for a minimum of two hours before gluing or cutting material.

INSTALLATION- SHEET

A. Seaming Methods

Snap a chalk line where the seam will be located. Straight cut the edge of the first piece if required. Align the first roll factory edge to the chalk line. It is very important that the seam is perfectly straight.

Straight edge the second lineal drop if the first lineal drop is not long enough to span the entire length or width of the room. ECORE discourages end or head seams but if necessary, they should be staggered on the floor and overlapped approximately 3-6”.

NOTE: If head seams are eliminated, there are no requirements to trim the sideseams. If cutting is required where material will seam, it is recommended to trace cut these carefully and preferred to cut at a slight bevel, causing the bottom layer to be slightly shorter than the finished top layer. If the bevel is cut in the wrong direction, gaps will be seen on the top finished surface. If rolls span from one side of the room to the other, it is not necessary to cut the seams. This will substantially decrease the amount of time required to install this product.

NOTE: The weight of the material (2.0 - 2.5 lbs./ft² based on top surface) should also be considered when ordering in longer roll lengths.

Position second row with no more than 1/8” overlap over the first roll at the seam. Work the material back to eliminate the overlap. This procedure will leave tight seams and eliminate any gaps. (See diagram 2.)



Diagram 2

- B. After all above procedures are performed, begin application of ECORE’s E-Grip III, recommended one-component polyurethane adhesive. Apply E-Grip III to the substrate using a 1/16” square notched trowel.

NOTE: The open time of adhesive is affected by temperature and humidity. High temperatures and high humidity will cause the adhesive to set quickly. Low temperatures and low humidity will cause adhesive to cure at a slower rate. The installer should monitor on-site conditions and adjust open time accordingly.

- C. Fold the first drop lengthwise (half the width of the roll).
- D. Spread adhesive using proper notch trowel. Take care not to spread more E-Grip III than can be covered by flooring and rolled within 30 minutes. The open time of the adhesive is 30 - 40 minutes at 70° F and 50% relative humidity.
- E. Fold over second half of first roll and half of second sheet. Spread adhesive. At seam area spread adhesive at 90 degrees to seam to eliminate excessive adhesive oozing up at seam. Roll material.
- F. Carefully lay the material into the wet adhesive. DO NOT let the material drop because this will cause air to be trapped beneath the flooring.
- G. Immediately roll the floor with a 75 lb or 100 lb roller to ensure proper transfer of adhesive. Overlap each pass of the roller by 50% of the previous pass to ensure that the floor is properly rolled. Roll the width first then the length. Re-roll again after 30-45 minutes.
- H. Continue the process for each consecutive drop. Work at a pace so that you are always folding material back into wet adhesive.

NOTE: In some instances, it may be necessary to weigh down the seam until the adhesive develops a firm set. Boxes of cove base or tile work well.

- I. Do not allow E-Grip III to cure on your hands or the flooring. Immediately wipe off excess adhesive with a rag dampened with mineral spirits! Cured adhesive is very difficult to remove. We strongly suggest wearing gloves when using E-Grip III.

NOTE: Use mineral spirits sparingly. Saturating the rubber with mineral spirits may cause the adhesive to be pushed too deeply into the pores of the rubber.

- J. Hand roll all seams after the entire floor has been rolled. If some seams are gapping, hold them together temporarily with blue painter's tape. Do not use duct tape as it may leave a residue on the floor. Remove tape after adhesive has developed a firm set (approximately 8-12 hours).
- K. After you've rolled the floor, keep all foot traffic off the floor for a minimum of 12-24 hours. Floor should be kept free from rolling loads for a minimum of 48-72 hours. Foot traffic and rolling loads can cause permanent indentations or disbonding in the uncured adhesive.

Installing Field Laminated EORx

EORx Installation- Step 1

Installing the Underlayment Pad

1. Begin by dry-laying rolls to allow product to relax for a minimum of two hours. Roll material is stretched slightly when it is rolled at the factory. At the job site the installer should allow all rolls to relax for a minimum of two hours before cutting to fit.

NOTE: EORx underlayment will be laid perpendicular to the direction of the finished flooring material.

NOTE: Inspect all dry-laid material for visual defects prior to beginning the installation. No labor claim will be honored on material installed with visual defects. Verify the material delivered is the correct style, color, and amount. Any discrepancies must be reported immediately before beginning installation.



2. After all above procedures are performed, begin application of ECORE's E-Grip III one-component, zero-VOC urethane adhesive. Apply E-Grip III to the substrate using recommended trowel size:
 - 3.2mm – 1/16" x 1/32" x 5/64" U Notch Trowel
 - 6mm – 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" Square Notch Trowel
 - 8mm – 1/16" x 1/16" x 1/16" Square Notch Trowel

Take care not to spread more E-Grip III than can be covered by flooring and rolled within 30 minutes. The open time of the adhesive is 30–40 minutes at 70° F and 50% relative humidity.

NOTE: The open time of adhesive is affected by temperature and humidity. High temperatures and high humidity will cause the adhesive to set-up quickly. Low temperatures and low humidity will cause adhesive to cure at a slower rate. The installer should monitor on-site conditions and adjust open time accordingly.

3. Continue this process for each consecutive drop. Work at a pace so that you are always folding material back into wet adhesive. **Do not allow E-Grip III to cure on your hands or the flooring.** Immediately wipe off excess adhesive with a rag dampened with mineral spirits. Cured adhesive is very difficult to remove. We strongly suggest wearing gloves when using E-Grip III.

4. Immediately roll the floor with a 75-100 lb. roller to ensure proper transfer of adhesive. Overlap each pass of the roller by 50% of the previous pass to ensure that the floor is properly rolled. Roll the width first, then the length. Re-roll again after 30–45 minutes.
5. Hand roll all seams after the entire floor has been rolled. If some seams are gapping, hold them together temporarily with masking tape. Do not use duct tape as it may leave a residue on the floor. Remove tape after adhesive has developed a firm set.
6. **Keep foot traffic off the floor for a minimum of 12-24 hours.** Foot traffic and rolling loads can be detrimental to the installation, causing permanent indentations or bubbles in the uncured adhesive.



ECOrx Installation- Step 2

Skim Coating

After completion of step 1 and allowing the adhesive to cure for 12-24 hours, you can begin step 2.

1. Using a flat trowel, apply E-Grip III at a rate of 80–100 sq. ft. per gallon over entire ECOrx underlayment pad. This will leave a seamless appearance and create one large monolithic layer in which to install the finished flooring.
2. Allow skim coat to dry approximately six hours before proceeding with dry-lay of finished flooring. You may begin installation of the finished flooring when the adhesive is not tacky to the touch.



ECOrx Installation- Step 3 Installing the Finished Rubber

1. All ECOsurfaces rolls must be unrolled and installed in the same direction (directional arrows are stamped on bottom of the rolls). Rolls are labeled with batch numbers and roll numbers. Do not mix batch numbers together and install all rolls in consecutive order. *See Diagram 1.*
2. Roll material is stretched slightly when it is rolled at the factory. At the job site the installer should allow all rolls to relax for a minimum of two hours before cutting to length and width.
3. Cut the first sheet at the required length including enough to run up the wall and overlap for seaming at each end.
4. Position the first sheet against the wall and square with the room.
5. Cut second sheet with proper extra length.
6. **Position second sheet with a 1"–1.5" overlap over the first roll at the seam.**
7. Repeat for each consecutive sheet necessary to complete the area or those rolls that will be installed that day.

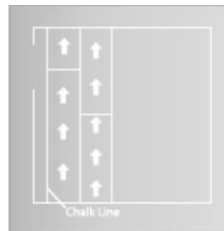


Diagram 1

SEAMING METHODS

3.2mm thick material: Double cut by placing a 4" wide scrap of material under the seam area. Using a straight edge and new razor blade, hold the knife straight up and down and cut through both pieces in one cut.



APPLYING ADHESIVE

1. After all above procedures are performed, begin application of E-Grip III, ECORE's recommended one-component, Zero VOC polyurethane adhesive. Apply E-Grip III to the underlayment pad using a 1/16" x 1/32" x 5/64" U-notch trowel.
2. Spread adhesive using proper notched trowel. Take care not to spread more E-Grip III than can be covered by flooring within 30 minutes. The open time of the adhesive is 30–40 minutes at 70° F and 50% relative humidity.

NOTE: The open time of adhesive is affected by temperature and humidity. High temperatures and high humidity will cause the adhesive to set-up quickly. Low temperatures and low humidity will cause adhesive to cure at a slower rate. The installer should monitor on-site conditions and adjust open time accordingly.

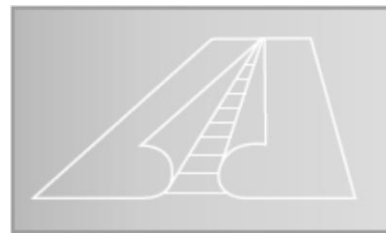
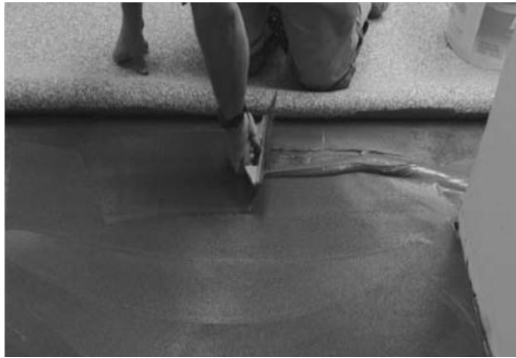


Diagram 2

3. Fold over second half of first roll and half of second sheet. Spread adhesive. At seam area spread adhesive at 90 degrees to seam to eliminate excessive adhesive oozing up at seam. Roll material. *See Diagram 2.*
4. Carefully lay the material into the wet adhesive. **DO NOT** let the material drop because this will cause air to be trapped beneath the flooring.
5. Continue the process for each consecutive drop. Work at a pace so that you are always folding material back into wet adhesive.

NOTE: Never leave adhesive ridges or puddles, they will telegraph through the material. **Do not allow E-Grip III to cure on your hands or the flooring.** Immediately wipe off excess adhesive with a rag dampened with mineral spirits. Cured adhesive is very difficult to remove. We strongly suggest wearing gloves when using E-Grip III.

6. Immediately roll the floor with a 75-100 lb. roller to ensure proper transfer of adhesive. Overlap each pass of the roller by 50% of the previous pass to ensure that the floor is properly rolled. Roll the width first then the length. Re-roll again after 30-45 minutes.

7. Hand roll all seams after the entire floor has been rolled. If some seams are gapping, hold them together temporarily with masking tape. Do not use duct tape as it will leave a residue on the floor. Remove tape after adhesive has developed a firm set, approximately 8–12 hours.
8. It may be necessary to weigh down the seam until the adhesive sets. Boxes of cove base work well. Cover the entire seam. If some seams are gapping, hold them together temporarily with masking tape or blue painter's tape. Do not use duct tape as it will leave a residue on the floor. Remove tape after adhesive has developed a firm set, approximately 8-12 hours.
9. **Keep foot traffic off the floor for a minimum of 12-24 hours.** Keep rolling loads off floor for a minimum of 48–72 hours. Foot traffic and rolling loads can cause permanent indentations or adhesive failure.



Important Information for the Specifier

ECORE International recommends Ecore Green Solutions Products and Procedures for ECOrx.

Proper protection and maintenance of ECOrx post-installation should be specified by the architect/designer. ECOrx products should not be subject to construction debris and potential damage caused from heavy duty construction activities.

FLOOR PROTECTION

The specifier should include specification details to protect the floor post-installation and until job construction is complete, such as covering the entire floor with paper or another floor covering device (plastic, plywood, etc.) until construction is completed and thorough cleaning and maintenance can be implemented.

ASSIGNMENT OF CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

The specifier should determine and assign the responsibility for the initial cleaning and finishing. This responsibility should be specifically assigned to either the flooring contractor, general contractor, maintenance contractor, or owner.

MAINTENANCE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE SPECIFIER

ECORE recommends Ecore Green Solutions Maintenance Products and Procedures for EORx.

Proper protection and maintenance of EORx post-installation should be specified by the architect/designer. EORx products should not be subject to construction debris and potential damage caused from heavy duty construction activities.

FLOOR PROTECTION

The specifier should include specification details to protect the floor post-installation and until job construction is complete, such as covering the entire floor with paper or another floor covering device (plastic, plywood, etc.) until construction is completed and thorough cleaning and maintenance can be implemented.

ASSIGNMENT OF CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

The specifier should determine and assign the responsibility for the initial cleaning and finishing. This responsibility should be specifically assigned to the flooring contractor, general contractor, maintenance contractor, or owner.

Cleaning Procedures - ECOrx Coated with ECOguard

Maintenance Instructions

Steps	Green Products	Dilute	Tools
Initial Cleaning	ECORE's E-Cleaner	10 oz / Gal Water	Soft Nylon Brush or Microfiber Mop
Daily/Weekly Cleaning	ECORE's E-Cleaner	2-4 oz / Gal Water	Soft Nylon Brush or Microfiber Mop
Heavy Soil	ECORE's E-Cleaner	10 oz / Gal Water	Soft Nylon Brush or approved pad

A. Initial Cleaning

NOTE: Sealer should have 48 hours minimum to cure before introducing moisture.

1. Remove all surface soil, debris, sand, and grit by sweeping or vacuuming.
2. Scrub floor with ECORE's recommended E-Cleaner, using a buffer or auto scrubber with a soft nylon brush. We recommend a 175 RPM buffer or auto scrubber. If soil is minimal, a microfiber mop may be used.
3. Pick up remaining residue with a wet vac and damp mop floor. Allow floor to dry.

B. Daily/Weekly Cleaning

1. Remove all surface soil, debris, sand, and grit by sweeping or vacuuming.
2. Damp mop or scrub floor using ECORE's recommended E-Cleaner or equivalent with a soft nylon brush or microfiber mop. For heavier scuff marks, a more aggressive pad may be used.
Please contact ECORE's Technical Department for guidelines on pad selection.
3. Clean remaining residue from floor with a wet vac and damp mop floor. Allow floor to dry thoroughly before introducing foot traffic.

C. Heavy Soil Cleaning

1. Remove all surface soil, debris, sand, and grit by sweeping or vacuuming.
2. Scrub floor using ECORE's recommended E-Cleaner with a soft nylon brush or more aggressive recommended pad. **Contact ECORE's Technical Department for aid in pad selection.** Follow "Dilution Schedule" above.
3. Pick up remaining residue with a wet vac and damp mop floor. Allow floor to dry.

Note: If area is too small for a buffer or auto scrubber, a nylon deck brush may be used to remove scuff marks or heavy soil. Brush should be approximately 22 gauge.

CAUTION – A “standard” black pad should be the most aggressive pad used. **The use of a high performance black pad such as 3M’s 7300 series will act as a sander and will damage the surface of the rubber.** ECORE assumes no liability in the event of damage to the rubber in the removal process. ECOguard is considered a permanent sealer and not intended to be stripped from the rubber as a standard procedure. This procedure is for restorative maintenance purposes only.

Approved Cleaning / Stripping Pads

Manufacturer	Cleaning	Stripping-Contact ECORE Tech Services
3 M	White 4100, Beige 4200	Black 7200, Brown 7100, Blue 5300
Taski	White	Black, Purple
ECOLAB	White	Black

Cleaning Procedures & Maintenance- ECOrx without ECOguard

Maintenance

Steps	Green Products	Dilute	Diluted Coverage	Pads & Brushes
Initial Cleaning	ECORE's E-Cleaner	10 oz/gal water	2,000 sq ft/gal	Soft nylon brush, or approved pad
Finishing	ECORE's E-Finish	None	1,500 sq ft/gal	Soft nylon brush or microfiber mop
ECOguard Finishing	(see ECOguard section for detailed instructions)			
Daily Cleaning	ECORE's E-Cleaner	2-4 oz/gal water	6,000 sq ft/gal	Soft nylon brush or microfiber mop
Heavy Soil and Restorative Cleaning	ECORE's E-Strip	16 oz/gal water	1,200 sq ft/gal	Brown pad or black pad
Stripping	E-Strip	16 oz/gal water	1,200 sq ft/gal	Brown pad or black pad

ECORE CLEANING AND FINISHING PROGRAM

A. Initial Cleaning

1. Remove all surface soil, debris, sand, and grit by sweeping, dust mopping, or vacuuming.
 - a. Scrub floor with ECORE's recommended E-Cleaner, using buffer or auto scrubber with an approved pad or soft nylon brush.
2. Pick up solution with a wet vacuum, rinse with clean water, and allow to dry thoroughly (6-8 hours).

B. Initial Floor Finish Application

1. Finish options:
2. ECORE's E-Finish for a low satin finish. Apply 2-3 thin coats of finish. Work finish into flooring with a soft nylon brush and let it thoroughly dry between coats.
3. Provide sufficient cure time of final coat before allowing foot traffic (at least 2 hours).

C. Daily/Regular Cleaning

1. Sweep, dust mop or vacuum floor to remove surface soil, debris, sand, and grit.
2. Damp mop with a microfiber mop or auto-scrub with a soft nylon brush or microfiber mop using ECORE's approved E-Cleaner low foam cleaner.

Note: FLOORS TREATED WITH E-Finish - When cleaning floors finished with E-Finish use only a microfiber mop and nylon brush. Pads will remove finish on floors treated with E-Finish.

D. Restorative Maintenance

Stripping the finish is not needed until there is noticeable accumulation of dirt and contaminants embedded in the finish. Normally this accumulation occurs in hard to reach and high traffic areas. Following a good maintenance program and applying thin coats of finish when the look calls for it and only where it is needed will result in little finish build-up, increasing the time between stripping.

1. Sweep or vacuum to remove loose soil.
2. Heavy scrub using a rotary scrubber or automatic scrubber with a black or brown pad and stripper solution ECORE's E-Strip.
3. Pick up solution with wet vac.
4. Rinse with clean water.
5. Allow floor to thoroughly dry.
6. Apply floor finish following initial finish application instructions.

E. Heavy Soil

1. Hard-to-clean and greasy areas may require a higher concentration of ECORE's E-Cleaner.

IMPORTANT MAINTENANCE TIPS

- Use high CFM vacuum to pick up dust.
- Wait for floor to dry thoroughly before applying floor finishes, usually 24 hours.
- Apply only thin coats of floor finishes with finish mop. Buffing finish into the floor with a soft nylon brush is beneficial.

WARRANTY

All ECORE International rubber flooring is guaranteed by ECORE International to be free from manufacturing defects on both material and workmanship. If such a defect is discovered, the customer must notify ECORE either through the contracting installer, distributor, or directly. If found to be defective within five years under normal non-abusive conditions, the sole remedy against the seller will be the replacement or repair of the defective goods, or at the seller's option, credit may be issued not exceeding the selling price of the defective goods.

ECOsurfaces warranty shall not cover dissatisfaction due to improper installation, damage from improper maintenance or usage, or general misuse, including and without limitation: burns, cuts, tears, scratches, scuffs, damage from rolling loads, damage from cleaning products not recommended by ECORE, slight shade variations or shade variations due to exposure to direct sunlight, or differences in color between samples or photographs and actual flooring.

Excluded from Warranty

These warranties do not apply to the following:

1. The exact matching of shade, color, or mottling.
2. Any express or implied promise made by any salesman or representative.
3. Tears, burns, cuts, or damage due to improper installation, improper use, or improper cleaning agents or maintenance methods.
4. Wear from chairs or other furniture without proper floor protectors will void the warranty. Care should be taken to protect the flooring from damage by using good quality protective feet for chairs, tables, and other furniture. Chair mats may be required under chairs with casters/wheels.
5. Labor costs for installation of original or replacement material.
6. Sale of "Seconds," "Off Goods," or other irregular (non-first-quality) flooring materials. With respect to "Seconds" or "Off Goods," such are sold "as is," and ECOsurfaces makes no warranties whatsoever, express or implied with respect thereto, including warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.
7. Problems caused by moisture, hydrostatic pressure, or alkali in the sub-floor.
8. Problems caused by uses, maintenance, and installation that are contrary to ECOsurfaces specifications, recommendations or instructions.
9. Material installed with obvious defects.
10. Damage to flooring products from high heels or spike heels.
11. Damage to flooring products from rubber mats or rubber backed mats.
12. Installation of ECOsurfaces products with adhesives other than those recommended by ECOsurfaces.
13. Fading and/or discoloration resulting from heavy sunlight penetration and ultraviolet ray exposure from direct or glass-filtered sunlight.
14. Material that is not installed and maintained as recommended by ECOsurfaces.
15. Damage to flooring products from pallet jack and tow-motor traffic.
16. Environments where the product will be exposed to animal fats, vegetable oils, grease or petroleum based materials. (i.e.: commercial kitchens or auto repair facilities.)
17. Premature wear and deterioration from spikes and skate blade exposure.
18. Differences in color between products and photography.
19. Embossing/density deviations between product and samples, photography.

These warranties are in lieu of any other warranty expressed or implied. ECOsurfaces shall not be liable for any incidental or consequential damages which may result from a defect. Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you. These warranties give you specific rights, and you may also have rights which may vary from state to state. To know what your legal rights are in your state, consult your local or state Consumer Affairs Office or your State Attorney General.

For complete and latest warranty information for products within the ECOsurfaces collection, please see www.ecosurfaces.com.

ECOguard Clear Coat Sealer Instruction Manual

Description

ECOguard is a water based, clear polyurethane maintenance coat. ECOguard is formulated for interior applications and offers excellent environmental resistance to abrasion and impact, while offering an attractive matte finish.

Tools / Materials Required

Safety Glasses
Latex or Rubber Gloves
21" paint tray or rectangular mop bucket for sealer
Applicator Trim Pads
Automatic Buffer
Safety / utility knife
Trash bags
18" stir sticks
Drill
Rags
Microfiber Mop
Microfiber Mop Cover
Paint mixer paddle

Surface Preparation

- An improperly prepared surface can act as a bond breaker and result in a project failure. It is important to remove all dirt, grease, wax, oil, paint or other contaminants before applying the ECOguard. ECOguard can be applied over the existing factory applied finish after all construction debris and soil have been removed from the surface.

Precautionary Measures

- Suggested to allow ECOguard to cure for 48 hours before cleaning.
- Suggested to allow ECOguard to cure for 48 hours before rolling chairs and dollies.
- Suggested to allow ECOguard to cure for 24 hours before introducing foot traffic.
- If traffic and/or rolling loads need to be introduced earlier than listed above, the surface should then be protected with an appropriate plywood or Luan.
- Remove ECOguard spills and drips immediately from other surfaces before dry.
- Suggested not to re-use microfiber pads after applying ECOguard.
- Seal floor in one step rather than in sections for best results.
- If sealer dries on microfiber pad, replace with new microfiber pad for best results.
- Sealer will obtain full strength in 5-7 days. Care should be taken during the first 5-7 days to prevent damage to the coating. Extra coats will extend the curing cycle.
- Do not use string mops or other unapproved applicators to apply ECOguard. The use of unapproved mops may result in a poor application of the sealer and complete removal may be required.
- Work from one side of the room to the other using a scrubbing motion with microfiber mop keeping a wet edge.

Application Methods

1. **Application of ECOguard Over Uncoated EcoSurfaces**
2. **Application Over Existing New ECOguard Factory Applied Sealer**
3. **Surface Preparation and Re-Application of ECOguard Sealer**
4. **Removal , Stripping “Complete Removal” of ECOguard Sealer**
5. **Cleaning and Maintenance Instructions**

1. Application Of ECOguard Over Uncoated ECOsurfaces

- **IMPORTANT! Stir the ECOguard thoroughly before application to ensure consistent sheen.** Stir sealer for 3-5 minutes or until all sediment at bottom of pail is mixed in.
- Safety glasses should be worn when mixing, pouring or applying ECOguard.
- Apply first coating of ECOguard to the rubber surface using ECORE's recommended Microfiber Mop. An applicator trim pad may be used for areas around the perimeter.
- Additional one to two coats are recommended and an ample amount of time is required between coats. Allow each coat to dry thoroughly to touch before applying the next coat, about 2 - 4 hours.
- Over unfinished rubber the coverage rate is approximately 400-500 sq ft per gallon. Second and Third coat coverage approximately 600-800 sq ft per gallon.
- Apply ECOguard when surface temperature is 65 degrees Fahrenheit or higher and maintained for 72 hours before and after installation.
- Wear rubber or latex gloves when applying the ECOguard. Sealer will not harm the skin but is difficult to remove once it dries. Wash hands immediately after contact with ECOguard with soap and water.
- Allow ECOguard to cure for 48 hours before cleaning the surface.

2. Application Over Existing ECOguard Factory Applied Sealer

- **Factory coated product should not require additional field coats. Should an additional coat be requested, one should suffice.**
- **IMPORTANT! Stir the ECOguard thoroughly before application to ensure consistent sheen.** Stir sealer for 3-5 minutes or until all sediment at bottom of pail is mixed in.
- Safety glasses should be worn when mixing, pouring or applying ECOguard.
- Wear rubber or latex gloves when applying the ECOguard. Sealer will not harm the skin, but is difficult to remove once it dries. Wash hands immediately after contact with ECOguard with soap and water.
- Apply ECOguard when surface temperature is 65 degrees Fahrenheit or higher and maintained for 72 hours before and after installation.
- Apply one coating of ECOguard to the rubber surface using ECORE's recommended Microfiber Mop. An applicator trim pad may be used for areas around the perimeter.
- Additional coats are acceptable and an ample amount of time is required between coats. Allow each coat to dry thoroughly before applying the next coat, about 2-4 hours.
- Coverage rate is approximately 600-800 sq. ft. per gallon over previously coated surfaces.
- Allow ECOguard to cure for 48 hours before cleaning the surface.

3. Surface Preparation and Re-Application of ECOguard Sealer

- An improperly prepared surface can act as a bond breaker and result in a project failure. It is important to remove all dirt, grease, wax, oil, paint or other contaminants before re-applying the ECOguard. ECOguard can be applied over the existing factory applied finish after all construction debris and soil have been removed from the surface.
- It is recommended to clean the surface thoroughly with a buffer or auto scrubber using a 3M red or aqua pad. Keep in mind that these pads will slightly abrade the finish and continued use will remove the sealer. Cleaning with these pads will slightly abrade the finish creating an acceptable surface to apply the new finish coat.
- **NOTE:** Manufactures make different pads of different texture in like colors. It is recommended to contact ECORE's Technical Service Department for guidance in pad selection.
- **Stir the ECOguard thoroughly before application to ensure consistent sheen.**
- Apply one coating of ECOguard to the rubber surface using ECORE's recommended Microfiber mop. An applicator trim pad or 4" roller may be used for areas around the perimeter.
- Additional coats are acceptable and an ample amount of time is required between coats. Allow each coat to dry thoroughly before applying the next coat, about 2-4 hours.
- Coverage rate is approximately 600-800 sq. ft. per gallon over previously coated surfaces.
- Apply ECOguard when surface temperature is 65 deg Fahrenheit or higher and maintained for 72 hours before and after installation.
- Safety glasses should be worn when mixing, pouring or applying ECOguard.

- Wear rubber or latex gloves when applying the ECOguard. Sealer will not harm the skin but is difficult to remove once it dries. Wash hands with soap and water after contact.
- Allow ECOguard to cure for 48 hours before cleaning the surface.

4. Removal / Stripping ECOguard Sealer

- ECOguard is difficult to completely remove from the surface of the rubber and may take several attempts. ECOguard is removed by abrasion using an approved stripping pad. Anything used to chemically remove the sealer will jeopardize the integrity of the rubber.
- To remove, use E-Strip 42 oz. per gallon water and a buffer fitted with a black or brown stripping pad. Manufacturers make different pads of different texture in like colors. **It is recommended to contact ECORE's Technical Service Department for guidance in pad selection.**
- Apply a liberal amount of diluted stripper to the surface of the rubber and work buffer from one side to the other until sealer is removed. Successfully removing the sealer will be dependent on undulations in the substrate and may take several passes with the buffer or auto scrubber.
- **CAUTION – A “standard” black pad** should be the most aggressive pad used. **The use of a high performance black pad such as 3M's 7300 series is NOT RECOMMENDED and will act as a sander and will damage the surface of the rubber.** ECORE assumes no liability in the event of damage to the rubber in the removal process. ECOguard is considered a permanent sealer and not intended to be stripped from the rubber as a standard procedure. This procedure is for restorative maintenance purposes only. To re-apply ECOguard please follow step 1.

Maintenance Instructions

Steps	Green Products	Dilute	Tools
Initial Cleaning	ECORE's E-Cleaner	10 oz / Gal Water	Soft Nylon Brush or Microfiber Mop
Daily/Weekly Cleaning	ECORE's E-Cleaner	2-4 oz / Gal Water	Soft Nylon Brush or Microfiber Mop
Heavy Soil	ECORE's E-Strip	10 oz / Gal Water	Soft Nylon Brush or approved pad

ECOsurfaces Coated with ECOguard

B. Initial Cleaning

NOTE: Sealer should have 48 hours minimum to cure before introducing moisture.

4. Remove all surface soil, debris, sand, and grit by sweeping or vacuuming.
5. Scrub floor with ECORE's recommended E-Cleaner, using a buffer or auto scrubber with a soft nylon brush. We recommend a 175 RPM buffer or auto scrubber. If soil is minimal, a microfiber mop may be used.
6. Pick up remaining residue with a wet vac and damp mop floor. Allow floor to dry.

B. Daily/Weekly Cleaning

4. Remove all surface soil, debris, sand, and grit by sweeping or vacuuming.
5. Damp mop or scrub floor using ECORE's recommended E-Cleaner or equivalent with a soft nylon brush or microfiber mop. For heavier scuff marks, a more aggressive pad may be used. **Please contact ECORE's Technical Department for guidelines on pad selection.**
6. Clean remaining residue from floor with a wet vac and damp mop floor. Allow floor to dry thoroughly before introducing foot traffic.

C. Heavy Soil Cleaning

4. Remove all surface soil, debris, sand, and grit by sweeping or vacuuming.
5. Scrub floor using ECORE's recommended E-Cleaner with a soft nylon brush or more aggressive recommended pad. **Contact ECORE's Technical Department for aid in pad selection.** "Follow Dilution Schedule" above.
6. Pick up remaining residue with a wet vac and damp mop floor. Allow floor to dry.

Note: If area is too small for a buffer or auto scrubber, a nylon deck brush may be used to remove scuff marks or heavy soil. Brush should be approximately 22 gauge.

Approved Cleaning / Stripping Pads

Manufacturer	Cleaning	Stripping
3 M	White 4100, Beige 4200	Black 7200, Brown 7100, Blue 5300
Taski	White	Black, Purple
ECOLAB	White	Black

Recommended Tools / Materials



21" paint tray



Microfiber Mop



Microfiber Mop Cover



Rectangular Mop Bucket



Applicator Trim Pad



Applicator Trim Pad



Mixing Paddle



Safety Glasses



Safety Knife



Latex Gloves



Shop Towels



Rags

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Questions and Answers

What is ECOguard? ECOguard is a water-based, clear polyurethane maintenance coat made exclusively for ECORE to preserve the beauty of ECOsurfaces floors. It is factory applied to ECOsurfaces sheet flooring products, (excluding ECONights for ESD and ECONights for Sport) to protect the floor from dirt and construction debris, significantly reducing initial cleaning and maintenance costs. A field applied coat of ECOguard P-705 is optional for all non-ECONights installations. This additional coat will provide a protective wear layer and add a final finish.

Is ECOguard environmentally friendly? Factory applied ECOguard has low VOCs and emits no Proposition 65 chemicals. ECOguard also meets the California Section 01350 protocol for use in schools and offices. In addition, no respirator masks are required during application of the ECOguard.

What is ECOguard's life expectancy? ECOguard is a long lasting, durable finish that will provide many years of service with normal use and foot traffic. Products finished with ECOguard will carry the same 5 year warranty currently offered on ECOsurfaces products. An extended wear warranty will not be offered. We estimate the initial factory finish, plus the additional field-applied coat to non-ECONights floors, will last 1-5 years depending upon use. As a general rule, ECOguard should last 5 years in a residential environment, 2 years in a commercial environment, and 1 year in an industrial environment.

Does ECOguard impact how ECOsurfaces products are installed? No. The seaming methods are the same for ECOsurfaces 3.2mm- 6mm factory finished goods.

How is it maintained once installed? Initial cleaning can be performed with a neutral cleaner in conjunction with a buffer fitted with a soft nylon brush. Aggressive scrub pads will damage the surface sheen, and therefore are not recommended. Daily cleaning is best carried out with a neutral cleaner and a microfiber mop. Complete instructions on cleaning and maintenance are available for download at ecosurfaces.com.

How do you remove adhesive residue without damaging the ECOguard finish? A rag dampened with mineral spirits is the only acceptable solvent to use for removing adhesive residue. Other solvents such as acetone, xylene, denatured alcohol, and scrub pads will damage ECOguard's finish.

When is ECOguard available? ECOsurfaces products factory sealed with ECOguard are available immediately.

Will ECOguard be available on all thicknesses of ECOsurfaces? We can factory finish 3.2mm, 6mm, and 8mm sheet products. For other ECORE products the ECOguard P-705 hand applied sealer may be used.

Is ECOguard UV stable? ECOguard does not change under long term UV exposure. Long term lab and exterior UV testing has shown positive results with minimal color change or discoloration.

Is ECOguard available in semi-gloss or gloss finishes? We will only be offering the matte finish for ECOguard from the factory as it provides the most natural look of ECOsurfaces. If additional gloss is required, an on-site finish application of ECORE's E-Finish product may add the desired sheen.

Can ECOguard be removed or stripped from the floor? ECOguard is considered a permanent finish and will be difficult to remove from the floor. Detailed instructions including finishing, cleaning, stripping, and re-coating are available for download at ecosurfaces.com.

Can ECOguard be re-used once the pail has been opened? Yes, simply stir the bucket thoroughly and re-use as needed.

Manufactured in the U.S.A. by:



715 Fountain Ave – Lancaster, PA 17601

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