

# Cleaning and Maintenance Instructions for Dirt Trapper Mats and Runners



**VEBE**  
FLOORCOVERINGS

member of the  
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## Foreword

### Cleanliness starts at the entrance!

A clean and inviting entrance leaves a good first impression. Dirt and moisture can not only damage the floors in a building, it may also leave a negative impact on its appearance!

A carefully planned maintenance and cleaning program ensures that the dirt trap mat will thus keep its aesthetic and functional advantages for a long period of time.

In order not to impair the quality of the dirt trap mat when choosing maintenance and cleaning method, one should take into consideration the material composition of the wear layer and the backing.

The textile dirt trap collection from Vebe Floorcovering is easy to clean and is therefore versatile and economical. The dirt trappers are perfect to install at the main entrance, the reception, salesrooms, workshops, offices, elevators, stairs, lounges and side entrances. The dirt trapper mats ensure reliable cleanliness throughout the building.

The dirt trapping qualities from Vebe Floorcoverings are specifically developed to absorb dirt and moisture and hide it in the material. Regular maintenance extends the lifespan and ensures its effectiveness. In this way the dirt trapper mats keep a fresh and clean appearance, by which the building maintains its representative appearance.

## 1 The Daily Cleaning

Depending on the visiting/usage frequency, daily cleaning is recommended. When dirt accumulates, the runner becomes saturated and the effectiveness of the dirt trapper mat is reduced. By daily cleaning it is ensured that the cleaning zones do not themselves become a source of dirt.

Only a powerful brush vacuum cleaner with motor-operated brush rollers achieves the optimal care. The height-adjustable rotating brushes not only vacuum loose dirt from the surface, but also reach the dirt particles that are deeply embedded in the wear layer of the dirt trapper mat.

For the daily cleaning it is important to consider two types of dirt; dry dirt and wet dirt. In case of specific stains please consult our stain removal guide.

Dry dirt mainly contains dust and sand. Sand's mineral structure, similar to the sharp edges of glass, can damage the quality of the wear layer of the product. It can diminish the shine and structure of the dirt trapper mat. Hence, it is important to vacuum clean as soon as possible.

Wet dirt consists mainly of water, which houses dry dirt particles, which will be visible as a stain. Leave the wet stain to dry out completely, it is recommended to do this while the room is vented or ventilated. When the stain is fully dried the stain can be treated as dry dirt, as mentioned above.



## 2 Periodic Cleaning

Despite daily cleaning, the dirt trap mat will accumulate dirt over a longer period of time. As a result, the effectiveness of the dirt-absorbing properties will be decreased over time. Therefore, periodic intensive maintenance and cleaning is essential. This ensures the effectiveness of the specially developed dirt trap absorption and gives the dirt trap mat a long life span.

An effective and sustainable periodic cleaning method for the dirt trapper zone is the spray extraction method. During the treatment, water is sprayed into the pile under a high pressure. Then this water should be vacuumed together with the dirt. If the dirt trap mat is very dirty a detergent (pH-neutral) can be added to the water. It is essential that the detergent is thoroughly removed and does not leave any residue. Soap residues can stick to the pile and can cause more dirt to accumulate and/or walkways to be formed. It is therefore recommended to carry out the spray extraction method using only clean and clear water. After this treatment, let dirt trapping zone dry thoroughly. Drying is accelerated by good ventilation of the room.

## 3 Intensive Cleaning

The environmental friendliest way to perform the intensive cleaning with extreme dirt is the dry-cleaning method. The intensive method allows for problem free cleaning of small and larger surfaces, without the need of letting it dry. No damages will occur on the textile dirt trapper mat when it is walked upon whilst cleaning with this method.

First, the dirt trap mat should be vacuumed thoroughly with a brush vacuum. Subsequently, a surfactant-free cleaning liquid with a crystallizing effect should be sprayed on the material. The spray pressure should remain the same over the entire mat. In addition, cleaning granulate can be sprinkled on the surface. The moist cleaning granulate is scattered uniformly by hand on the carpet and then massaged in with special brush roller machines. The released dirt is absorbed by and bound to the cleaning powder. The granulate remains until it is dry, this can take between one and two hours. Since the treated carpet can be walked on during the cleaning process, the length of stay does not matter. After drying off the granulate, the carpet must be vacuumed with a brush vacuum cleaner. In this way the dirt and the granulate residues are largely removed. If stains are still visible after the cleaning granulate has been removed, they can be worked upon separately by sprinkling the granulate on the stain and brushing them in by hand using a brush.

## 4 Stains

Stains should be treated as soon as possible, because certain substances can cause permanent damage to the fibers and color. Also the result of the stain removal treatment is dependent on the speed of action. Nearly 80% of all fresh stains can be removed with water. Liquid substances can be soaked up by a cloth while dabbing. Thickened and dried substances must be removed (e.g. with a spatula) and carefully brushed out. Water-soluble stains should be moist again with water and blotted. The stain removal treatment should



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always be performed outside in, to prevent enlargement of the stains. Repeat this process if necessary.

### 5 Caution

Using home remedies or (a mixture of) detergents to clean the dirt trapper mats can damage the quality. A large number of spots and stains are caused by incorrect treatment. Some soap-based cleaning detergent may temporarily remove the stain, however many of these cleaning detergents may cause discoloration or change the structure of the dirt trapper mat visually.

This care and cleaning recommendation is based on our current experience. It does not replace the cleaning information for the respective cleaning agents used. In the event of contradictions and lack of clarity between our care and cleaning recommendations and those of the manufacturer of the respective cleaning agent, the Applications Technology Department must be contacted in all cases. The same applies to stains that cannot be removed without difficulties in spite of our care and cleaning recommendations. We expressly point out that our care and cleaning instructions are not a legally binding assurance and therefore we cannot provide any warranty or guarantee that the care and cleaning will be successful. We must therefore exclude any liability for any damage or consequential damage if the care and cleaning are not successful.

The instructions of the cleaning and stain removal equipment manufacturer must be observed. The usability and compatibility of the resources is the responsibility of the respective manufacturer, who will be happy to provide information.

Please note that these cleaning and care instructions must be handed over to the end customer.

With the publication of this issue in October 2020, all previous issues lose their validity.

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