Vinyl Flooring Care and Maintenance

Cleaning Vinyl Flooring

- *Start With Pick-up.* The best way to clean vinyl floors is to start by picking up loose dirt. While it may not seem like dirt can cause issues on your vinyl, small rocks or pieces of dirt that are stuck in your shoes can be sharp. Over time, they can scratch the surface, which is why picking up dirt is an excellent place to start.
- *Sweep or Vacuum.* To remove dirt, you can sweep or vacuum. Be sure to turn your beater bar off on your vacuum to prevent damage. We recommend that you do this at least once a week. If you have a dirt driveway, pets, or kids, you may need to sweep or vacuum more often.
- *Vinyl Floor Cleaner.* For the next step, you want to use a cleaner that is for vinyl flooring. It is best to use mops that are not abrasive when cleaning and caring for vinyl. Do not use a steam mop.

Do:

- Use **floor protectors** and wide-load-bearing leg bases or rollers to minimize indentations and scratches from heavy objects. Never try to slide heavy objects across the floor, always use a dolly when moving heavy furniture and appliances.
- Wipe up spills as soon as they occur to prevent any damage.
- Use a protective mat for furniture or chairs with casters.
- Use furniture pads to prevent scratches and dents, and always lift furniture rather than slide, which can cause scuff marks or dents.
- Add a welcome mat inside and outside. The mat will reduce the amount of dirt and debris that is tracked inside.
- Use Area Rugs. Investing in area rugs in high-traffic areas is another great idea. Hallways and staircases are high-traffic areas that see plenty of foot traffic. Use a runner for a hallway, or a custom stair runner on staircases to limit the amount of dirt on vinyl floors.

Don't:

- Leave spills on the floors to air dry. Don't use an excessive amount of water to clean vinyl floors. Don't use soaps or detergents as these will leave a dulling film on the surface of your vinyl floor.
- Use a vacuum with the beater bar turned on. Always turn the beater bar off.
- Scrub vinyl floors with steel wool to remove stains.
- Pull heavy furniture across your floors when moving.
- Steam clean your vinyl floors, even if they are waterproof. This steam from a steam mop can cause damage to your floor in the form of peeling, bubbling, and swelling. Damage caused by these types of cleaning systems is not covered under your flooring warranty.