

Interior Floor Finishes

Performance Standards - Interior Floor Finishes

1. Water-based coatings and adhesives
2. Nontoxic and non-polluting materials (low VOC)
3. Resistant to moisture or inhibits the growth of biological contaminants
4. Can be cleaned with non-polluting maintenance products
5. Suitable for heavy use areas
6. Prior to finish flooring installation, provide moisture testing of concrete floors to meet finish flooring manufacturer's requirements

Examples - Interior Floor Finishes

- Soft Surface Flooring
 - Vinyl composition tile (VCT) and vinyl enhanced tile (VET)
 - Carpeting and carpet tiles
 - Rubber flooring
- Hard Surface Flooring
 - Porcelain ceramic tile (CT) with recycled content
 - Quarry tile (QT)
 - Terrazzo tile with recycled content
 - Concrete finish
 - Wood (athletic)
 - Resinous epoxy
 - Hardwood

Guidelines - Interior Floor Finishes

- Maximize recycled/recyclable content
- Minimize PVC content

Soft Surface Flooring

Examples

- Vinyl composition tile (VCT) and Vinyl enhanced tile (VET)
- Linoleum and Sheet vinyl
- Carpet (CAR) and carpet tiles
- Rubber flooring

Construction Standards - Soft Surface Flooring

1. Carpet: minimum recycled content guideline of 25%, minimum 17 ounce face weight
2. Low-VOC emitting materials. Resilient VOC content limited to 340 grams/liter or less
3. Maximum acceptable moisture emission rate for concrete sub floors:
 - Carpet and sheet vinyl - 3 lbs/1,000 sq. ft. per 24 hours or less
 - VCT - 5 lbs./1,000 sq.ft.
4. Use water-based low VOC adhesives, sealants, and cleaning products
5. Sheet vinyl with backing: 0.080 inch thick
6. Linoleum: 0.10 inch (2.5mm) minimum thickness

Performance Benefits - Soft Surface Flooring

- Easy to clean and maintain
- Acoustical benefits
- Physical comfort (cushion)
- Safety for small children

Performance Guidelines - Soft Surface Flooring

- Maximize recycled / recyclable content
- Consider meeting Carpet and Rug Institute Green Label Plus criteria
- Research and use carpet reclamation programs where available for disposal of existing carpet
- Minimize PVC content where possible
- Consider life cycle costs including materials, cleaning and maintenance

Hard Surface Flooring

Examples

- Porcelain ceramic tile (CT) with recycled content
- Quarry tile (QT)
- Terrazzo tile with recycled content
- Concrete finish
- Wood (athletic)
- Resinous Epoxy

Construction Standards - Hard Surface Flooring

1. Low-VOC emitting materials: flooring, adhesives, grouts, caulk, or sealants
2. Comply with ANSI ceramic tile standard
3. Mortars and grouts should be based upon the installation conditions and as recommended by the Tile Council of America
4. Use epoxy-modified grout mixture for high moisture areas
5. For concrete floors use two-component, water-based, low odor, dust proofing, color pigmented epoxy sealer, or stain
6. Wood gym floors:
 - maximum 4.5 pounds per 1,000 sq.ft. moisture emission in slab
 - two year guarantee
 - second and better grade, maple strip flooring

Performance Benefits - Hard Surface Flooring

- Easy to clean and stain resistant
- Highly durable
- Reasonably economical based on life-cycle cost analysis

Performance Guidelines - Hard Surface Flooring

- Consider finishes and/or materials suitable for use in high traffic areas
- Wood flooring: Use certified hardwood, salvaged wood and/or laminated or veneered wood products where possible