

## MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS For Plynyl® Brand Custom Floor Mats

\*Plynyl will deliver years of satisfactory service when maintained properly.

### 1. MAINTENANCE - INDOOR USE

- 1.1 The most efficient way to remove particulates from Plynyl custom floor mats is by use of a vacuum equipped with a beater brush which engages the flooring surface. This will loosen soils on and in the fabric's weave, brush out scuff marks and extract particulates from the surface.
- 1.2 Additional dust and soils adhering to the surface can be removed by wet mopping. If a detergent/water solution is used, apply it to the area to be cleaned, and allow it to stand 30-60 seconds. With the mop, agitate the flooring surface. Rinse and mop with at least one additional clean water rinse, as detergent residue will attract soil if not properly rinsed. Mopping should always be used after vacuuming which will remove most of the particulate soils.
- 1.3 Do not use Acetone, Pine-Sol or Citrus based cleaners as they can damage Plynyl products.
- 1.4 In high-traffic areas and commercial applications, the use of reducer strips are required for the product to be covered by the two-year limited warranty.
- 1.5 We recommend that you occasionally lift and air out your woven mat and let the floor underneath condition. In sustained damp conditions where moisture may be trapped under the mat, this movement may help prevent the backing from sticking to the floor. If the mat is left unmoved for prolonged periods of time, some flooring finishes may interact with the backing. This occurrence is easily avoided by simply lifting or moving your mat occasionally.
- 1.6 Where the mat's size or location makes it more difficult to move, it is recommended to use a non-slip, non-stick rug pad to hold the mat in place and separate the floor finishes from the rug backing. These mats are very thin and should not change the profile of your rug in relation to the floor.
- 1.7 Do not iron.
- 1.8 Do not machine wash.
- 1.9 Avoid the use of rubber castors, glides, or pads under furniture. The use of rubber materials on vinyl fabric will cause irreversible color change. Plastic (nylon) or metal furniture glides are best suited for woven mats.
- 1.10 Product may be used over heated floors provided the temperature does not exceed 85°F/30°C.
- 1.11 Chilewich woven mats are not well-suited for use in high-traffic entrances where high levels of soil will accumulate quickly. Chilewich does not recommend these products to be used as walk off mats in commercial installations.
- 1.12 Best general cleaning is accomplished with the use of "Hot" Water Extraction equipment. Use with a good floor cleaning solution, certified by the Carpet and Rug Institute Seal of Approval program, that provides proven cleaning results with reduced residue (cleaning residue contributes to resoiling). Solutions should be used per manufacturer's recommendation, and applied to the flooring allowing the surfactant to free and solubilize soils. After 5-10 minutes, the cleaning solution should be extracted with clean hot water.
- 1.13 For modest-sized installations, Hoover Floor MATE™ can be used. It is designed especially for flat surfaced floors like wood and tile. It works very well with Plynyl as well. It uses water, detergent and rotary scrub brushes to aggressively remove soil and dirt. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for use. It can be used for the home but will work well for some smaller commercial applications as well. You can find order and operating information at [www.hoover.com](http://www.hoover.com).

**SPOT & STAIN REMOVAL** Plynyl is stain-resistant, not stain-proof. To avoid lasting stains, blot spills quickly with a lint-free cloth. Should stains remain after blotting, scrub with a medium bristle brush and a bleach-based cleaner. This cleans the stains without damaging the fabric. The chart below shows stain removal procedures for some common spills and other tough-to-clean areas.

STAIN	REMOVAL PROCEDURE
Shoe Heel Marks	Brush with a medium bristled brush and clean with a mild detergent solution. Should shoe mark persist, treat with hand sanitizer, scrub with a clean cloth and wipe away.
Blood, Chocolate, Catsup, White Glue, Egg, Ice Cream, Butter	Remove any solid residue, treat with Spot Shot for 1-2 minutes, and brush with a medium bristle brush. Blot with white paper towels. Repeat as necessary. Note that Spot Shot can be replaced with a mild soap solution.
Berries, Fruit Juices, Cream, Soft Drinks, Milk, Wine, Beer, Coffee, Tea	Remove any solid residue, treat with Spot Shot for 1-2 minutes, and brush with a medium bristle brush. Blot with white paper towels. Repeat as necessary. Note the Spot Shot can be replaced with a mild soap solution.
Excrement, Vomit, Urine	Scrape or absorb excessive material from the flooring. Use mid detergent solution with an additional 1 to 10 parts bleach on the area. Allow the solution to dwell on the area for 1-2 minutes. Scrub with a medium bristle brush, flush with water and blot.
Shoe Polish, Asphalt, Grease, Oil, Ink, Lipstick, Crayon, Wax, Paint, Rubber Cement, Seam Sealer	Remove as much residue as possible with a spoon or white towel while avoiding the spreading of the stain. Use one of the following:  1. Apply a mild solvent (Bane Clene Saf-t-Solv, Goof Off, or Mineral Spirits) directly on a white cloth, then apply the cloth to the stained area. Rub the stained area in a circular motion making sure not to spread the stain. Repeat the application and gently agitate as needed. Do not apply the solvent directly to the flooring as it will damage the integrity of the product. Finish the clean-up with a mild detergent rinse followed by a water rinse. Blot to dry.  2. Apply hand sanitizer directly to the stain. Allow to dwell 20-30 seconds and blot to remove. Repeat as needed with longer dwell times. Finish with a mild detergent rinse and flush with water. Blot to dry.
Mercurochrome, Merthiolate, Betadine, Tomato sauce, Spaghetti sauce	Spray area with Spot Shot Aerosol and allow to dwell for 1-2 minutes. Blot with white paper towels. Repeat until use of Spot Shot until no residual color is transferred onto the towels. Apply a white towel over the spot and add a heavy object to absorb stains as they wick to the surface while drying. Once dry, if discoloration is not removed, treat the area with a 1:10 bleach to water solution. Allow the solution to dwell for 5-10 minutes. Rinse with water to remove all bleach and blot dry.
Chewing Gum	Freeze with compressed air and break away from material surface. Follow with mild detergent and a medium bristled brush.
Rust	Treat with a reducing agent and follow with a mild detergent rinse (may require professional assistance).
Wax	Using a spoon or similar dull instrument, run gentle passes over the surface of the flooring to remove the majority of the wax. When all large visible accumulations have been loosened, vacuum away all unattached wax. Gently apply a gel solvent for flooring such as Pro Choice gel solvent and allow it to work into the wax. Remove with a clean cloth. If the solvent fails to remove the wax, place a paper bag or clean cloth on the surface of the waxy area. Carefully press an iron at low heat over the bag/ cloth to help transfer the wax from the flooring to the cloth. The process must be monitored to ensure the iron does not get too hot, and damage the face fibers. Repeat steps with warm iron until residual wax is removed.
<p><b>*Follow all cleaning procedures using common detergents with a water only rinse in order to remove all residual cleaning agents.</b></p>	

Please note: Stains that cannot be removed under the listed procedures can be treated with a 1:10 bleach to water solution. Mist the solution on the area of discoloration and allow to dwell for 5 minutes. Rinse the area with water only in order to remove the bleach residue. Allow to dry completely before trafficking. Some stains may require a professional to complete the stain removal process.

## 2. SPECIAL INSTRUCTION: OUTDOOR USE

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Chilewich woven mats can be used outdoors and will perform well with proper maintenance.

- 2.1 Best suited on dry surfaces.
- 2.2 Mat will absorb water when wet. Water will evaporate from the mat causing no harm to the mat.
- 2.3 Mats should be moved occasionally to allow the surface underneath to dry and condition, and the back of the mat to air.
- 2.4 All Chilewich mats are made with the latest color technology to prevent color change. Like all textiles, the mats may fade when in full sun exposure for protracted protracted periods of time.
- 2.5 Chilewich rugs are compatible with most flooring types for outdoor use. However, with new engineering decking, the manufacturer's information and recommendations should be consulted before selecting a rug to ensure it is compatible with the flooring system.