Machine scrubbing and drying for floors

The removal of dirt and stains from large floor areas using a machine for labour saving, better results and dryer floors.

Before you start

- Visually inspect your work area and review the task – are there any hazards to be addressed?
- Put on site or area specific uniforms and PPE*
- Assemble equipment and for safety reasons check for damage, specifically plugs and cables
- Place caution signs
- Ensure area is adequately ventilated (if appropriate)
- Prepare chemical following manufacturer’s instructions

*PPE: Colour coded gloves and goggles.

Equipment list

- caution signs
- appropriate rotary floor machine with tank and anti splash skirt (standard speed preferred)
- machine scrubbing brush or drive disc and pad
- wet suction machine
- measuring apparatus
- chemical
- abrasive pad (and pad holder/edging tool)
- bucket and colour coded cloths

Health & Safety

- Has a risk assessment been completed?
- Refer to relevant SSW and local site policy
- Do not plug in machine until it has been assembled and is ready for use
- Ensure hands are dry before plugging in or removing plugs
- Do not splash cleaning solution
- Cables must be behind machines at all times and out of water
- Do not allow cables to become taut
- When not in use, leave rotary floor machine handle in upright position
- Always remove brush or drive disc and pad from under machine after cleaning, otherwise they may become distorted
- Ensure machines are placed on plastic protective square or colour coded bag when not in use
- Always check electrical equipment for damage and inform supervisor of any problems
- Refer to manufacturer’s equipment instructions
Practice

1. Lower handle to the floor to enable easy fitting of the pad.
2. Return handle to the vertical position
3. Plug in and switch on at plug.
4. Adjust handle to a comfortable height making sure arms are straight.
5. Position cable behind the line of work to ensure it is not caught up by the pad or brush or tripped over.
7. Commence scrubbing floor in an area furthest from the door, at the edges, and complete systematic overlapping passes over the whole area (A).
8. Turn off machine. Turn the pad over, change it or clean as necessary.
9. Use edging tool and abrasive pad to clean alongside walls and in corners.
10. Wipe splashes from skirting and other items as they occur.
11. Pass wet suction machine over the area before the floor has started to dry, starting on a dry area and moving to a wet area.
12. Remove plug from power socket and recoil machine cables.
13. Clean equipment and check for safety.
14. Return equipment to storage area.
15. Remove, clean and store caution signs when floor is dry.

The following activity cards may be helpful to you:
Sweeping, damp mopping, chemical competence, mop sweeping, suction cleaning, spray cleaning a floor (cleaning), electrical safety (Health & Safety).

The final check...
Is the floor clean, streak and smear free and dry?

Manager’s check...
Check your team member has completed the above activity to the required standard.

What's next?
Find out which areas in your business require machine scrubbing and drying.

Keep using these activity cards and become great at cleaning!