

Overview

Entrance matting is an investment in interior floor covering protection and very importantly, underfoot safety – even in dry dust/debris situations.

Selecting the right matting for specific entrance areas is imperative for effective scraping/wiping benefits and durability. This is where evaluating not only the primary purpose of the matting (ie scraping or moisture wiping) but also the levels of footfall is essential for assessing whether entrance matting is suitable for Light, Medium or Heavy Duty use. With the right matting in place, a well planned strategy for regular mat cleaning/maintenance is essential for optimum performance, product life span and return on investment.

This information has been compiled to assist COBA's customers in developing an effective cleaning and maintenance programme for their various entrance mat systems and doormats. Installation methods vary according to the entrance matting choice, but will either be fitted in recessed mat-wells or laid to the floor surface, as a conventional loose floor mat.



Frequency of Cleaning

| TRAFFIC LEVEL | VACUUM | PILE LIFT | SPOT CLEAN | HOT WATER EXTRACTION |
|---------------|----------------|-----------|------------|----------------------|
| Light | Every 2-3 Days | As Needed | As Needed | Annually |
| Medium | Daily | Quarterly | As Needed | Every 6 Months |
| Heavy | Daily | Monthly | As Needed | Quarterly |

Spot Cleaning Guide

| STAIN | TREATMENT |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Asphalt/ Tar | Mentholated or solvent spot remover followed by a dry foam carpet shampoo or hot water extraction |
| Blood | Apply cold water first, then a strong solution (1 teaspoon in 1 cup of water) of biological washing powder in cold water, if stain persists (enzymes will digest majority of the stain) |
| Candle wax | Scrape off, apply solvent spot remover followed by dry foam carpet shampoo |
| Chewing gum | Apply freeze spray chewing gum remover, scrape the residue, then carpet shampoo |
| Chocolate | Cold water followed by dry foam carpet shampoo |
| Coffee, cocoa or drinking chocolate | Wash immediately with cold or warm mild detergent solution, followed by solvent spot remover to remove residual fat |
| Cigarette burns | Scrape off carefully using a sharp short bladed knife, then treat with a lukewarm mild detergent solution. In the case of a severe burn on COBA carpets, a leather punch (1½" diameter) can be used to cut out the burn and then the area filled by a circle from the carpet remnants |
| Excrement | Mild detergent solution |
| Fat, oil or grease | Solvent spot remover followed by mild detergent solution |
| Fatty food | Lukewarm washing powder solution (1 teaspoon in 1 cup of water). If stain persists after drying, solvent spot remover can be used |
| Ink | First water then solvent spot remover |
| Nail varnish | Acetone (not nail varnish remover) |
| Red wine | Apply cold water first, then a solution of baking powder or washing powder (1 teaspoon in 1 cup of water) in cold water |
| Urine | Diluted white vinegar solution (acetic acid) followed by mild detergent solution. For old stains consult a professional cleaner |
| Vomit | Mild detergent solution then treat with diluted protein spot remover |

General Tips

Spot Cleaning



Removal of spots and spills is inevitable and the golden rule is to deal with these as soon as possible for maximum effectiveness. Depending on each stain, removal products and techniques will vary and in most cases it is recommended that a professional carpet cleaning company with specialist stain technicians is contacted. Handheld spot vacuum cleaning equipment can be useful for the swift sucking up of spilt liquids. COBA's entrance tile products also allow for easy tile replacement without the need to invest in an entirely new system should they become stained or damaged.

Removal of Dry Soil and Dry Debris



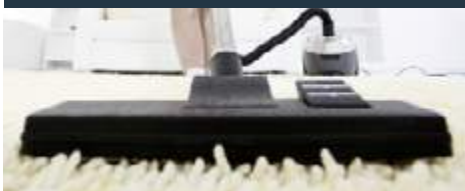
Dry soil is the most common type of soiling to remove from entrance matting and doormats. It can normally be cleaned with an effective vacuum cleaner with relative ease. A regular dry vacuuming schedule will help to reduce soil particles sinking deeper into the carpet pile. In some cases, the matting design is deliberate to allow soil to 'fall through' the mat for this very reason. The matting can be lifted and the soil/debris swept/vacuumed away with ease.

Vacuum



Regular vacuuming is essential for the removal of dry soil from carpet entrance mats to retain a smart appearance. If ignored, dirt particles can be trodden deeper into the mat's fibres crushing the pile, while becoming sharp, gritty and potentially damaging. This makes cleaning more difficult and matting itself dull in appearance and less effective. Vacuuming is recommended on a daily basis – at least once a day for busy pedestrian traffic. Lighter traffic areas can be cleaned every other day or as required.

Pile Lift



Pile lifting requires a different type of vacuum cleaner (usually with a dual motor) that is more aggressive in removing deeply embedded soil, and effectively separates the fibres to restore the pile. This should be carried out periodically according to the level of use. Obviously heavy duty areas will require this more frequently (please see table below for frequency recommendations).

Deep Cleaning Hot Water Extraction



This is recommended from time-to-time for a thorough, deep clean and especially important for hygiene, such as in hospitals, schools, hotels and restaurants. There are specialist carpet cleaning companies who will perform this task although hot water extraction equipment is also available from a variety of hire companies for rental/purchase. There is a Carpet Cleaning Standard (S001-1991) by the IICRC for further guidelines. The hot water extraction method involves a solution of water and cleaning agent being sprayed onto the pile and then powerfully vacuumed, which 'sucks up' the solution and dirty soil into a holding tank.

If in doubt, please consult COBA's trained sales consultants who will provide more specific advice about cleaning and maintenance of individual entrance mat products.



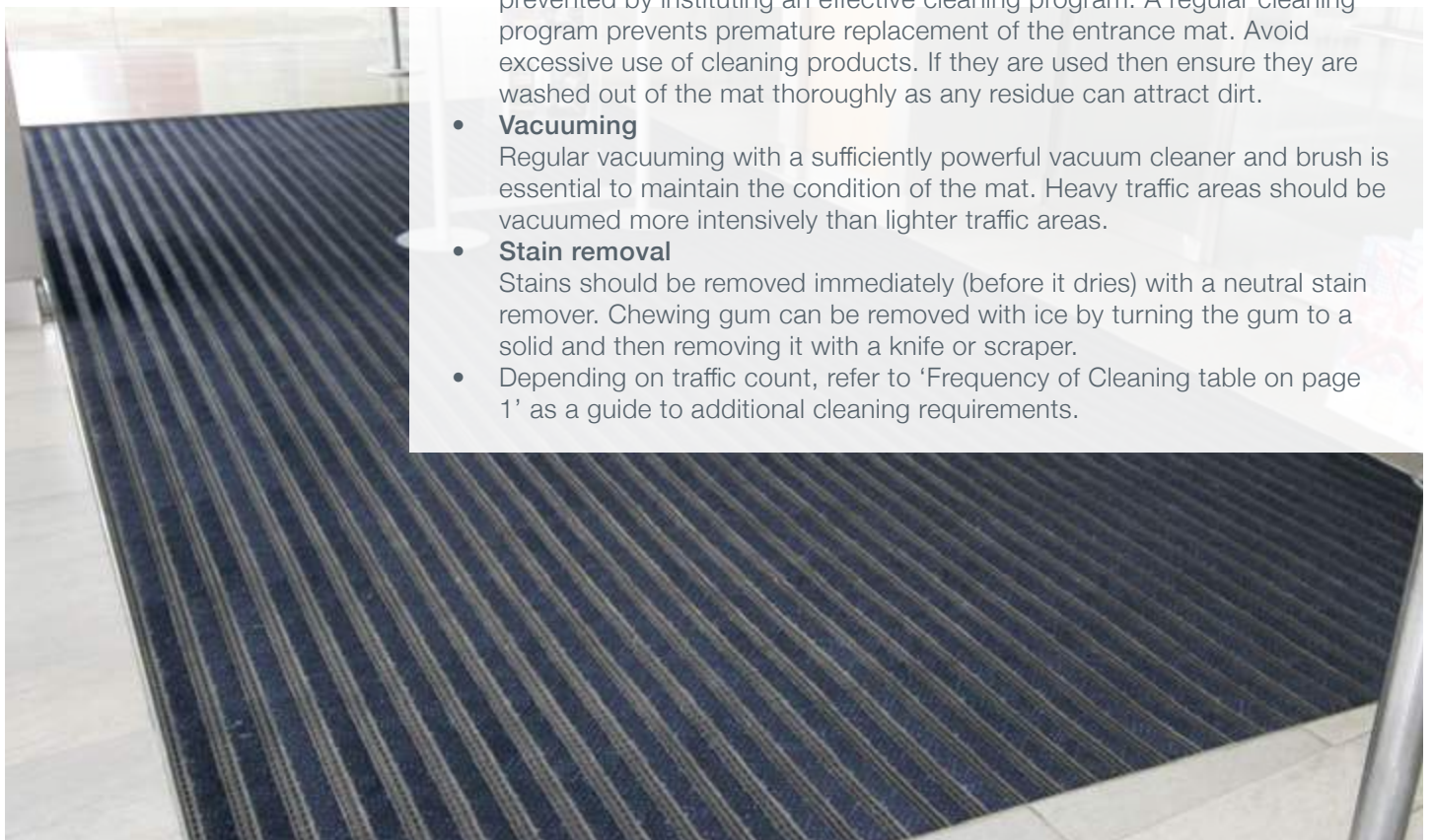
Please note open surface mats will need to be lifted afterwards to remove moisture, as the water that goes through the mat is unlikely to be extracted back into the machine.

FALL THROUGH ENTRANCE MATTING SYSTEM Cleaning Guide



Use and Care of Premier Star Gripper and Premier Track Entrance matting System.

- Mat should be vacuumed weekly and in high traffic areas more frequently. Loose lay mats should be lifted by two people minimum. Do not roll up the mat as this could cause tiles to crack, especially at the interlocking joints. Should a claim be lodged and dirt makes up more than 10% of the weight per m², the warranty is null and void.
- The warranty is effective if the mat no longer performs a cleaning function, within the period of warranty offered.
- The care and maintenance of the Premier Range is essential to maintain the durability and appearance of the mat. Soiling and general wear has a negative impact on the appearance of the entrance mat and should be prevented by instituting an effective cleaning program. A regular cleaning program prevents premature replacement of the entrance mat. Avoid excessive use of cleaning products. If they are used then ensure they are washed out of the mat thoroughly as any residue can attract dirt.
- **Vacuuming**
Regular vacuuming with a sufficiently powerful vacuum cleaner and brush is essential to maintain the condition of the mat. Heavy traffic areas should be vacuumed more intensively than lighter traffic areas.
- **Stain removal**
Stains should be removed immediately (before it dries) with a neutral stain remover. Chewing gum can be removed with ice by turning the gum to a solid and then removing it with a knife or scraper.
- Depending on traffic count, refer to 'Frequency of Cleaning table on page 1' as a guide to additional cleaning requirements.



SURFACE CLEANING ENTRANCE MATTING SYSTEMS Cleaning Guide



Use and Care of Trio Scraper[®], Trio Brush[®] & Super Scraper[®] entrance matting systems.

- Mat should be vacuumed weekly and in high traffic areas more frequently. Should a claim be lodged and dirt makes up more than 10% of the weight per m², the warranty is null and void.
- The warranty is effective if the mat no longer performs a cleaning function, within the warranty period offered.
- The care and maintenance of entrance matting is essential to maintain the durability and appearance of the mat. Soiling and general wear has a negative impact on the appearance of the entrance mat and should be prevented by instituting an effective cleaning program. A regular cleaning program prevents premature replacement of the entrance mat. Installation of an exterior mat such as Super Scraper[®] will reduce the soiling of the Trio Scraper[®]. Avoid excessive use of cleaning products. If they are used then ensure they are washed out of the mat thoroughly as any residue can attract dirt.
- **Vacuuming**
Regular vacuuming with a sufficiently powerful vacuum cleaner and brush is essential to maintain the condition of the mat. Heavy traffic areas should be vacuumed more intensively than lighter traffic areas.
- **Stain removal**
Stains should be removed immediately (before it dries) with a neutral stain remover. Chewing gum can be removed with ice by turning the gum to a solid and then removing it with a knife or scraper.
- Depending on traffic count, refer to 'Frequency of Cleaning table on page 1' as a guide to additional cleaning requirements.

