

RubbaFlex® fg

Aftercare and Cleaning Guide (Operations and Maintenance Manual)

Your Product

Congratulations on your recently installed RubbaFlex® fg surface! A porous/permeable decorative, soft seamless flooring system consisting of coloured EPDM (synthetic rubber) granules, 0.5mm-1.5mm in size and a UV stable aliphatic polyurethane binder. In order to keep it looking great we recommend the following immediate aftercare.

Curing time: Do not walk or drive on your RubbaFlex® fg surface for 24-48 hours after installation (times are temperature dependent, as curing takes longer in colder conditions). Footprints or tyre marks cannot be removed, so we strongly recommend placing suitable barriers around the perimeter immediately on completion of the installation.

- Ensure there are no leaks or drips hitting the curing surface, as excess moisture will significantly weaken and potentially discolour the RubbaFlex® fg surface during the initial curing phase. Continuous drips or leaks can cause erosion over the long term and will degrade the surface.

Non slip properties of RubbaFlex® fg surface: This surface has been tested in laboratory conditions in accordance with BS EN 1097-8:2000 and BS 7976: Part 3: 2002, measuring the coefficient of friction, as determined by the Stanley Munroe Pendulum Slip Meter using the 55 slider and registered a reading of 61.2 when wet. Therefore it is classified as low potential for slip. However, it must be noted that there are also environmental factors that will influence the slip resistance of the surface.

- **Body fats:** when individuals enter and leave a pool, shower area or similar, fats will find their way from the body to the floor. If not regularly dealt with, over time they will accumulate on the surface and start to develop a greasy film. These body fats cannot be removed with pool water alone and can greatly increase the slip potential of a surface. It is important that they are regularly removed from the surface using an approved degreaser.
- **Calcium and other minerals:** Calcium or mineral deposits are a very common problem. Water splashed poolside or from the mains finding its way to the surface will evaporate from that surface and leave a mineral deposit, usually calcium, which may appear white or yellow on the surface.

Cleaning Guide

To maintain a safe surface and keep the aesthetic appearance, it is essential that your RubbaFlex® fg surface is cleaned at regular intervals. However, all wet leisure environments will be different, due to the chemical composition of the water, foot traffic, usage levels for example. The following represent best practice guidelines to maintaining a clean and safe environment. It is important that you find the right regime that works for you. We recommend you observe the following guidelines:

General Maintenance: It is good practice to regularly clean your RubbaFlex® fg surface. Maintenance is essential on all wet surfaces. If body fats or surface residues are allowed to build up this can negate the floors natural slip resistance and cause slip issues.

- If an external surface: to remove leaves, sand, soil and similar materials from your RubbaFlex® fg surface, sweep with a soft bristle brush. Hosing the surface down with clean water will also help to keep it clean.
- For all external and internal surfaces: clean up any spills as quickly as possible using a microfibre mop, warm water and a wet vacuum if possible.

Daily cleaning: Clean daily by flooding surface with clean water and then using a scrubber dryer to remove any surface water to avoid the hard water sitting on the surface and avoiding a calcium build up.

Twice weekly cleaning: Clean with a 50-1 dilution of Commando (available from Sliptech), a cleaning solution which contains a water softening agent. Flood the surface prior to applying Commando, scrub thoroughly and then rinse using clean water through a scrubber dryer and vacuuming off excess liquid.

Weekly/fortnightly cleaning (as required): For degreasing and surface contamination removal, apply Solaclean (available from Sliptech) diluted at 30-1 to a thoroughly wetted surface using a watering can and soft brush. Using a scrubber drier fitted with a soft brush and filled only with cleanwater, scrub the floor thoroughly in 2 directions, vacuuming off as you go. Ensure that the floor remains wet at all times during the cleaning procedure to achieve optimum results.

Quarterly cleaning (as required): For de-scaling and removal of ingrained dirt, thoroughly wet the floor, then apply Class diluted 50:50 with water to small areas - scrub thoroughly with scrubber drier fitted with a soft brush and filled with clean water as in the normal cleaning programme, vacuuming off any liquids as you go. Lightly spray the entire area with a 40:1 dilution of Commando to neutralise any remaining residues. Should staining persist, please contact Sliptech for further advice.

Annual and periodic deep cleaning: For stubborn stains, a professional service may be required. Please see our recommended partners overleaf for relevant details.

Recommended Partners:

- Excentr:** Nationwide professional deep cleaning machines for commercial and industrial surfaces: <https://excentr.com/en> | guy.higson@excentr.co.uk
- Sliptech:** For chemical supply, internal deep cleaning regime and annual/periodic cleaning
www.sliptech.co.uk
info@sliptech.co.uk
01206 826788

Additional Cleaning Information specific to Pool Surrounds

Geographic location: All swimming pools are different. The geographical location of the pool will dictate the many chemical compounds that may occur naturally in your pool.

- For example, it is well known that water is harder in some areas of the UK, this means the water has a high mineral content.
- Each pool will use different amounts of chemicals, such as chlorine, which will react with other man made and naturally occurring chemicals in the pool and its atmosphere.
- The environment will also have an impact. If your pool is indoors, a humid environment can promote organic activity, like mould etc.

Below is a brief guide to potential cleaning issues that you may or may not come across.

Organic activity, such as mould: Normally dark in colour, bacteria combined with water, heat and light, within the rubber crumb, can promote organic growth. This can be made worse if there is a high presence of phosphates in the pool water, which acts as a food for some forms of algae.

- **Regular cleaning with Commando** will control this organic growth, or if problem persists, use a Halogen based cleaner such as Powerclean.

Dissolved Metals: Different colour stains indicate different issues

- A greenish stain pool side indicates that there may be a high-level dissolved copper within the pool water.
- Similarly, a brownish stain poolside indicates that there may be a high level of dissolved Iron within the pool water.
- Other colours can indicate the presence of dissolved metals.
 - For all such stains use an acid based cleaner.
- Mineral deposits can cause a white chalky substance left on the surface. This indicates a high level of minerals in the water such as Calcium or Magnesium. In small indoor environments calcium can also appear as a yellow stain poolside.
 - For such stains, use an acid based cleaner.