

AUG 2023

Best Flooring Guide:

**DIFFERENT TYPES OF
FLOOR OPTIONS FOR
YOUR HOME**



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Abstract

With a focus on materials, comparisons, maintenance, and more, this guide can help you pick out the best flooring for your homes.



I. Getting Started

Choosing the best types of flooring for each area in your home is no easy feat. There is a lot to weigh up, whether you're considering hardwood flooring, tile, vinyl or a classic stone floor... It depends on the room itself, your household needs and your budget.

You'll find that the more durable, beautiful and resilient the type of floor material, the more expensive it becomes – naturally. But, in saying that, there are now less costly alternatives available for the bathroom, kitchen, living room and beyond. It's all about being clever in your choices. Mixing and matching different types of flooring across your home can make for a streamlined look – without a big spend. All while you meet every room's

needs in terms of style, resistance to humidity, the weight of furniture and of foot traffic, of course.



II. Types Of Flooring To Consider

The floor is the largest surface in the home, and picking the best type of flooring for your space depends on your budget, lifestyle and personal tastes. Each type has its unique benefits, and determining which flooring is best depends on each room's needs and location.

Popular flooring options include wood, engineered flooring materials, vinyl, tile and carpet. Learn more about the most common flooring types, the materials' best attributes and the best usage of each one, as well as overall flooring costs.

NOTE: The beginning half of 2021 has seen an unprecedented labor shortage as a side effect of the COVID-19 pandemic. In conjunction with this, demand for materials and construction jobs has skyrocketed. As a result, material prices may be higher than those reported in this article, and lead times may be longer than usual for both labor and materials.

Hardwood Flooring

Hardwood flooring comes from a solid piece of milled wood and contains solid wood all throughout. Popular hardwood varieties include maple, oak, walnut or cherry. Its versatility and quality make it a desirable flooring option for many home buyers.



However, it's one of the more expensive flooring materials on the market and does take regular maintenance, such as using a specialty hardwood floor cleaner once a month and applying a fresh coat of finish every three to five years, to keep them looking great. The average cost for installed hardwood flooring is \$5 to \$10 per square foot.

Pros

- Increases home value
- Can be refinished multiple times
- Many options available
- Strong and durable

Cons

- Expensive
- Can incur scrapes, scratches and dents in high-traffic areas
- Susceptible to moisture damage
- Not suitable for bathrooms, laundry rooms and basements

Engineered Wood Flooring

Engineered wood flooring offers the look of real wood at a more affordable price than solid wood. The floor features a thin layer of hardwood bonded over a high-quality plywood substrate. It's as durable as solid hardwood flooring and can last as long with proper care.



Engineered wood flooring is a good choice for DIYers to install, which will save you money on installation costs. The average cost for installed engineered wood flooring is \$4 to \$9 per square foot.

Pros

- DIY-friendly
- Has real hardwood top layer
- Greater resistance to moisture and water than real wood
- Less likely to warp
- Multiple installation methods

Cons

- Can't be refinished more than once

- Not fade-resistant
- Wide variation in quality
- Can sound hollow underfoot
- Emits VOCs

Laminate Flooring

Laminate is an affordable flooring option for homeowners who prefer an alternative to carpet but want to avoid the cost of hardwood or tiles.



The floors consist of a particleboard wood base topped by wood or tile photo beneath a clear plastic protective layer. This flooring is very DIY-friendly, and laminate offers a multitude of texture and color options. The average cost for installed laminate flooring is \$3 to \$7 per square foot.

Pros

- Inexpensive compared to wood
- Easy to clean
- Scratch-resistant

- DIY-friendly for experienced homeowners (and if subflooring is in good shape)
- Many styles and colors available

Cons

- Susceptible to moisture damage
- Chips easily
- Does not look and feel like wood
- Has a hollow sound underfoot

Vinyl Flooring

Vinyl flooring is extremely water-resistant and won't sustain damage even if water sits on the surface for an extended amount of time. Composed of plastic, it's available in plank, tile and sheet form.



Luxury vinyl plank (LVP) and luxury vinyl tile (LVT) are two forms that have gained popularity recently because of their durability and variety of styles available. The average cost for installation varies depending on the form; the

average range is \$1.50 (sheet vinyl) to \$6 or more (LVP and LVT) per square foot.

Pros

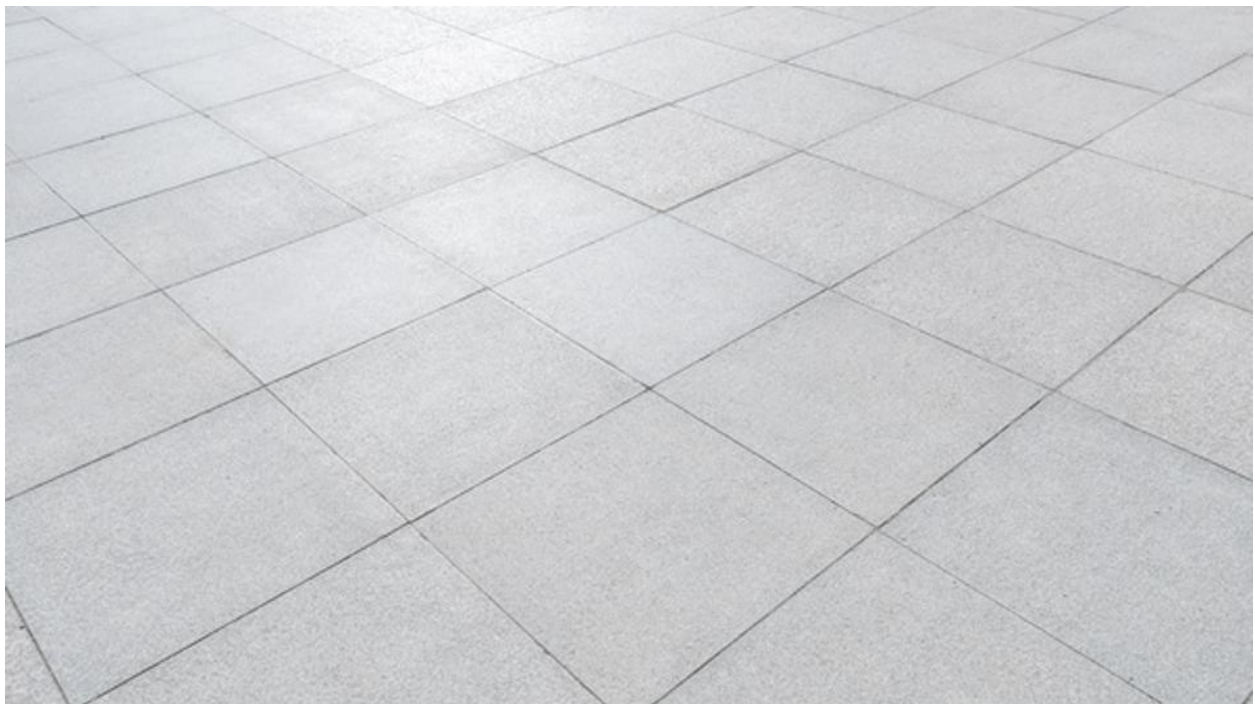
- Good for kitchens, bathrooms, laundry rooms and basements
- Durable
- Water- and fade-resistant
- DIY-friendly
- Many design choices available
- Easy to maintain

Cons

- LVP and LVT is more expensive than laminate
- Lower ROI than wood

Tile

Tile flooring is a popular choice for moisture-prone areas like bathrooms and kitchens. The most common tile materials are ceramic or porcelain. Tile is water-resistant, durable and comes in a variety of styles and colors.



The installation cost varies depending on the material; for instance, glazed ceramic is less expensive than porcelain tile. The average cost ranges from \$2.50 per square foot for ceramic tile and \$3 to \$10 for porcelain tile.

Pros

- Waterproof
- Durable
- Long-lasting

Cons

- Expensive
- Hard to install
- Lot of prep work is needed before installation
- Cold and slippery

Stone Flooring

Natural stone, such as granite, marble, travertine and sandstone, are popular flooring choices for both indoor and outdoor spaces. Like ceramic and porcelain, stone is extremely durable and waterproof.



The stone's finish determines the amount of care needed to maintain the floor. However, stone offers natural beauty and quality that is unparalleled by most types of flooring. The average costs range from \$5 to \$10 per square foot.

Pros

- Bold and elegant
- Long-lasting
- Waterproof

Cons

- Expensive
- Hard to install
- Lot of prep work is needed before installation
- Cold and slippery
- Difficult to maintain

Linoleum Flooring



Linoleum is a durable, eco-friendly flooring option made from linseed oil and cork. Linoleum flooring is affordable and easy to install. The flooring comes in

sheet form and in a variety of colors and styles. It is resilient (made with elastic materials) and can last for decades if cared for properly.

Linoleum is gaining in popularity as flooring manufacturers offer more modern colors and styles. The average cost to install linoleum flooring ranges from \$4 to \$8 per square foot.

Pros

- Inexpensive
- Eco-friendly
- DIY-friendly
- Available in a variety of colors and patterns
- Requires little maintenance

Cons

- Does not increase home value
- Easily dented or cut
- May darken or turn yellowish when exposed to sunlight
- Not suitable for moisture prone-areas

Carpet



Carpet is a favorite flooring option for homeowners, especially in bedrooms. It comes in a variety of colors, materials and textures. Carpet technology has improved over the years, and modern carpets have stain-resistant qualities. It's also the most cost-effective flooring option on the market.

Carpet installation varies in price, depending on the type of material and thickness of the carpet padding. The average cost of installing carpet ranges from \$2.50 to \$10 per square foot.

Pros

- Soft and warm on feet
- Visually warms up the space
- Multiple colors, materials and designs available
- Great for soundproofing
- Stain-resistant varieties exist

Cons

- Hard to clean
- Can stain
- Shows wear pattern
- Not suitable for allergy sufferers

Alternative Materials

Flooring isn't limited to the materials mentioned above. There are plenty of non-traditional materials used for flooring. Here are some alternative materials to consider:

- ✓ Cork: A natural material made from a cork oak tree's bark that features excellent fire resistance and sound-blocking ability
- ✓ Rubber: A natural material with good resilience and a non-slip surface
- ✓ Bamboo: An environmentally friendly choice that is a real wood alternative to hardwood floors
- ✓ Terrazzo: A durable composite made of natural stone chips and resin

III. A Step-by-Step Guide to Choosing Flooring

Choosing flooring is far more complicated than just finding the best-looking product. Several other factors—moisture, durability, costs, and more—greatly influence a decision. Follow these five steps to reach the flooring decision that is right for you and your home.



✚ Will Your Floor Be Installed in a High-Moisture Area?

Your Answer	Choose This Flooring
Yes	You need flooring that is suited for a high- or medium-moisture environment, such as concrete, ceramic or porcelain tile, or vinyl tile.
No	Moisture is not a limiting factor. At this point, all types of flooring still may be used. Proceed to the next step.

✚ Do You Need a Pet-Friendly Floor?

Your Answer	Choose This Flooring
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Yes	You will need a floor with superior wear resistance. Some flooring that appears to be wear-resistant often is not. For example, site-finished solid hardwood can easily scratch. Its saving grace is that scratches can be sanded out. Instead, try durable flooring like ceramic or porcelain tile, laminate flooring, plank vinyl flooring, or even carpeting.
No	While everyone wants a durable floor, durability is not a chief factor in your decision. Proceed to the next step.

What Is Your Square Footage Budget?

Your Answer	Choose This Flooring
\$2.00 or less	You will find bargain laminate flooring hovering around this price. Though it will not be gorgeous, it has a general wood-like appearance. Sheet and tile resilient flooring can also be found in this price range. Lots of gorgeous ceramic and porcelain tile can be found in this range, but remember that tile is truly a labor-intensive installation.
\$2.00-\$5.00	This is the sweet spot price range for many types of flooring. You can snag some domestic solid hardwood and engineered wood flooring, but don't expect much rare or imported woods. The more attractive laminates fall in this range, as well as higher quality luxury vinyl tile.
\$5.00 or more	Increasing your price range means you can explore some of the harder, more rare or imported hardwoods and engineered wood options, such as kempas, ipe, Brazilian cherry, mahogany. The highest quality of premium laminate and luxury vinyl flooring products will be found here.

Whatever your choice in this section, proceed to the next step.

Do You Want to Install Your Flooring by Yourself?

Your Answer	Choose This Flooring
Yes	By installing your flooring yourself, you can often cut your entire flooring cost in half. Laminate flooring and plank vinyl flooring

	tend to be the easiest floor coverings for homeowners to self-install and they're readily available. Both are floating floors, which means that each board connects to an adjacent board (not to the subfloor). Ceramic or porcelain tile installation is not as self-evident as laminate or vinyl installation. Hone your learning curve on an out-of-the-way room, like a basement bathroom.
No	Wall-to-wall carpet is tough for DIYers to lay down perfectly flat. Nail-down solid hardwood and engineered wood floors are best installed by pros. As mentioned, ceramic or porcelain tile can be self-installed, but it's more a matter of whether you want it installed well. Many flooring retailers do not offer in-house installation, though they may maintain a list of favored local installers. Various outlets, such as Angie's List, can be a reliable source of floor installers.

Do You Need Low-Maintenance Flooring?

Your Answer	Choose This Flooring
Absolutely. It Is My Primary Concern	Any form of resilient (vinyl) flooring is best, such as tile, sheet, or plank. Laminate flooring is a close second, only because it needs special cleaning methods. Because wet mops can ruin it, use an extremely damp mop or a system like a Swiffer Wet Jet.
It Would Be Nice, But It's Not the Most Important Thing	With solid hardwood, you trade beauty for maintenance. No matter what the manufacturers say, it takes work to keep solid or engineered wood looking good, but it's worth it. Keep high-traffic areas covered with throw rugs and runners to cut down on maintenance.

IV. The Benefits And Importance Of Regular Floor Cleaning

Imagine a visitor entering your building for the first time, and cleanliness is the first thing they will notice. Blurred, stained, or worn flooring can ruin the image of your building no matter how much attention you put to other elements of your facility. Even the new reception furniture, brightly lit doors and windows and windows, beautiful plants in the lobby, and improper floor care will catch the eye of your visitor.

This is why you need to make sure your home is cleaned and maintained regularly to ensure that your family is happy, healthy, and active, and that it leaves a positive impression on family members and prospective guests. Proper cleaning has long-term benefits. Tips and solutions can be found below.



Proper floor care is a critical aspect of almost every aspect of home. Whether on carpet, wood, or tile, it's important to keep your floor in the workplace. Frequent walking follows tracks of dust, dirt, and other diseases that interfere with the flow of work and the attraction of your home. However, well-maintained floors are half the equation in ensuring good visibility of your building. Depending on the type of home you do, your stairs may compliment your performance - or worse - cost you money.

Benefits of Quality Care

- **Good Appearance:**

One of the first things people notice when they go into home is low. If they are dirty, striped, or have an unpleasant odor, people may be unwilling to visit the home.

- **Security:**

Clean floors not only look good but also enhance the safety of anyone entering the home. If the floor is not properly cared for, dirt, grime, and rash can be a risk of tripping. Slips and falls can lead to injury and costly legal actions.

- **New and Healthy Environment:**

Overcrowding in many homes creates an environment for viruses and can lead to the spread of disease and disease. Most people spend time together at home, which makes it very important to keep the floor and areas clean and tidy to ensure that people are healthy and happy.

We've all been told from an early age that we should sweep and polish the floor, but have you ever wondered why? Of course, throwing yourself down often has their psychological benefits, but there are other benefits you may not know that may surprise you as well. Here are 4 reasons why you should always incorporate mopping into your home cleaning program.

1. Mopping Clean Your Floor

Our floors contain far more viruses than we think they have. There is no denying that there is more to the naked eye - our floor is exposed to everything, from our dirty shoes and clothes, to the hair of pets, to food thrown down, and to a host of other parasites. Thus, bacteria accumulate and build up quickly, especially during hot weather and cold seasons. Therefore, regular blasting is important to keep your home clean. A clean floor translates into a clean house, while a clean house means a healthy and happy home.

2. Mopping Reduces Allergies

Dust, fur of pets, and other substances that cause allergic reactions quickly form on the ground. By repeatedly cleaning, you prevent any of these building materials from building, keeping them out of your home during construction. The next time you suffer from watery eyes or a runny nose, do not go to your doctor right now! Your house may take a long time before you clean and thoroughly clean the floor, and grinding can help reduce your symptoms of allergies.

3. Mopping Helps Prevent Scratching On The Ground

An important part of the mopping system is to drain your hard wood with proper cleaning. This helps you to maintain a scratch-free environment. As debris builds up over time, it builds up and can cause minor scratches on your floor, which can last forever and eventually become a major factor. Therefore, keeping the floor clean using regular mopping can help reduce the risk of accumulating this scratch.

4. Brushing Makes Your Face Look Fine

If you haven't licked your floor for a while, you may have already forgotten what a clean, clean apartment looks and feels like. So do yourself a favor and give your space a nice mopping! You will be amazed at how a clean apartment really elevates your home. It may inspire you to take up the profession again.

We've talked a lot about the benefits of downstairs, but you can't enjoy it if you don't take action! Take the initiative to remove the mop bucket soon!

V. Tips On How To Maintain Your Flooring: The Ultimate Floor Care Guide

Give the flooring in your home a new lease on life with these floor maintenance tips. From natural stone floors to carpet, from hardwood to tiles, this guide covers it all.



Flooring Maintenance

Like any other part of your home, the flooring also requires some TLC to preserve its look and extend its life. Routine cleaning with floor material-specific products can go a long way. Depending on the type of flooring, regular polish and sealant maintenance too can help immensely. We have collated some essential home floor preservation and cleaning tips to help you make the best of the floors you have invested in.

1. General Tips to Care for Home Flooring



- Using higher quantities of cleaning products to clean floors may be counterproductive. This is because harsh chemicals can ruin the finish of the flooring. This can ultimately lead to severe damage. Instead, you should increase the frequency of cleaning to ensure better results and longevity of the flooring.
- Sweep regularly and mop using a damp mop. Excessive use of water when mopping may also cause damage to the floor. Mainly if the floor

material is porous or holds water, make sure that you use as little water as possible when cleaning.

- Basic cleaning products: A broom, a dustpan, a mop or cleaning towels, and vacuum cleaners are, of course, the obvious tools you need to care for flooring. When it comes to cleaning agents, choose those specifically formulated for the type of floors you have.
- Constant exposure to direct and harsh sunlight can damage the finishing of your floors. Shut your blinds or curtains when your floor is exposed to direct sunlight to avoid fading and discolouration of the floors.



- Use precautions when moving heavy objects to avoid severe and permanent damage to the floors. Use trolleys to move heavy furniture or appliances. Do not slide or roll them across the floor. Most hard flooring is not resistant to consequent wear and friction.
- Use floor protectors to support furniture to avoid dents and stains on the floors. The heavier the furniture, the wider the protector should be. Ensure that the protectors are non pigmented to prevent discolouration.

The protectors should be at least 1" in diameter and lay flat against the floor.

- Blotting is the best practice to clean any spills. For cleaning oiled floors, wine spills or splattered paint, blot using paper towels and clean immediately to avoid stains. Make sure to start at the edges and then move inwards to not spread the spill. Dry the area after cleaning to prevent it from becoming slippery.
- To avoid the spread of dirt and debris and prevent extra tile wear, place mats and carpets in areas that see heavy movement.

2. Tile Care:

Tile is one of the most durable and low maintenance flooring options. Even so, here are some flooring cleaning and maintenance tips to prevent any damage and guarantee longevity in terms of looks and slip resistance.

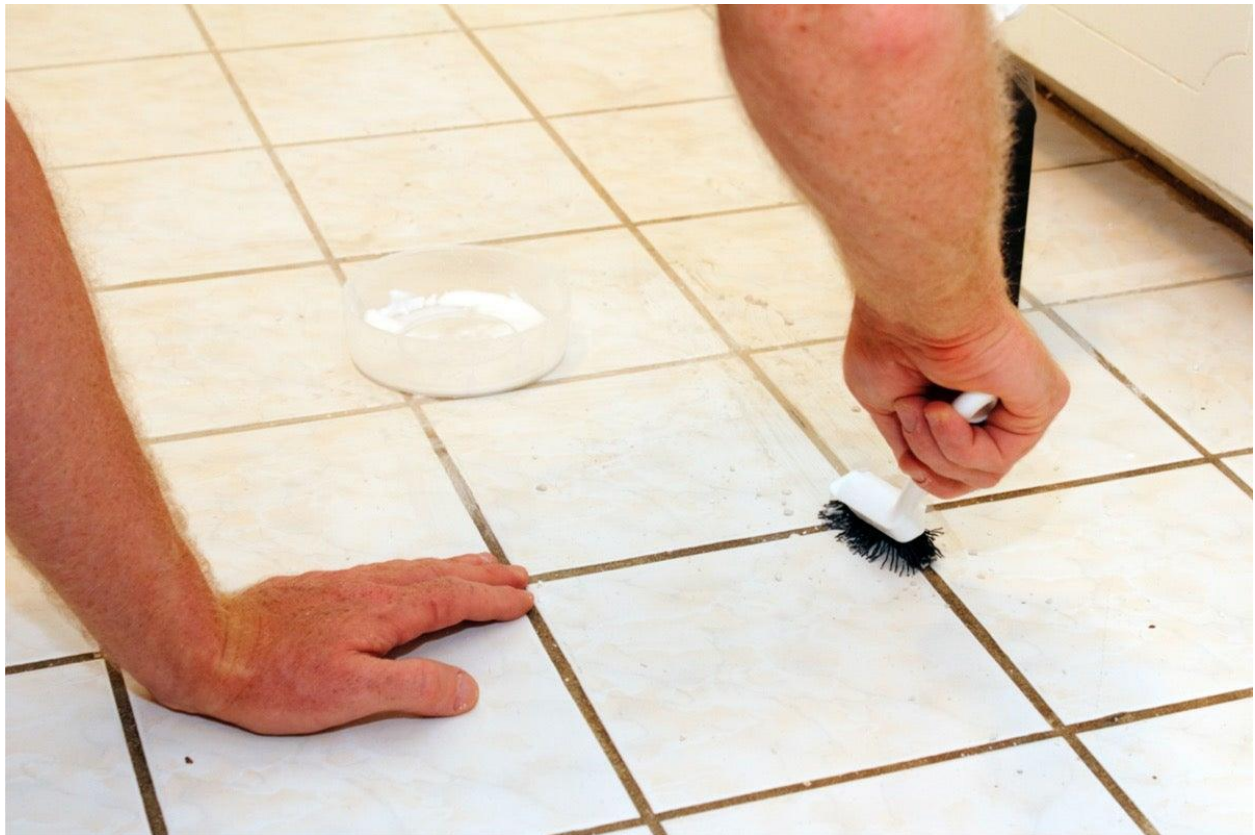


- When it comes to tile maintenance, you must prevent any kind of build-up, be it debris, water, cleaning product, etc. If not cleaned regularly, it

can easily stain and even become slippery. This goes for both porcelain and ceramic tiles.

- Clean tiles with pH neutral cleaner, followed by clean water to avoid film formation.
- Wax and oil-based cleaners are known to damage the slip resistance of tiles. Steer clear of such cleaners.
- If the tile is textured or coarse, you might need to agitate the floor with a mop or scrub and change the water more frequently for the last wipe.
- Since tile is installed using grout, you should also pay attention to grout maintenance. For this, avoid cleaning solutions with acids and ammonia. Instead, opt for ones formulated explicitly for grout. Always make sure to thoroughly dry the tiles after cleaning.

If you are cleaning bathroom and kitchen tile and grout on your own, avoid these 7 common mistakes that can ruin the finish of your surface.



Let's Get Started!

1. Not Addressing Or Tackling Spills Immediately

Believe it or not! Letting spills rest on a tiled surface for too long can be a terrible mistake. Stains are the real enemy of tile, which can cause discolouration if not treated quickly.

So, it is good to wipe off the spill or splatter immediately whenever you see it. This will save your cleaning hours and scrubbing efforts. You can use vinegar as it is an acetic acid that can work on spills and pet stains effectively.

Note: Use a clean microfiber cloth as it absorbs faster and leaves no sign of residue behind.

2. Use Harsh Chemicals Or Ammonia-Based Cleaners

Store-bought tile cleaners or stain removers are often laden with harmful chemicals, such as ammonia, bleach, etc., to attack stubborn stains effectively. Unfortunately, these products can make your tiles and grout lines look dull and dingy over time. It won't react immediately but will happen gradually.

Plus, exposure to toxic ingredients regularly can lead to various health hazards, such as respiratory disorders, skin allergies, eye irritation and other chronic diseases.

The best thing you can do is to use a safe alternative to store-bought cleaners. White vinegar, hydrogen peroxide, baking soda, and warm water can do wonders without causing any damage.

- White vinegar and dish soap liquid with warm water is a perfect solution to tackle stubborn stains.
- Hydrogen peroxide and warm water can help you kill mould and mildew
- You can do pro-cleaning with baking soda and lemon can remove grime, germs and other stains with ease.

If you are prepping your rented property for the final inspection, hire professionals for a quality bond cleaning Canberra. They clean according to

the REIACT-approved checklist to cover all rooms and important spots, including tiles to help secure the full bond money.

3. Scrubbing Too Hard

Many people believe scrubbing is one of the best ways to remove stains from tiles and other hard surfaces. However, tiles are delicate surfaces, and you must be extra careful when cleaning. Abrasive scrubbing can scratch or dull your floor tiles and wear out the grout.

Do not use steel wool, harsh scrubbing tools, powders or other materials. Tackle tough stains using sponges and soft cloths, such as microfiber cloths.

You can use an old toothbrush to remove grime and mould from grout lines. Leaving the DIY solution for a few minutes is good for cutting through stubborn stains.

4. Not Protecting The Tile From Heavy Objects

Tiled floors can easily get damaged or cracked due to heavy objects, such as tables, potted plants and sofa legs. Exerting too much force can cause tiles and grout lines to break.

It is good to protect them by installing furniture protectors on the bottom of your furniture pieces. In addition, avoid shifting heavy appliances and bulky over tiled floors as it will lead to scratches and swirls.

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5. Not Sweeping & Mopping The Tiled Floor

Dirt, dust particles and other loose debris can cause damage to the tiles and grout if it is not cleaned on a regular basis. Tiled floors need proper sweeping and mopping to retain their glaze and finish.

You can use a heavy-duty vacuum cleaner that can fetch dust, dirt and even germs from tiles in no time. Do it twice a week for sparkling results. Sweeping with a broom is also a good way to keep your floors clean and scratch-free.

Use a microfiber mop to get rid of mild stains and grime from the surface. You can make pH neutral floor cleaners at home for safe and sound cleaning.

Note: Place the doormat at the entrance of your home to keep dirt and dust at bay. You can also request your family members and guests leave their footwear outside and use indoor slippers.

6. Over Wetting Or Washing Your Tiles

Many people overwet their tiles when tackling stains and grime. This is a common mistake that can cause staining, discolouration and other issues related to the finish of your tiles.

In addition, wet tiled floors can cause mould infestation and breed harmful germs that pollute the indoor air.

Instead, do spot cleaning to get rid of spills, splatters and stains for sparkling results. Mopping is also a good way to keep your tiled floors clean and shiny.

7. Forgetting To Caulk Or Seal

Tile walls and floors that are exposed to water or dampness will need to be sealed. Caulking or sealing will protect the grout from wear and tear and protects it from stain and mould. Make sure you do necessary repairs before the arrival of bond cleaners Canberra because they will only sweep and mop the tiled surface to remove stains and grime.

So, it is always good to inspect the caulk to ensure it isn't peeling from the tile. Use the right sealer that can keep your tile and grout lines protected for years.

When To Hire Professionals For Grout Cleaning?

Sometimes, even with all the effort you put in, your tile grout lines can still look dirty and mucky. If that's the case and it can lead to worse things like replacement or losing your bond, make sure to first hire professionals to clean the grouts and the tiles. Professional cleaners have the training, expertise and cleaning supplies to restore grouts to their former glory. They can sanitise the areas without damage and ensure they look as good as new.

Thus, when you cannot DIY clean grouts or ending a tenancy, hire a professional cleaning service to manage the task. While they clean, you can complete other tasks or simply relax.

These are some common mistakes that need to be avoided when cleaning the tile and grout lines of your home. You need to be extra careful when cleaning your tiled floors and walls because scrubbing too hard or using abrasive cleaners can do more harm than good. You can also hire professional cleaners to spruce up tiles and grout without causing any damage.

3. Stone Floor Cleaning and Maintenance:

Stone floors can last a lifetime with proper Flooring cleaning and care.



- Do not use acidic or alkaline cleaners for natural stone surfaces. Instead, opt for ones developed for stone specifically.
- Use the cleaning solution per the manufacturer's guidelines and recommendations. Allow it to sit for a while before agitating it.
- Use a sponge or scrubs with soft bristles to agitate the cleaning solution.

- Make sure that the attachments of vacuum cleaners are not worn. Worn metal and plastic can easily cause the stone floors to scratch.
- Use heavy-duty stone cleaners to effectively remove grease, wax, or debris from stone floors. Wipe with a soft material like a sponge and buff it dry.
- Use stone specific poultice to remove stains. If it causes dullness in polished stone, you might use stone polish to restore the shine.
- All stones, be it marble, granite, or something else should be sealed for maximum protection against stains. Make sure to re-seal stone floors every couple of years for maintenance and to avoid stains and etchings.

4. Caring for Carpet:

Carpets can easily stain and get filthy. A large part of maintaining carpeted floors is cleaning them regularly and correctly.



- Since you cannot wipe or sweep carpet, establish a regular and frequent vacuuming schedule. Once a week is a must. Twice a week for areas with heavy traffic is recommended.

- Blotting is the best way to clean up stains and spills on carpets. Make sure that you do not saturate the stain with excess water. After blotting, cover the damp area with a soft cloth until completely dry to protect it from dust and further staining. Do not scrub carpets since that will lead to the liquid sinking deeper into the carpet.
- Professional deep cleaning every 15 to 18 months is a must for carpet care. This will ensure that dirt and debris don't settle into the carpet.
- At the very least, thorough steam cleaning every few months is recommended to avoid the build-up of pollutants and microbes that can lead to sickness.
- Regular detergents require a lot of water to rinse off thoroughly. Avoid using these to clean carpets as they can act as dirt magnets if not removed completely. Instead, opt for absorption friendly cleaners made specifically for carpet cleaning.

5. Hardwood Flooring Cleaning:



Regular cleaning and maintaining your hardwood floors per the manufacturer's instructions is the perfect way to minimize wear and keep it looking beautiful.

- Cleaning a real hardwood floor with water or steam is a big no-no. Any cleaner that requires water as a solvent can damage floors. Use only dedicated hardwood floor cleaners and follow the manufacturer's instructions about how to use them. This is because moisture can cause severe damage to the wood and dull its shine.
- To keep the floor dirt and debris free, sweep or vacuum daily. If you choose to vacuum, make sure that the wheels of the cleaner are clean and use the brush or felt attachments to prevent scratches.
- Use dollies or protective plywood sheets or mdf sheets to move heavy furniture or appliances. This will protect the floor from scratches and dents. Check out mdf sheet vs plywood sheet material is best for your home.
- You must maintain the humidity levels in the house to protect the floors against excessive expansion or shrinkage. If you live in an area with low humidity, use humidifiers to increase humidity. If you live in a region with high humidity, use air conditioners, heaters and dehumidifiers to maintain the temperature and humidity in your home.
- Constant exposure to sunlight causes the hardwood floors to age. This means that the wood is susceptible to discolouration and fading. To make sure that the wood ages evenly, periodically move the furniture and rugs in the room.

6. Total Floor Care for Vinyl Flooring:

Vinyl flooring might be relatively durable and low maintenance, but it is also susceptible to discolouration and damage if not cared for regularly and as well as possible.

- Routinely care for it by sweeping, mopping and vacuuming. This will ensure that there is no scuffing due to debris and grit.
- Clean spills immediately to avoid staining and discolouration.
- Avoid vacuums with beater bars to prevent scuffing.
- Make sure that the cleaning products you use are safe for vinyl, lest they lead to discolouration and fade.

- Use rugs and mats made of breathable material and are slip-resistant. Avoid mats backed with rubber or latex, as they can leave permanent stains on the floor.
- To move furniture without worrying about scratches, use rubber casters or glides under the legs of the furniture.

Bottom Line

Choosing the best flooring for your home isn't as simple as selecting the best-looking or the one that's on sale. Several factors such as moisture, durability, ease of maintenance and budget greatly influence the decision. A new floor can be an investment, so your floor choice should balance your needs with your style. Make sure to discuss your ideas with your chosen flooring contractor at length to ensure the project is done to your standards. We recommend looking through the best flooring installation companies to ensure your job is done correctly.

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