



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS for Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector

**Q:** What is Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector?

**A:** Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector is a high-performance floor protector designed to protect concrete, marble, terrazzo, and other porous stone surfaces. It crosslinks to a hard, durable coating. Only two coats are required and the protector is applied with the 3M™ Easy Shine Applicator System. It provides excellent stain, scuff and scratch resistance. Reduced maintenance requirements help reduce labor hours and costs typically associated with traditional acrylic floor finishes and can result in savings of 35 percent or more on maintenance and labor costs annually. This unique product doesn't require stripping and will retain its gloss longer than typical acrylic floor finishes. When scratches occur on a treated floor's surface, easily repair it by burnishing with the Scotch-Brite™ Purple Diamond Floor Pad Plus.

**Q:** Why is Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector better than traditional acrylic floor finishes?

**A:** Traditional acrylic floor finishes are very soft and do not retain their appearance for very long. Most acrylic floor finishes become dull and dirty almost immediately, while Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector is very durable and resistant to scuffs, wear patterns and scratching. In addition, Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector:

- Protects the floor with a hard surface to help resist against dirt entrapment. Resists yellowing.
- Doesn't require stripping! This is an enormous benefit to both building owners and building service contractors. This non-strip formula lets both parties benefit from significant reductions in labor cost and the disruption to floor use.
- Is easy to maintain.
- Requires less maintenance than traditional floor finishes and remains glossy over long periods of time. When the surface dulls, simply repolish by burnishing with the Scotch-Brite™ Purple Diamond Floor Pad Plus. If polishing does not restore the gloss, then a simple recoat is recommended. This is simple: auto scrub using the 3M™ Blue Cleaner Pad 5300 and 3M™ Neutral Cleaner Concentrate, rinse with water, allow to dry and apply a single very thin coat of Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector to the surface. After the floor has dried, typically after 20-30 minutes, burnish with a high-speed burnisher and the Scotch-Brite™ Purple Diamond Floor Pad Plus.

**Q:** How often do I need to burnish Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector?

**A:** Typically, burnish once or twice a month, depending on traffic. When the floor's appearance begins to dull, burnish the floor using the Scotch-Brite™ Purple Diamond Floor Pad Plus.

**Q:** How often do I need to recoat the floor with Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector?

**A:** Typically, recoat once or twice per year, depending on traffic. Recoat traffic areas or the entire floor as necessary with Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector using the 3M™ Easy Shine Applicator System. Be sure the floor is clean and free of marks before recoating.

**Q:** What is the shelf life of Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector?

**A:** The shelf life is one year.

**Q:** How do I remove the Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector from the floor?

**A:** If you would like to remove the product from the floor and recoat again, the Scotch-Brite™ Surface Prep Pad, used with water or 3M™ Neutral Cleaner Concentrate, will prepare the floor adequately for recoating with Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector. If you would like to remove it completely and recoat with a traditional acrylic floor finish, use a 3M™ floor stripper and a 3M™ stripping pad. Rinse with water and allow the floor to dry thoroughly. Stripping is not required or recommended. Avoiding stripping makes this a more sustainable product.

**Q:** What is the floor temperature range for putting down the Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector?

**A:** Minimum floor and air temperature should be 50°F. Maximum floor and air temperature should be below 120°F. Do not store product in temperatures above 120°F for extended periods of time, as this can cause the product to coagulate.

**Q:** Will the Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector change the color of my floor?

**A:** The Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector may darken some floors slightly. The increased gloss may also enhance the visibility of the subtle colors found in many floors.

**Q:** How does the product compare with impregnators?

**A:** While an impregnator provides good water and stain resistance, the Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector provides good water resistance and stain resistance while also significantly increasing the gloss of the floor. In addition, most impregnators provide only 500 square feet of coverage per gallon versus the 2,500 square feet that the Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector typically provides per bag when used with the 3M™ Easy Shine Applicator System.

**Q:** What about the cure time?

**A:** Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector requires 24 hours to fully cure. Avoid standing water during the first 24 hours. There are no restrictions on using an auto scrubber or flat microfiber mop, but standing water can cause a blotchy appearance. The floor can be opened to traffic after the floor has dried and been burnished.

**Q:** What if you put Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector down on a terrazzo floor and it rains, causing water to be tracked in at the building's entrance?

**A:** You may want to delay the application until the likelihood of rain is reduced.

**Q:** Are there certain cleaning chemicals that should not be used on this product?

**A:** Yes, the following products will damage and/or remove the coating:

- Products containing butyl (also known as 2-butoxyethanol). These should not be used on this product.
- Floor strippers, surface emulsifiers/extenders, and degreasers, which usually contain butyl.
- 3M products that include 2-butoxyethanol, namely:
  - Most 3M™ Compublend™ II products, including 3M™ Compublend™ II Neutral Cleaner
  - 3M™ Topline Pre-Burnish Floor Conditioner
  - 3M™ Glass Cleaner (RTU)
  - 3M™ Floor Stripper
  - 3M™ Rinse-Free Floor Stripper
  - 3M™ Neutral Floor Cleaner
  - 3M™ Heavy Duty Degreaser Concentrate
  - 3M™ TroubleShooter™ Liquid Finish Remover

Both hydrogen peroxide, general purpose and quat disinfectant cleaners are safe to use on the Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector.

**Q:** Will acidic products damage the Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector?

**A:** Strong acids, such as hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid and phosphoric acid, will damage the Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector coating.

**Q:** Will this product perform after freezing and thawing?

**A:** Yes, we have done several freeze-thaw cycles and have found no detrimental effects.

**Q:** If you deep-scrub with the Scotch-Brite™ Surface Prep Pad, can you recoat with a traditional floor finish, even though there may be trace amounts of Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector left behind?

**A:** Yes, traditional finishes may be applied directly over the Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector.

**Q:** Why doesn't Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector have to be stripped?

**A:** Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector is very hard and resistant to soiling. Unlike other traditional finishes, Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector is extremely thin and when dry is only about 1/3 of a ml in thickness.

**Q:** Do I really need to burnish after each coat?

**A:** Yes. Burnishing after each coat application will polish and help cure the surface, allowing for the next coat application and immediate service. If you do not burnish after each coat, you will need to wait at least two hours between coats. Otherwise the previous coat may soften and damage the finish and its appearance.

**Q:** How does Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector compare to traditional acrylic floor finishes?

**A:** Traditional, acrylic floor finish is soft and allows dirt and debris to become embedded in the surface after limited foot or wheeled traffic. The gloss value of acrylic floor finishes is very high (>80) when initially installed, but reduces with wear. Most acrylic floor finishes require multiple strips and recoats per year and multiple deep scrubs and topcoats per year. Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector, on the other hand, installs in two coats and can be placed in service immediately. It has an installed gloss value between 65 and 75, depending on the floor condition, and will retain its gloss value. A simple auto scrub with a neutral cleaner and burnishing as desired is all that is needed to maintain the surface. It will remain scuff- and scratch-resistant for an extended period of time.

**Q:** How does Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector compare to urethanes such as Scotchgard™ Ultra Durable Floor Finish?

**A:** Urethane finishes are much more resilient than acrylic finishes and will endure more traffic than acrylic finishes. They also tend to have very high gloss. However, some urethanes can be difficult to repair. The cost of application is often over \$1.00/ft. Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector has better wear resistance than urethanes and is easy to repair—simply mop over areas in need of repair—and can be removed using most floor strippers. Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector may be applied over urethane as a repair coat and wear surface.

**Q:** How does Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector compare to epoxy?

**A:** Epoxy finishes are ultradurable and resistant to traffic and most chemicals. Epoxy finishes must be prepped very well before application and will delaminate if not properly prepared. Repairs are difficult and tend to show seams. Epoxies are also difficult to remove and are considered permanent. The cost of application is often over \$3.00/ft. Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector is not as chemically-resistant as an epoxy finish, but is suitable for most applications.

**Q:** What flooring surfaces are suitable for the application of Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector?

**A:** Polished concrete, terrazzo, marble, travertine and most other porous stone surfaces (for indoor use only).

**Q:** What is the best way to keep Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector looking good?

**A:** Use an auto scrubber with the 3M™ Topline Autoscrubber Pad and a neutral cleaner. Burnish as desired using a propane burnisher, battery-powered walk behind, or 2500 rpm corded machine. Because the coating is hard, it is best to have speed, weight and abrasion. Both propane and battery-powered burnishers work well. Burnishing is best accomplished using the Scotch-Brite™ Purple Diamond Floor Pad Plus. Using corded machines requires extra burnishing time. Do not use slow, weighted polishers like those used to polish stone.

**Q:** After burnishing with the Scotch-Brite™ Purple Diamond Floor Pad Plus, burnishing "stripes" remain on the floor. How can they be removed?

**A:** Some burnishers can cause this appearance, particularly if there is not uniform pad pressure. These can be removed by burnishing with the 3M™ White Super Polish Pad 4100 or 3M™ Aqua Burnish Pad 3100.

**Q:** A customer had been using a crystallizer on the floor. Will Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector work on top of a crystallizer?

**A:** A floor stripper and black stripping pad should be used to remove any crystallization (which you are abrading off) or floor finish from the floor. This would allow for proper penetration of the Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector.

**Q:** Does the product contain zinc?

**A:** Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector is zinc free.

**Q:** What type of coverage can we expect per bag of product?

**A:** Floor porosity varies significantly. Different floor types and even different pours (i.e. concrete, terrazzo) vary. Similar colors of marble may also have different porosity depending on where they were mined. Based on these variables, we have seen coverage range from 2,500 square feet up to 5,000 square feet per bag of product.

**Q:** What type of coverage can we expect from our diamond pads on burnishers?

**A:** There is a quite a bit of variation on pad life with different substrates, different equipment, and whether the Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector has been applied. Generally, pad life will be shortest on propane equipment (as low as 5,000 sq. ft.) and longest on corded electric burnishers (up to 20,000 sq. ft.). Keep in mind that you will get the best results on burnishers that operate at greater than 2,000 RPMs.

**Q:** What if the customer does not have a burnisher?

**A:** Customers can still use our product but they will need to wait at least two hours between the first and second coat of Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector. Burnishing between coats helps cure the product so that a second coat can be applied immediately after the first coat has dried and been burnished. Please note that the final gloss will be much lower if they do not burnish between coats. This may be acceptable to customers that are just looking for protection against stains, scuffs, and black marks or do not want a higher gloss.



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