

# Initial use and general tips for the maintenance of your Pulastic sports floor

Proper floor maintenance increases hygiene and ensures that your floor keeps its matt appearance and friction. This promotes safety and optimal sports performances. Below you will find some experience-based practical advice on the initial use of your Pulastic sports floor and a few general tips about floor maintenance. On the reverse side of this document you will find the instruction for regular and intensive cleaning. This advice was specifically developed for Pulastic floors finished with our traditional (solvent-containing) sports floor coating.

## A clean start...



...is half the work. Before using a newly delivered Pulastic floor, it should be cleaned lightly as a preventive measure with 1 part Pulastic Classic Clean to 30 parts water. This pre-treatment is necessary in order to make further routine cleaning easier and to remove any electrostatic charges that may have built up during application. Cleaning can be done immediately before the floor is used for the first time – but no sooner than 3 days after application of the sports floor coating. The soap : water ratio of 1 : 30 is comparable to approx. 3 cups of soap to a (10 litre) bucket of water. The treatment should be performed manually with a mop or a scrubbing machine with a special mop pad.

For up to 6 months after delivery of the Pulastic floor, it must be cleaned with a soft brush or pad and a cleaning solution consisting again of 1 part Pulastic Classic Clean to 30 parts water. The use of abrasive brushes and cleaning pads during the first two weeks after delivery may result in excessive polishing and should therefore be avoided. During the first cleaning sessions, the floor may lose some pigment, resulting in discolouration of the cleaning liquid.

It is important to prevent too high soap concentrations in the cleaning solution, because this would result in a shiny and slippery soapy film. Furthermore, cleaning with water colder than 15°C should be avoided, because the soap cannot dissolve at this temperature. This would also result in the creation of a soapy film.

## Some more tips...

- ▲ The use of a high-quality floor mat in the entry reduces the amount of dirt and sand deposited on the floor.
- ▲ The use of sports shoes with black soles increases the risk of persistent stripes; it is highly recommended to prohibit the use of such shoes.
- ▲ The use of lukewarm/warm water during wet cleansing increases the effectiveness of the soap.
- ▲ Occasional after-cleansing with lukewarm/warm water and Pulastic Classic Clean, 1 cap to 40 litres of water, prevents the buildup of a soapy film.
- ▲ Cleaning machines should be set at low speed (up to 150 rev./min.).
- ▲ Chewing gum residue can be removed with CO2 (carbonic acid) spray cans (Taski tapi-antigum), manufactured by Johnson Diversey in Utrecht, tel.: +31 30 247 69 11.
- ▲ Local rubber marks can be removed with Hakkenspray, manufactured by the Kasterop company in Zoetermeer (the floor needs to be at least 3 months old for this treatment): [www.kasterop.nl/](http://www.kasterop.nl/) tel. +31 79 331 15 50.
- ▲ Handball resin can be removed with Trimona TN2 (order through [www.trimona.com](http://www.trimona.com)).

Contents	Metric	Imperial (US)
1 cap	15 ml	0,5 fl. Oz
1 cup	200 ml	6,8 fl. Oz
1 bucket	10 l	2,64 Gal
1 tank	40 l	10,57 Gal

***Descol sports surfaces accepts no liability for any damages resulting from the lack of effectiveness of cleaning agents other than Pulastic Classic Clean and Pulastic Deep Clean.***

***This information is correct to the best of our knowledge, but should not be interpreted as any warranty, either expressed or implied.***

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# Proper and regular cleaning keeps your Pulastic sports floor in top condition

Proper floor maintenance increases hygiene and ensures that your floor keeps its matt appearance and friction. This promotes safety and optimal sports performances. Below you will find some practical advice on regular and intensive cleaning of your Pulastic sports floor. On the reverse side of this document, you will find the instructions regarding the initial use of your floor, as well as some general maintenance tips. This advice was specifically developed for Pulastic floors finished with our traditional (solvent-containing) sports floor coating.

## Dry mopping...



...should be done regularly with a dust-binding mop covered with a synthetic mop cover (without oil-containing material!). Regular washing improves the dust-binding, electrostatic properties. For larger rooms, we recommend a scissor mop. Sand and dust act as abrasives and render a floor slippery and glossy. Regular removal of sand and dust greatly improves the durability of your Pulastic floor.

## Standard wet cleaning...



...can be done regularly by scrubbing. Use a pH-neutral (pH 7-8,5) detergent that does not leave a (wax) film and has low sudsing properties when used in a scrubbing machine. Descol recommends its Pulastic Classic Clean, which meets all of these requirements and is guaranteed not to damage Pulastic sports floor systems. Descol accepts no responsibility or liability for negative effects caused by using cleaning products other than the original Pulastic products. Scrubbing can be done manually or with a scrub/suction machine.

After the initial period (p.t.o.) the standard wet cleaning programme can be started. For this purpose, scrubbing machines can be fitted with mild brushes or a mild cleaning pad (e.g. Scotch Brite - Red). We recommend to "wear" the pads on a hard floor on both sides for a few minutes, to eliminate the pads' superficial abrasiveness. The use of abrasive pads will result in higher wear rates.

If cleansing is not done with a scrub/suction machine, the water used to clean the floor must be removed immediately after scrubbing, to prevent the dirt from drying up.

It is important to constantly check the floor, to ensure that no excessive soapy film appears. The deposition of a soapy film results in higher glossiness and insufficient slip resistance. An excessive soapy film can be caused by a soap concentration that is too high in the water used for cleaning, incorrect cleaning products or the use of water that is too cold (colder than 15°C) in which soap cannot dissolve.

A soapy film can easily be ascertained by looking for surface striping, increased gloss and/or decreased slip resistance. A soapy film must be removed using the intensive cleansing described below.

Pulastic Classic Clean should be applied using a soap : water ratio of 1 : 30 to 1 : 100. When standard cleaning with a 1: 30 ratio results in a sufficiently clean floor, you may try to lower the concentration of 1 part Pulastic Classic Clean to 50 or even 100 parts water. Experience has shown that the lowest possible concentration that yields a clean floor, ultimately gives the best results. The correct concentration depends on cleaning frequency, type of brush or pad and age of the floor.

If the result of cleaning is unsatisfactory, we recommend to allow the cleansing fluid sufficient time to absorb the contamination. This can be done by not removing the fluid immediately after scrubbing, but allowing it to work for approx. 10 – 20 minutes. Make sure, however, that it does not dry up! Then perform a second scrubbing operation and remove the dirty water.

## Intensive cleaning...

...can be done periodically, but no more than twice a year. Deep cleansing, involving the removal of full surface striping, stubborn stains and any soapy film, can be performed after a period of at least 6 months after installation of the floor. It is advisable to schedule this cleaning procedure in advance, the Summer and Christmas holidays providing good opportunities. Intensive cleaning can be performed manually or with a machine. For this procedure, the machine can be fitted with a medium-type scrub pad (e.g. Scotch Brite – Red or Green).

## Intensive cleaning is done in 5 steps:

1. Sprinkle the floor with Cif Naturel or an equivalent mild, liquid household detergent (only in case of serious soiling).
2. Scrub the floor with ample quantities of a cleaning agent consisting of 1 part Pulastic Deep Clean to 10 parts water, using a medium-type scrubbing pad (e.g. Scotch Brite – Green) and allow the agent to do its work, but prevent it from drying up!
3. After approx. 10 minutes, scrub the floor again, this time removing the dirty water.
4. Rinse the floor with lukewarm/warm water with Pulastic Classic Clean, 1 cap to 40 litres of water. This can be done using a mild scrubbing pad.
5. Any remaining minor local staining can be carefully removed with a (microfiber) cloth, Cif and large amounts of water.