



## CONDITIONS OF USE AND CARE OF NEXTSTEP FLOORING

NextStep flooring manufactured by Barlinek is beautiful, very scratch-resistant and durable. Despite this, all floor coverings require proper care and protection to look and function as well as possible. The type and frequency of movement and intensity of use of the floor will determine the frequency of necessary care and protection. The color of the floor will have some impact on how often you will have to care for your floor. For this reason, floors in uniform and light colors should be given special attention in terms of preventive care. Neglecting the current maintenance of the floor requires more work and time when restoring its original appearance. Taking care of the floor not only increases the level of pleasure in using it, but also reduces the cost of its renovation.

## PREVENTING DAMAGE TO NEXTSTEP PANELS

1. Use caution when placing furniture and appliances on the floor. Always carry heavy objects. Never push or drag furniture or other heavy objects across the SPC floor.
2. Check the condition of all casters, rollers, legs and bottoms of furniture before placing them on the floor. Replace worn wheels or rollers. Remove protruding pushpins, nails, or similar materials that may scratch the floor. Remove rust. Sharp-pointed contact surfaces can cause damage to the floor.
3. Secure the legs of all furniture with protective pads
4. In places where chairs on rollers will be located, use protective mats
5. Remove dirt and sand from under protective mats on an ongoing basis
6. Protect the floor by using mats on the outside and/or inside of all entrances. The mats will collect dirt, sand, pebbles and other particulates and absorb moisture. Keep the mats clean. Do not use mats with a latex or rubber backing on NextStep flooring, as some of the compounds in these materials may permanently stain or damage the panel. Laying mats on NextStep panels should be labeled as "non-staining". Avoid bringing in asphalt, oils from driveways, as they may discolor the NextStep panel
7. Using the floor in high-heeled shoes (so-called "stiletto" shoes) can lead to damage to the surface of the panels.
8. Avoid exposing the floor to direct sunlight for extended periods of time. This type of exposure can cause the panels to expand due to heat, which can result in bulging or other damage. Sunlight can also cause discoloration of the surface layer of NextStep panels. In order to reduce the light intensity of NextStep panels, we recommend the use of blinds, curtains or blinds to ensure that the panels are protected from the sun.
9. Protect NextStep flooring from high temperature. Do not install NextStep flooring near fireplaces and naked flame sources, and near any extremely hot objects that may heat the panel to a high temperature.
10. The air temperature during the use of the floor should be +64.4 °F to +84.4 °F (+18°C to +29°C)
11. The humidity of the substrate on which the NextStep floor is installed should not exceed:
  - 2% - concrete substrate without underfloor heating measured by the CM method
  - 1.5% - concrete substrate with underfloor heating measured by the CM method
  - 0.5% - anhydrite substrate without underfloor heating measured by the CM method
  - 0.3% - anhydrite substrate with underfloor heating measured by the CM method
  - 12% - moisture content of the wooden substrate, including wood-based panels
12. The maximum unevenness can be 1/5" (5mm) at a length of 6.56 ft (2m) and up to 1/10" (2mm) at a length of 3.28 ft (1m).
13. The maximum surface temperature of NextStep panels mounted on underfloor heating systems must not exceed +80.6°F (+27°C).

14. Before installing the NextStep floor on underfloor heating embedded in the screed, the technician should perform the heating of the floor in accordance with the "Floor heating protocol". The completed and signed "Floor heating protocol" is attached to the Warranty Card. Failure to do so results in the loss of the warranty for the NextStep Panel mounted on the underfloor heating system. If a heat pump is installed along with a floor heating program, we must perform the heating cycle according to the program.

## CURRENT AND PERIODIC CARE, FLOOR PROTECTION

1. The floor should only be cared for with products intended for this purpose.
2. Ongoing care should be limited to normal vacuuming or sweeping of the floor.
3. Dry, soft brushes should be used to remove dust, a vacuum cleaner with a brush with soft bristles. You can also use slightly damp cloths. Remove any wet marks from the floor during cleaning.
4. When using robot vacuums, ensure that there is no abrasion and damage to the NextStep panel top layer and keep the wheels of the machine clean
5. Clean up spills immediately.
6. Wipe the NextStep floor with a damp mop using the correct floor care product.
7. All dirt should be cleaned immediately, as it can permanently discolor the floor, e.g. ink, iodine, food dyes, grease, baking grease, cooking oils, nail polish, wine, urine, coffee, milk.

### IMPORTANT:

The floor should only be cared for with products intended for this purpose.

The use of floor cleaners from manufacturers other than Barlinek may result in the appearance of stains, discoloration on the floors and a large change in slipperiness and gloss. When using products from other manufacturers, Barlinek does not take responsibility for the effects of their use. All recommendations for the frequency of cleaning and care of floors are given as indicative and depend on their actual use. For the above reasons, they cannot constitute claims under the guarantee.

It is the responsibility of the user/ owner to familiarize the cleaning staff with the NextStep floor terms and conditions described above.



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