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 finish designed to protect concrete, marble, terrazzo, and other porous stone surfaces. Only one to 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 labour hours and costs typically associated with traditional acrylic floor finishes and can result in savings of 65 percent or more on maintenance and labour 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.

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:

• Seals the floor with a hard finish to help protect 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 labour 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 finish dulls, simply repolish by burnishing with the Scotch-Brite™ Purple Diamond Floor Pad. The microscratches will polish and the finish will return to its original appearance. If polishing does not restore the gloss, then a simple recoat is recommended.

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.

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, 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 Scotch-Brite Black High Pro pad or other 3M™ black stripping pad. Rinse with water and allow the floor to dry thoroughly.

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

A: Minimum floor and air temperature should be 10°C. Maximum floor and air temperature should be below 50°C. Do not store product in temperatures above 50°C for extended periods of time, as this can cause the product to coagulate.

Q: Will the Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector change the colour 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 colours 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 530 square feet of coverage per 4L versus the 2,650 square feet that the Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector typically provides per bag.

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 a scrubber drier or flat microfibre 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.

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: The inorganic finish of 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 scrubber drier 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 much more traffic than acrylic finishes. They also tend to have very high gloss. However, urethanes can be difficult to repair, usually requiring the use of sanding screens. The cost of application is often over £0.62/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 $£1.90/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 Scotchgard™ Stone Floor Protector?

A: Polished concrete, terrazzo, marble, travertine and most other porous stone surfaces.

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

A: Because the coating is so 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. 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, 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 Scotch-Brite™ White Polish Pad.