

## Recommended finishes



There are no short cuts to optimum performance with the installation of any flooring. That is why an overview should be taken of each project so that the finishing details are considered right from the start of the project. It also means that all parties are aware of their individual areas of responsibility. There is no question that the final details contribute so much to an impressive finish for the floor. These include relatively minor details such as awkward corners, internal or external mitres, the junction where different floorcoverings meet and finishing details around drains and other accessories.

They make up only a small proportion of the total floor, yet they often make up most of an architect's snag list.

A Polyflor installation must focus on these important details and also take into account all aspects of the location. We believe that the floor must not only look good, but also perform well, so that it is impermeable, hygienic and safe.

### 15.1 DRAINAGE

The location of drains is important. As far as possible, they should be away from sources of vibration (to reduce movement) and from

beams, columns and walls (to make leak detection easier). Obviously, they should be close to the main spillage sources, when direct outlets from spillage sources are not possible.

The floor gradient into the drain depends on the process, traffic volume and the surface texture of the floorcovering. The drains used should be built to permit examination, cleaning and repair without these operations causing damage to the floor.



Figure 33 Stainless steel drain prior to fitting vinyl clamping ring



Figure 34 Drain with clamping ring in place

### 15.1.1 Shower Drains

Only drains which have been specifically designed for use with sheet vinyl floorings should be considered. Most of these drains have clamping rings, which ensure the

watertight security which is essential where hygiene and safety are of primary importance.

These clamping rings ensure that the Polysafe floorcovering is held securely in position and they prevent the ingress of water that could adversely affect the adhesion at this critical point.

### 15.1.2 Drainage channels and gulleys

Again, only drainage channels and gulleys which incorporate vinyl clamping and locking systems into their design should be considered.

### 15.2 CONSTRUCTION JOINT COVERS

Correct treatment at expansion joints is also essential if the floor is going to last and perform in a safe and hygienic manner. We recommend that expansion joints are covered using either a PVC expansion joint cover, or a cover with a PVC insert, so that the flooring can be thermally welded to the cover (Figure 35).

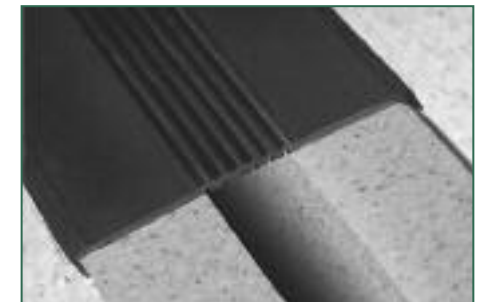


Figure 35 Expansion joint cover

**On no account must the Polyflor or Polysafe be taken straight over the expansion joint. This will lead to failure.**

### 15.3 EDGE TRIMS

In many of the areas where Polyflor is installed, other types of floorcovering will also be used. The junction between the Polyflor flooring and

these other types of floorcovering is a potential weak point, if not treated properly. Correct installation minimises problems such as water leakage and trip hazard.

### 15.3.1 Polyflor or Polysafe with ceramic or quarry floor tiles

In installations where the edge of the vinyl comes into contact with ceramic or quarry tiles, it is important that a watertight joint is achieved at the junction. Aluminium edge trims with PVC inserts are ideal for this purpose. They facilitate installation and the PVC insert allows for a welded joint between the edge trim and the Polyflor floorcovering.

### 15.4 POLYFLOR WITH CARPET

It is important that the junction between Polyflor and carpet is clearly visible and that any trip hazard is minimised by using edging strips. A variety of edging strips are available for this junction. The relevant manufacturers can supply further advice on installation and use of these types of trims.

#### 15.4.1 Bevelled and diminishing strips

Bevelled or diminishing strips should be used at all exposed edges of Polyflor vinyl floorings to minimise trip hazards.

The bevelled strip should be butted tightly to the exposed edge of the Polyflor vinyl flooring. The bevelled strip should be fixed using a contact adhesive and the joint may be thermally welded.

### 15.5 ACCESS AND MANHOLE COVERS

It is important that access covers are used which facilitate either the welding of the Polyflor vinyl flooring to the cover and frame or where the Polyflor vinyl flooring can be

clamped into place. Both these solutions result in a watertight, hygienic and safe joint.

### 15.6 SKIRTINGS AND OTHER FINISHES

Polyflor supplies a wide range of PVC profiles which are ideal for use with the Polyflor range of products. In most installations, we would recommend that the Polyflor vinyl flooring is either site-covered up the wall, or a "set in"



Figure 36 Polyflor Ejecta CT Strip



Figure 37 Polyflor Ejecta CT Strip

coved skirting is used which can be welded to the Polyflor vinyl flooring.

#### 15.6.1 Site coving

For the junction between site-covered Polyflor vinyl flooring and ceramic wall tiles, Polyflor Ejecta CT strip (Figure 36 and 37) provides the ideal solution.

The flexible section is designed to accept ceramic wall tiles on one side and the various gauges of Polyflor on the other.

#### 15.6.2 Set-in coved skirtings

Where it is impractical or where it is not cost effective to use the site-covered method of installation, the Polyflor Ejecta set-in skirting (Figure 38) is a viable alternative. Very similar to the sit-on type skirting in appearance, the set in skirting has a 50mm toe which is adhered to the subfloor and allows the main field of sheet vinyl to be welded to it.



Figure 38 Set-in coved skirting

### 15.7 SIT-ON SKIRTINGS

Sit-on skirting (Figure 39) generally tend only to be used in conjunction with tiled floors to provide a finish around the perimeter of the room. The sit-on skirting is adhered to the walls and the toe of the skirting sits on top of the floor; it is not welded. If requested suitable mastic sealant can be used beneath the toe of the skirting.



Figure 39 Sit-on coved skirting

### 15.8 MASTIC SEALANT FINISH

When specified suitable silicon mastics can be used as a finish around the perimeter of a room. This is provided a water tight finish is not required and all parties are in agreement as to this type of finish.