

Floortex Floor Protection Mats – Selection, Use & Care

Floor mats are highly cost-effective in protecting expensive floor coverings from loss of appearance, wear and damage. There is a wide selection of shapes to suit user requirements. They have an embossed upper surface, and are usually translucent so that the appearance of the underlying floor covering remains visible.

In addition to facilitating easier movement of office chairs, particularly on carpeted floors, they can also be used on any flooring area needing protection, such as heavy traffic area, under areas used by pets, children's high chairs, and indoor pot plants.

Selection

To achieve best performance and durability the mat type must be correct for the floor covering. The following is a basic guide to selection.

Floortex Material Options

Advantagemat – Unique Floortex Phthalate Free PVC.

Excellent value and performance

Ecotex – Evolutionmat Enhanced Polymer (carpet) and Revolutionmat 100% Post-Consumer Recycled PET (hard floor).

The environmentally friendly option

Ultimat – Original Floortex Polycarbonate.

The ultimate on durability, performance and ergonomics.

Floor Type

Hard floors (Wood, tile, linoleum, vinyl): Smooth back: Cleartex valuemat (PVC) Cleartex advantagemat (PVC), Cleartex ultimat (Polycarbonate) or Ecotex revolutionmat (PET) smooth-backed.

Caution: Before buying your chairmat please check if it has high gloss or highly polished surface on which a mat may slide. In such cases we recommend a mat with an anti-slip backing. It is also important to check and care instructions you have on your flooring. Use of the wrong or incorrect dose of detergent could make the floor too slippery and unsuitable for using a chairmat.

Hard floors with high gloss finish (Polished Wood, tile, linoleum, vinyl): Smooth back with water based anti-slip backing Cleartex ultimat (Polycarbonate) or Ecotex revolutionmat (PET).

Carpeted Floors (PVC)

Cleartex advantagemat gripper back for low pile carpets – (pile of 6mm or less including padding / underlay)

Cleartex advantagemat gripper back for medium pile carpets – (pile of 12mm or less including padding / underlay)

Cleartex advantagemat gripper back for deep pile carpets – (pile over 12mm including padding / underlay)

Carpeted Floors (Polycarbonate)

Cleartex ultimat gripper back for low/medium pile carpets – (pile of 12mm or less including padding / underlay)

Cleartex ultimat gripper back for deep pile carpets – (pile over 12mm including padding / underlay)

Carpeted Floors (Enhanced Polymer)

Ecotex evolutionmat gripper back for standard pile carpets – (pile of 9mm or less including padding / underlay)

Please note:

- Use spiked mats on carpeted floors only: spiked mats will damage wooden floors: all spiked mats will be damaged by castor chairs if used on hard floors.
- Use smooth mats on smooth hard floors e.g. wood, tile, linoleum, or vinyl.
- Use smooth mats with anti-slip backing on smooth high gloss floors e.g. polished wood, to prevent slippage.
- Use polycarbonate or RPET on lacquered or varnished wooden floors. These will not adversely affect the floor surface.
- Mats suitable for short pile carpets are unsuitable for use on deep pile carpets as they will crack due to lack of support.
- Some highly polished or treated hard surfaces may be unsuitable for mats even with anti-slip backing.
- Do not use smooth floor mats on ridged, pitted or uneven concrete as they will be damaged by office chair loadings
- Floors with rough textured floor tiles or deep or wide grooves between tiles will cause damage to mats used under chairs.
- Select Polycarbonate floor mats where room or floor surface temperature is greater than 60°F
- For rooms with a temperature below 15°C, please employ chair mats made of Polycarbonate.
- For rooms with a temperature higher than 15°C you can employ chair mats made of Polycarbonate, Enhanced Polymer, Vinyl and RPET.
- If the chair mats is employed in rooms with temperatures below the recommended above, please be aware that the quality of the mat could suffer.
- Are you looking for a mat able to resist temperature below 0°C, please contact our customer service info@floortex.com

Use and care

Correct use and care of your floor mat will ensure its serviceability and durability as well as giving best protection for your floor covering.

- As with any household or office product, handle with care at all times to maintain quality and durability.
- Take care to avoid contact with solvent based paints, inks, varnishes, alkali cleaners, bleaches and oils: these are particularly harmful to polycarbonate.
- Clean only with a cloth or sponge soaked in mild soapy water.
- Regularly clean the floor beneath the mats and make sure that the floors are clean and dry before setting the mat on the floor.
- Do not use in wet areas.
- Floor mats are precision cut to size: do not cut or in any way alter mats as this can impair performance and will invalidate your warranty.
- Do not subject mats to excessive concentrated loads.
- Do not use where there are extremes of temperature.
- Do not use floor mats under unsuitable chair casters. Use of type W casters is recommended to prolong mat life.

Risk Assessment – Chair Mats

All Floortex chair mats are tested for performance and durability on the flooring type that they are designed for. Every production batch of Floortex chair mats is durability tested to a method based on BS EN425: 2002 as part of our Quality Management System to ensure they meet or exceed our performance expectations. The mats are tested on the flooring type that they are designed to be used upon. In addition the material content of each mat is carefully monitored to ensure standard are consistent and that the formulations conform to Reach regulations.

To minimise any potential for accidents users should ensure;

- 1) The mat selected is correctly matched to the floor surface it is to be used upon.
Smooth back for non-polished hard floors.
Smooth back with anti-slip coating for polished or high gloss hard floors.
Gripper back for carpets. The depth of the carpet pile should be measured and matched to the correct gripper back gauge as detailed in our buying guide at:
www.floortex.com/UK_Home/Support/Choosing_a_Mat/
The selected mat should be tested on the floor where it is to be positioned to ensure there is a sufficient degree of friction and stability between the mat and the floor.
- 2) Mats should be laid completely flat on the floor and should not overlap.
- 3) Mats should not be used in locations where they are liable to get wet. Any liquid spilt on the mat surface should immediately be wiped up and dried to reduce the risk of slipping.
- 4) The purpose of a floor mat is to protect the floor surface from damage caused by traffic and usage of chairs, furniture and objects. If you try to employ this product for a different purpose, we cannot guarantee for its quality: you should not bend, fold, cut this product without the necessary equipment and without observing the corresponding health and safety requirements.
- 5) Advantemat -PVC , valuemat-PVC and Ecotex revolutionmat -RPET-mats ,supplied rolled or not stored in flat form, should be given a minimum of 72 hours in a warm environment to retain their original flat form. The warmer the environment the quicker rolled mats will revert to their flat form and be ready for use.
- 6) Cleartex ultimat -Polycarbonate and Ecotex evolutionmat-Enhanced Polymer supplied in rolls, will revert immediately to their flat state when restraining straps are removed. This effect is due to the material's unique memory characteristics.
Extreme care should be taken when releasing or cutting restraining straps as mats are under pressure and will spring open unless handled with care.

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