

CARE & MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

These instructions apply to BerryAlloc high pressure flooring (HPF).

1. Area of use

The BerryAlloc HPF can be used in both domestic and public environments in accordance with the European standard EN 685. For specified details see corresponding technical datasheets.

2. Care

BerryAlloc HPF is an easy-care, wear-resistant floor with a long lifespan and a hygienic hard surface. To prolong the life of the floor, it is however necessary to take precautions against unnecessary loads on the surface.

Sand and dirt will not only make the floor dirty but can also permanently mark it. They work like “sandpaper” and can cause premature wear and tear and scratches. If the floor is wet, dirt will stick to it and it will be much more difficult to remove the dirt. To help preventing this,

- a) Place a suitable doormat at your entrance(s), large enough to absorb dirt and/or moisture.
- b) Place felt pads under the legs of chairs and tables to avoid scratches. Equip also other furniture and heavy objects with felt pads for safe moving.
- c) Clear plastic mats are recommended under office chairs with hard wheels. Machined surfaces (stone structure, shipdeck and V-groove) requires protective mats under castor chairs no matter wheel-quality.



Indoor temperature and relative humidity

The BerryAlloc HPF is produced from wood material that reacts on changes in the indoor climate. The ideal indoor climate for a laminate floor is a relative humidity of between 40 and 50 % and a temperature of between 19 and 24 °C. If the humidity in the air becomes too low, the floor may dry on one side and because of this change its dimensions. With extensive drying on one side, this change in dimensions may also result in the floor warping.

Static electricity

BerryAlloc HPF is defined as an antistatic floor. If the relative humidity in the room becomes very low, this will reduce the floor's ability to conduct away static charges.

3. Underfloor heating

The surface temperature of BerryAlloc HPF must never exceed 27 °C at any time when using underfloor heating. Keep in mind that loose rugs and mats may function as heat accumulators and raise the temperature to more than the tolerated maximum surface temperature. The installed flooring area of a BerryAlloc HPF must not contain heated and non-heated areas, unless separated by expansion profiles, otherwise the flooring areas will react differently and cause problems when the floor heating is turned on.

The output of the underfloor heating must not exceed the following limits:

- Electric heating: 60 W/m²
- Waterborne heating: Incoming/outgoing water temperature must be regulated so that the system output doesn't give surface temperatures above 27 °C.
IR-sensor is recommended for constant measurement of the surface temperature!

Temperature control after installation or if the floor heating has been switched off for an extended period:

1. Set the heating to a low temperature, 18-22 °C, for the first week.
2. The following week the heating can be adjusted in accordance with the above mentioned.

NB: A too fast heating-up process will result in an extensive drying-out of the flooring which can cause warping and openings between the floorboards!

4. Regular maintenance

Cleaning

After finished installation the floor will normally be dirty. Therefore, first remove all larger pieces of dirt with a soft brush or a vacuum cleaner. The floor can then be cleaned with a soft and damp microfiber cloth or mop (see more details below).

The BerryAlloc HPF can be maintained in very little time and with a minimum of effort to keep it in good condition and looking good for many years. Dry cleaning methods are recommended. In case of stains a soft microfiber cloth and lukewarm water are recommended. If adding cleaning agents to the water, always use a synthetic detergent. Organic detergents will leave a thin film of grease on the surface resulting in visible footprints when you walk over the floor. Kindly use BerryAlloc Cleaner Ultra, which is a phosphate-free and biodegradable cleaning agent that dries without smears, leaving a pleasant fragrance. Avoid using too much water. Water spill should be wiped off immediately.

NB: When becoming wet the floor can feel more slippery and have a reduced slip resistance.

Dry methods

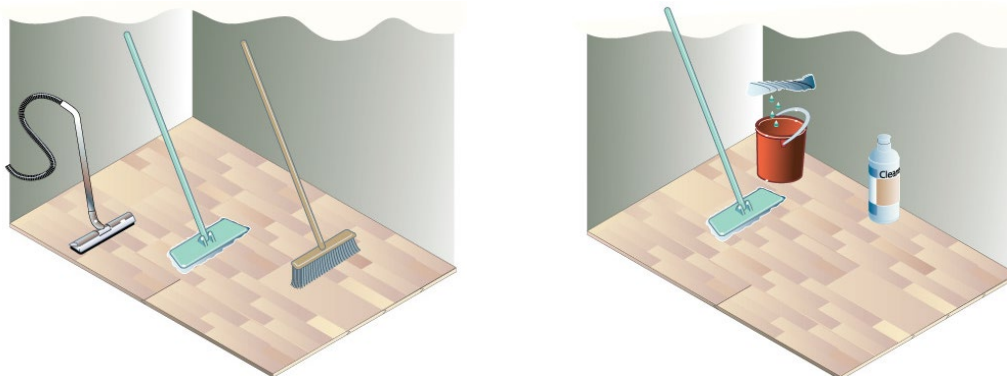
For daily cleaning, we recommend that you use a soft brush, vacuum cleaner or dust mop. Microfiber mops are ideal.

Wet methods

Stubborn stains can be wiped off with a damp microfiber cloth and possibly Cleaner Ultra. When needed, the BerryAlloc HPF may be cleaned using a microfiber mop, water and Cleaner Ultra. Apply the mixture on the floor surface (step by step in small areas) with either a microfiber cloth/mop or a spray bottle (N.B. The mixture has to cover the floor surface, also when spraying). Let it work for 3-4 minutes (but don't let it dry), depending on type and grade of dirt. Clean the floor in the lengthwise direction of the plank with a soft microfiber cloth/mop. Rinse cloth/mop in separate water. Wipe the floor afterwards with clean water. No other treatment of the surface is required.

Never use highly concentrated soap solutions on the floor (forms a greasy film on the surface)!

When the floor is equipped with grout lines or V-grooves you need to clean and dry them well. Do not use any sharp equipment when cleaning the grout lines and V-grooves.



Very stubborn stains can be cleaned as shown in the table below:

Stains	Remove with
Blood	Soft microfiber cloth and cold water
Coffee, tea, chocolate, juice, milk, wine, beverages, grease	Soft microfiber cloth, lukewarm water and a small amount Cleaner Ultra
Rubber, oil, tar, shoe polish, soot, nail varnish, lipstick, drawing ink, colour pencil, chalk, paint	Methylated spirit/white spirit/acetone
Wax from candles, chewing gum	Allow to harden, scrape off carefully using a plastic scraper, clean remains with acetone

Floor with a mat («oiled touch») surface

Stains and shoe marks can during some circumstances easily be seen on such surfaces and needs therefore cleaning more frequently than a conventional BerryAlloc HPF surface. The cleaning of a mat surface will feel like cleaning a wooden floor (a bit more hard-working). Avoid hard rubbing (otherwise it may result in shiny spots on the surface).

NB: Never use steel wool or other abrasive cleaning methods on BerryAlloc HPF!
Some cleaning machines/steam cleaners can be used (NB: Please be in contact for information about approved types).

Maintenance

BerryAlloc HPF is a maintenance-free floor, which must only be cleaned using methods as described above in the chapter “cleaning”. Damages such as tears and cuts in the surface can be repaired with a filler (ColorFill®) or parquet melting wax. Seriously damaged floorboards should be replaced.

The BerryAlloc HPF must not be waxed, varnished or polished.

One must expect slight changes of the colour in the grout lines and V-grooves if sunlight is not uniformly exposed to the whole flooring surface. Beeswax is recommended for maintenance of grout lines or V-grooves when necessary.

Removability

The BerryAlloc HPF can be removed and reinstalled. Therefore, it is possible to replace damaged floorboards. When removing the floorboards, ensure that you follow the dismantling procedure as mentioned in the installation instructions for the specific type of floor, so that you do not damage the locking mechanism of the floorboard.

Disposal of any waste material must take place in accordance with the material safety datasheet (MSDS) for BerryAlloc HPF.

5. Transport and storage

The BerryAlloc HPF is packed in marked boxes which are protected by perforated shrink wrap. This means that the boxes may be transported without temperature restrictions, but the boxes are to be stored in temperatures above the freezing point and protected from rain, snow and long-term bright light. The boxes should be protected from shocks along the edges.

6. Health and environment

The BerryAlloc HPF has been tested in approved laboratories in accordance with European standards for emissions, toxicity and fire.