

Restoration and repair

Floor reparation or restorative maintenance can be applied in all those cases where conventional maintenance would be obviously ineffective, such as:

- Spot physical damages to the floor surface, such as deep scratches, holes, burns etc.
- Extensive soiling of industrial areas or marks by repeated heavy rolling traffic
- Surface discoloration, damage or dulling caused by extended exposure to etching chemicals or solvents
- Stubborn stains, paint, dried out glue, spilled soldering paste etc.



Colorex can be fully repaired and restored back to like new conditions by “homogeneous welding” and abrasive techniques, without leaving any trace and without impairing the original surface characteristics, performance and appearance.

Repair

Required tools and equipment (refer to picture):

- Hot Jet type welding gun
- Flat type repair welding nozzle
- Eccentric grinding machine with set of sandpaper discs (120/180/240)
- Crescent shape knife
- Hand grooving tool with round blade
- Blue and red polishing pads, small size
- Sharp scraper (optional)



Repair procedure for deep scratches or holes:

1. Where necessary, clean and smooth out the scratch with the hand grooving tool or scraper. A larger groove with freshly exposed material will facilitate the homogeneous welding process.
Cut a stripe of Colorex of same colour reference as the floor, approx. 1cm wide.



2. Set the welding gun temperature to approx. 450° C / 840° F. Slide the stripe into the flat repair nozzle, bottom side up. Prior to proceed, test the temperature on the Colorex stripe. The material should just become very soft, however without melting down or turning brown.



3. Firmly weld the stripe into the groove. Proceed in small steps, in stop-and-go manner, each time applying adequate pressure on the repair nozzle. When completed, firmly pull on the stripe to test the welding result. If the stripe comes off easily, start over and set a higher temperature.



4. While still warm, remove excessive parts of the stripe with the crescent shape knife and/or sharp scraper and then allow the repair to cool down completely.



5. When cool, trim the welding flush with the floor using the eccentric grinder. Start with a coarse sandpaper grade (120) and proceed in several steps up to 240.

After grinding, no trace of the repair actually remains visible.



6. Complete by restoring the original surface smoothness of the repaired and grinded spot by dry polishing with a blue pad first and then with a red one. You can skip this passage if a restorative maintenance is to follow.



Repair procedure for burns or other serious harm to the surface, caused for example by spillage of etching chemicals or solvents:

For spot repairs, proceed with steps 5 and 6 as described above.

Please note that this technique is not appropriate for large areas. Refer to "restorative maintenance" in the next section.



Restorative maintenance

Required equipment and products (refer to picture):

- Low speed single disc machine (max. 220 rpm)
- Set of pads (black, brown, green or blue, red, yellow or white*)
- Metallic mesh
- Wet vac
- Bucket trolley and mop
- Quartz powder
- General purpose cleaner, pH neutral



*) Note: Cleaning/polishing pads for use with single disc machines are usually colour coded according to their degree of abrasiveness. Black is the most abrasive grade, red the least abrasive one. Yellow or white are not abrasive and are used to dry buff the floor for a more shiny appearance.

Procedure:

1. First sweep or vacuum clean the floor to remove loose dirt and debris. Spread abundant water with few neutral cleaner and scrub the floor with the single disc machine and a brown or black (most abrasive) pad.

If necessary, increase abrasion by adding some quartz powder and a metallic mesh under the pad.



2. Remove the dirty cleaning solution with a wet vac. Rinse with clear water to remove abrasion dust and wet vac as well. At this point, the floor will be visually clean but the surface will be quite rough and needing to be restored.



3. Restore the original surface smoothness and quality by dry polishing with the low speed single disc machine and pads in decreasing degree of abrasiveness. Start with the green or blue pad and then continue with the red one. If a shiny appearance is required, dry buff with the yellow or white pad.

