

Floortex Floor Protection Mats – Selection, Use & Care

Floor mats are highly cost-effective in protecting 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 clear or translucent so that the appearance of the underlying flooring remains visible. In addition to facilitating easier movement castor based 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 must be correct format for the type of floor covering it is to be used on.

The following is a basic guide to selection.

Floortex Material Options

Cleartex Advantagemat – Unique Floortex Phthalate Free PVC.

Excellent value and performance

Ecotex Revolutionmat - Polypropylene

Cost effective and environmentally friendly

Ecotex Evolutionmat - Enhanced Polymer

High performance and environmentally friendly

Cleartex Ultimat, Unomat & Megamat - Original Floortex Polycarbonate

The ultimate on clarity, durability, performance and ergonomics.

Cleartex Glaciermat – Toughened Glass

Total clarity and elegance.

Floor Type

Hard Floors (Wood, tile, linoleum, vinyl): Smooth back: Cleartex Advantagemat (PVC), Ecotex Revolutionmat (Polypropylene), Ecotex Evolutionmat (enhanced polymer). Cleartex Ultimat, Cleartex Megamat (Polycarbonate) or Cleartex Glaciermat (toughened glass).

Caution: Before buying your chair mat 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. Flooring must be totally flat, dry and clean before laying down your chair mat. Any dirt or moisture trapped under the mat may have a negative effect on your floor surface over time.

For varnished or lacquered wood flooring we recommend our polypropylene, enhanced polymer or polycarbonate products to avoid any chemical reactions that could damage the floor surface over time.

Hard Floors with high gloss finish (Polished varnished or lacquered wood, tiles, linoleum, vinyl): Select smooth back with an anti-slip backing.

Ecotex Revolutionmat (polypropylene) Ecotex Evolutionmat (enhanced polymer) or Cleartex Unomat (Polycarbonate)

Carpeted Floors

Cleartex Advantagemat (PVC)

Low Pile – ***pile up to 6mm including padding / underlay***
 Medium Pile – ***pile up to 12mm including padding / underlay***
 Plush Pile – ***pile over 12mm including padding / underlay***

Ecotex Revolutionmat (Polypropylene)

Low Pile – ***pile up to 6mm including padding / underlay***

Ecotex Evolutionmat (Enhanced Polymer)

Standard Pile – ***pile up 9mm including padding / underlay***

Cleartex Ultimat (Polycarbonate)

Low / Medium Pile – ***pile up to 12mm including padding / underlay***
 Plush Pile – ***pile over 12mm including padding / underlay***

Cleartex Megamat (Polycarbonate)

All Pile – *suitable for all piles of carpet*

Cleartex Glaciermat (Toughened Glass)

All Pile – *suitable for all piles of carpet*

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.
- Always ensure flooring is free of dirt and completely dry before placing your mat down.
- 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 polypropylene, enhanced polymer or polycarbonate mats 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 15°C
- For rooms with a temperature lower than 15°C you can employ chair mats made of PVC, Polypropylene, Enhanced Polymer or Polycarbonate.
- If the chair mats are 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 services at:
UKorders@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.

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 standards 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.floortexteurope.co.uk/uk-how-to-choose-a-chair-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 spilled 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 suitability and you do so at your own risk.
- 5) You should not bend, fold or cut this product without the necessary equipment and without observing the corresponding health and safety requirements. Any modification or improper handling will invalidate your warranty.
- 6) Cleartex Advantagemats vinyl mats that are 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.
- 7) 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.

