

## FLOORS

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**Standard Spaces:** Flooring for standard occupied spaces within campus buildings shall be vinyl composition tile (VCT) or another system of higher quality and greater durability. Systems of higher quality and greater durability include linoleum, Rubber, and Vinyl Enhanced tile. Systems of lower quality or durability than VCT shall not be installed. Floor product shall be a minimum of 1/8" thick, and shall be homogeneous. Products which feature a thin wear layer over a generic core material (such as Luxury Vinyl Tile) shall not be used. Imported VCT should be avoided. New and "unproven" floor systems should also be avoided.

All resilient flooring products are to be provided in tile format.

In light of recent changes to the formulations of glues and adhesives, it is prudent to perform moisture tests on all floor slabs, regardless of the age of the building, prior to bidding to determine if moisture mitigation needs to be included in the contractor's work. It is also suggested that for certain classrooms and lab spaces especially in slab on grade areas, concrete with either a steel trowel finish or polished, with only a clear sealer, be considered. Concrete may be used in elevated slab areas also, but is particularly appropriate for slab on grade.

**Corridors and Public Areas:** There shall be consideration of flooring of greater durability than VCT in corridors and other high-traffic public areas. These include concrete, terrazzo, ceramic tile, rubber tile, linoleum sheet/tile or other construction of equivalent durability. Carpeting and wood flooring shall not be used in high-traffic areas.

**Restrooms:** Flooring in restrooms shall be ceramic tile.

**Elevators:** Flooring in passenger and freight elevators shall be rubber tile. The use of linoleum is also acceptable.

**Equipment/Service Areas:** Typically, floors in equipment rooms and service areas shall be sealed concrete. The office spaces within equipment and service areas may be finished in this same manner.

**Color:** Light colored floor finishes, whether carpet or tile should be Mottled patterns that incorporate a variety of "earth tones" are preferred. They help to mask spots, spills, dirt accumulation, traffic wear, etc. This is especially important in heavy traffic areas.

**Carpeting and Wood Flooring:** Installation of carpeting shall generally be avoided, especially in high traffic areas, food service areas and public restrooms, as well as classrooms and other public use areas. Carpeting should be avoided in auditoriums because food and drinks inevitably end up in these types of spaces, resulting in major cleaning problems. Installation of wood flooring should also be avoided. Maintenance of these systems will not be provided by the F & S Division, but will be the responsibility of the using department/agency. When carpeting is installed it shall be of high quality and carpet tile is preferred to broadloom. See *Section 09 68 00 – Carpet* for specification requirements. When wood flooring is installed it shall be of high hardness.

**Finish Schedule:** See the *Master Room Finish Schedule* found within the *Exhibits* for a summary of floor finish and materials of construction requirements for each space type.

**Occupational Health:** No asbestos-containing material shall be purchased nor installed in any flooring or flooring materials.