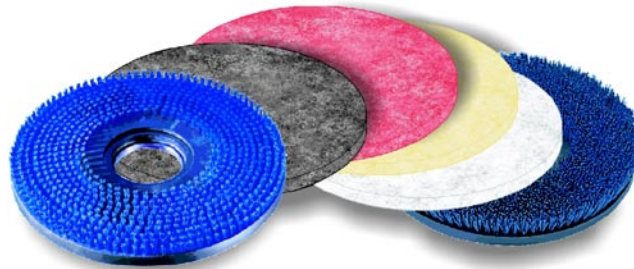


## FLOOR PADS MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

The useful life of cleaning tools and supplies (excluding solutions and cleansers) depends on the quality and design of the products being used, how the products are used and how well the tools are maintained. By following these hints the custodial technician can extend the useful life of many of the tools and supplies used in his/her work.

Floor pads come in a variety of colors and sizes and are made from materials that are designed to do specific jobs. Floor pads can replace brushes for use on low-speed equipment.



Different color of pads indicate different uses. For example, a light colored pad is the least aggressive. This property is determined by the number of resin rocks on the pads' surface and the material (natural or synthetic) the pad is constructed of. The pads are immersed in a resin solution to hold fibers together. When it dries, it leaves a small "rock" residue on the pad.

Buffer performance is affected by pad contact, speed and downward pressure. These are all defined in terms of heat-generating potential.

The aggressiveness of the pad can counteract deficiencies in pad pressure and contact; however powdering of the floor finish can occur if too excessive.

Pads should be cleaned regularly to prevent build-up and scratching. They can be removed and shaken or brushed out with a bristle brush. Wet solution pads can be cleaned by soaking in stripper solution, then brushing off under clean water.



### The following general tips about floor pad care can extend the life of a floor pad.

- Carefully install the pad onto the machine so it is centered. A floor pad that is not centered will wear unevenly and will create a safety hazard since the machine is more difficult to control.

- When using the floor machine do not bump into objects. If a pad rotating on a floor machine hits furniture or some other object, the pad can tear or snag.

Since floor pads are made of different materials, using the correct cleaning method for each type of pad is important.

- For natural fiber like Norton's Grizzly Pad, clean by using the center die cut piece from the pad or a medium bristle brush and brush away the accumulation from the pad.
- For a polyester or nylon pad use one of these three methods:

1. Soak the pad in stripping solution until dirt is softened or loosened, then rinse using a water hose.
2. Wash under high- pressure water.
3. Launder in Luke warm water.
4. Hang the pads in a storage area to dry after cleaning them.