



ALLIED TILE
Manufacturing Corp.

Residual Indentation

All flooring materials such as carpet, vinyl, wood cork, rubber or linoleum will indent. Hard surface flooring materials will not normally rebound as quickly. Depending on the depth, recovery time will vary. Temperature will also have a part in how quickly the indent recovers.

There are usually two factors that must be considered. The first is the improper application of adhesive. Too much adhesive, wrong trowel size during application and too soft due to improper drying before tile is installed. This will cause the adhesive to displace. This will allow any weighted object placed on the flooring to depress it and indent it.

The second factor is heavy equipment, when positioned in one place will compress the vinyl flooring and cause indentations. Smaller surfaces coming in contact with the vinyl will exert greater loads or weight over a small area. This is one of the primary causes of indentations. The smaller the surface area, the higher the load exerted and the greater chance of indentation. This affects the psi numbers greatly.

The wrong product specs can play a part as well. Smooth surface finish emboss vinyl has no resistance compared to a textured surface finish. Textured finishes can fight off surface abuse and some heavy loads. Also, a mottled look compared to a solid color hides much less.

The one thing to completely understand is that no vinyl tile or any other type of vinyl is completely resistant to indentations. The issue is the movement of furniture and heavy equipment, much on wheels that leaves marks in the vinyl everywhere it rolls. It will show the indentations if left in one spot for a period of time.

Vinyl tile with high gloss finishes and in light colors floors can also exacerbate indentations and make them more obvious. A matte finish may be a better option.

There are two tests performed in accordance with indentations that our tile meets.

ASTM F 1914 - Residual Indentation passes. The ASTM F 1700 specification requires the average residual indentation be no more than 8%, with no individual number greater than 10%.

ADTM F 970 – Static Load Limit – No visual apparent indentation – Required 250psi