

## CARE & MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTIONS

These instructions apply to BerryAlloc HPL floor (high-pressure laminate).

### 1. Area of use

The BerryAlloc HPL floor can be used in both domestic and public environments in accordance with the European standard EN 685.

For specified details see corresponding technical datasheets ([www.berryalloc.com](http://www.berryalloc.com)).

### 2. Care

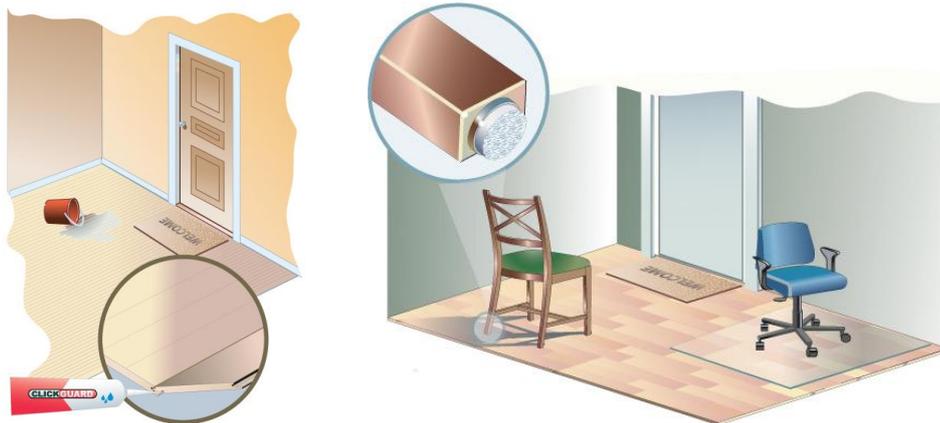
BerryAlloc HPL is an easy-care, wear-resistant floor with a long lifespan and a hygienic hard surface. To prolong the life of the laminate floor, it is however necessary to take precautions against unnecessary loads on the surface.

Sand and dirt will not only make the floor dirty but can also permanently mark it. They work like “sandpaper” and can cause premature wear and tear and scratches. If the floor is wet, dirt will stick to it and it will be much more difficult to remove the dirt. To help preventing this,

- a) Place a suitable doormat at your entrance(s) that is large enough to absorb dirt and/or moisture.

We recommend that a non-curing transparent silicone is used in areas under big water stress (see separate instructions on our website [www.berryalloc.com](http://www.berryalloc.com)).

- b) Place felt pads under the legs of chairs and tables to avoid scratches. Equip also other furniture and heavy objects with felt pads for safe moving.
- c) Clear plastic mats must be used under office chairs with hard wheels. Machined surfaces (Stone Structure, Shipdeck and V-groove) requires protective mats under castor chairs no matter wheel-quality.



### Indoor temperature and relative air humidity

The BerryAlloc HPL floor is produced from wood material that reacts on changes in the indoor climate. The ideal indoor climate for a laminate floor is a relative humidity of between 40 and 60 % and a temperature of between 19 and 24 °C. If the humidity in the air becomes too low, the floor may dry on one side and because of this change its dimensions. With extensive drying on one side, this change in dimensions may also result in the floor warping.

## Static electricity

BerryAlloc HPL is an antistatic laminate floor covering. If the relative humidity in the room becomes very low, this will reduce the floor's ability to conduct away static charges.

## 3. Underfloor heating

The surface temperature of a BerryAlloc HPL floor must never exceed 27 °C at any time when using underfloor heating. Keep in mind that loose rugs and mats may function as heat accumulators and raise the temperature to more than the tolerated maximum surface temperature. The installed flooring area of a BerryAlloc HPL must not contain heated and non-heated areas, unless separated by expansion profiles, otherwise the flooring areas will react differently and cause problems when the underfloor heating is turned on.

The output of the underfloor heating must not exceed the following limits:

- Heating elements: 60 W/m<sup>2</sup>
- Water-borne heating: Incoming/outgoing water temperature must be regulated so that the system power doesn't give surface temperatures above 27 °C.  
IR-sensor is recommended for constant measurement of the surface temperature!

Temperature control after installation or if the heating has been switched off for an extended period:

1. Set the heating to a low temperature, 18-22 °C, for the first week.
2. The following week the heating can be adjusted in accordance with the above mentioned.

**NB:** A too fast heating-up process will result in an extensive drying-out of the flooring which can cause warping and openings between the floorboards!

## 4. Regular maintenance

### Cleaning

After installation the floor will normally be dirty. Therefore, first remove all larger pieces of dirt with a soft brush or a vacuum cleaner. The floor can then be cleaned with a well wrung-out, slightly damp cloth or mop (see more details below).

The BerryAlloc HPL floor can be maintained in very little time and with a minimum of effort to keep it in good condition and looking good for many years.

Dry cleaning methods are recommended.

In case of stains a well wrung-out cloth and lukewarm water are recommended.

If adding cleaning agents to the water, always use synthetic detergents. Organic detergents will leave a thin film of grease on the surface resulting in visible footprints when you walk over the floor. We recommend BerryAlloc Cleaner, which is a phosphate-free and biodegradable cleaning agent that dries without smears, leaving a pleasant fragrance. Avoid using too much water. Water spill should be wiped off immediately.

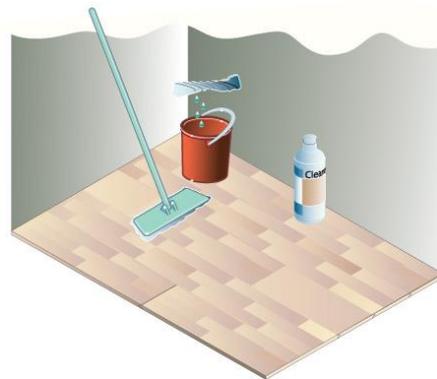
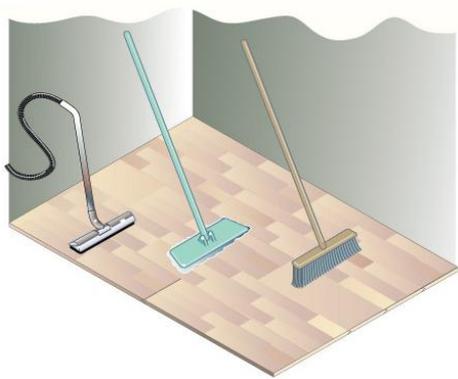
**NB:** The floor can feel more slippery when becoming wet (reduced slip resistance).

### Dry methods

For daily cleaning, we recommend that you use a soft brush, vacuum cleaner or dry dust mop. Microfiber mops are ideal.

### Wet methods

Stubborn stains can be wiped off with a well wrung-out, slightly damp cloth and synthetic detergent. When needed, the BerryAlloc HPL floor may be cleaned with a mop using a light mist of synthetic detergent. Mist the floor, and then immediately mop the floor dry. No further treatment of the surface is required. Never use highly concentrated soap solutions on the floor!



Very stubborn stains can be cleaned as shown in the table below:

Stains	Remove with
Blood	Wrung-out cloth and cold water
Coffee, tea, chocolate, juice, milk, wine, beverages, grease	Wrung-out cloth, lukewarm water and a small amount of synthetic detergent
Rubber, oil, tar, shoe polish, soot, nail varnish, lipstick, drawing ink, colour pencil, chalk, paint	Methylated spirit/white spirit/acetone
Wax from candles, chewing gum	Allow to harden, scrape off carefully using a plastic scraper, clean remains with acetone

Stains and shoe marks can during some circumstances easily be seen on an OT (oiled touch) surface and needs therefore more thorough cleaning than a conventional BerryAlloc HPL surface. An OT surface is experienced to be like cleaning a wooden floor (a bit more hard-working).

**NB:** Never use steel wool or other abrasive cleaning methods on a BerryAlloc HPL floor.  
Never use steam cleaners on a BerryAlloc HPL floor!

### Treatment

BerryAlloc HPL is a maintenance-free floor which must only be cleaned using methods as described above in the chapter “cleaning”.

Damages such as tears and cuts in the surface can be repaired with BerryAlloc repair kit or ColorFill®. Seriously damaged floorboards should be replaced.

The BerryAlloc HPL floor must not be waxed, varnished or polished. It can be treated with a refresher for laminate floors. The refresher spreads a clear skin on the surface of the laminate floor which disappears with use. This may result in differences in clarity on the surface, in particular if heavily used and less heavily used areas are compared.

One must expect slight changes of the colour in the grooves or machined surfaces if sunlight is not uniformly exposed to the whole flooring surface.

## Removability

The BerryAlloc HPL floor can be removed and reinstalled. Therefore, it is possible to replace damaged floorboards. The floor will also have a reuse value if you want to remove the floor.

When removing the floorboards, ensure that you follow the dismantling procedure as mentioned in the installation instructions ([www.berryalloc.com](http://www.berryalloc.com)) for the specific type of laminate, so that you do not damage the locking mechanism of the floorboard.

Disposal of any waste material must take place in accordance with the material safety datasheet (MSDS) for BerryAlloc HPL floor ([www.berryalloc.com](http://www.berryalloc.com)).



## 5. Transport and storage

The BerryAlloc HPL floor is packed in marked boxes which are protected by perforated shrink wrap. This means that the packs may be transported without temperature restrictions, but the boxes are to be stored in temperatures above the freezing point and protected from rain, snow and long-term bright light. The boxes should be protected from shocks along the edges.



The mark of  
responsible forestry

## 6. Health and environment

The BerryAlloc HPL floor has been tested in accordance with European standards for emissions and toxicity and is recommended by the Norwegian Asthma and Allergy Association (NAAF).

The product has been tested and approved by a number of European fire test laboratories.

Alloc AS holds a FSC™ (Forest Stewardship Council™) Chain-of-Custody certificate for the collections Alloc Commercial and Alloc Prestige. This means that the raw materials come from controlled and certified forestry, where human, economic and ecological conditions are taken into consideration.

## 7. More information

For further information on the BerryAlloc HPL floor or other products supplied by BerryAlloc, please see BerryAlloc brochure material or visit our website: [www.berryalloc.com](http://www.berryalloc.com).