# **Floor Maintenance**

Your garage resinous floor coating systems are nonporous, making them easier to clean because dirt and contaminants remain on the surface. These Floors are stronger and more resistant to chemicals than many other types of flooring. It is important to keep the following things in mind when cleaning your garage floor:

### **Dirt and Grime**

Given that debris remains on the surface, they tend to act as abrasives and will eventually mar the finish in heavy traffic environments. As such, it is important that your garage floor be properly maintained on a regular basis. We highly recommend a monthly sweeping and mopping of the floor.

## **Cleaning Agents**

Do not use actual soap because it will create a film that is difficult to remove with rinsing. A film left behind after cleaning causes two issues: a) the film will become slippery when wet and b) this film attracts dirt and debris which actually causes the floor to look unclean soon after it has been washed. Floor stripping agents, citrus-based cleaners and corrosive chemical degreasers are also not recommended as they can damage a floor if they are applied and let to sit for an extended period of time. A simple mixture of a PH neutral cleaner such as <u>Simple Green®</u> diluted with water is recommended for regularly scheduled maintenance.

### **Tools**

- Broom or leaf blower I like the leaf blower but a good old-fashioned broom works just fine.
- **Mops** Any standard janitorial mop will work. I like cotton mops the best. Foam mops typical wear out to quickly.
- **Soft-Bristled Brush** For more difficult to remove stains a soft bristled brush may be used to agitate the dirt and debris. Be sure to brush with soft bristles as hard bristles may mar the surface over time.
- Foam Squeegee Use a foam squeegee after you mop to remove any excess water.
- Bucket Mop Bucket with a ringer and 3-gallon standard bucket.
- Wet-Vacuum For removing excess water after rinsing.

## **Cleaning Process**

- 1. Sweep or blow the entire floor to remove any loose debris and dirt with a broom or leaf blower.
- **2.** For every-day use, mix 1.5 to 2 cups of Simple Green® per 1-gallon of warm water. Mixing ratios may vary for heavier soiled applications. Please reference <u>Simple Green® Mixing Guide</u> for more specifics.
- **3.** Apply cleaning agent with a squeegee or mop and let stand for a few minutes so it can react with surface.
- **4.** Thoroughly mop surface with wet mop to remove any stains. A soft bristled brush may also be used to scrub the surface.
- **5.** Rinse floor with clean water and use wet vacuum or squeegee to remove. A second rinsing is also recommended to ensure that no residue is left behind. Proper attention must be paid to removing the resultant emulsion of the cleaning solution and soil.
- **6.** Once dirty water has been removed, the floor must dry prior to returning to service.
- **7.** Dispose of contaminated water while paying special attention to by-law regulations prohibiting the introduction of certain chemicals into surface water drains and sewer systems.