

ТЕМА 2.3.7 НАПОЛЬНЫЕ ПОКРЫТИЯ FLOOR FINISHES

1. A. Work in pairs. Discuss the questions.

1. What is floor covering?
2. What is the main function of floor covering?
3. What floor covering is the most commonly used? Why?

B. Read the text Floor Finishes and check if your answers are correct.

Flooring is the general term for a permanent covering of a floor, or for the work of installing such a floor covering. Floor covering is a term to generically describe any finish material applied over a floor structure to provide a walking surface. Both terms are used interchangeably, but floor covering refers more to loose-laid materials.

Floor surfaces cover a large area of the room and are subject to constant wear. They are expensive and replace less frequently than other furnishings. Improperly laid floors or damaged floors can cause accidents and damage to the equipment. Floor surfaces must be comfortable and quiet besides contributing to the decoration of the room. The traffic in the area and utility of the room must also be considered.

An almost limitless number of floor covering products and materials is available today. The design and articulation of floor surfaces are limited only by the designer's imagination. In fact, it is not unusual for the floor coverings to be the dominant element in building interiors. The selection of materials must consider the design intent as well as the manner in which people will interact with the floors.

There are many performance factors that should be considered when selecting floor coverings. Some of these are related to the type of use that is anticipated for a given room or area within a building.

Wooden flooring is very common in today's market. Most wooden flooring is made from oak. It is valued in residential applications for the warmth and beauty it brings to a room. It is also used extensively for athletic floors, such as basketball, volleyball, and racquetball courts, as well as for theatre and dance floors, where durability, hardness, and resiliency are highly desired. The most common problem with this flooring is that the adhesive becomes loose. It should also be remembered that wood is a hygroscopic material and as such will absorb moisture which also may become one of the reasons of loose.

There are several methods of installation for those wood floorings. Historically, strips and planks were installed over wood sleepers. Today, strips, planks, and parquet can be installed over a plywood subfloor or directly to the subfloor. Nails, staples, and water-based adhesives are used to attach to wood subfloors, whereas adhesives are required for concrete.

Another of the two most commonly used floor coverings is resilient flooring. It is made of chemicals rather than from wood products. Resilient flooring includes compositions such as linoleum and asphalt tile. It can be laid directly over concrete or base flooring. Resilient flooring comes in both sheets and square tiles. Frequently, resilient flooring sheets are called linoleum carpets. It can be easily cleaned without special knowledge or specialized products, and it can withstand general use without permanent deformations or damage. Resilient flooring is typically used for utilitarian purposes in rooms that require regular wet cleaning and where there is a probability that water will be on the floor.

The composition and installation of tiles have changed little over the decades. Several types of tiles are used commonly: ceramic tiles, quarry tiles, and brick. Tiles are desirable where water will be present, such as in bathrooms and wash areas. However, ceramic tiles also make pleasing entry areas and lobbies.

Tiles are set using mortar. First, a mortar bed is set. If waterproofing is required, the mortar bed is placed in two applications with a waterproof membrane in the middle. If the floor is subjected to a considerable load or if the floor structure deflection is more than allowed by the tile installation method, the mortar bed should be reinforced with wire mesh or metal lath. Additionally, a cleavage (bond-breaking) membrane is sometimes necessary to prevent bonding with the subfloor. Reinforcing and cleavage membranes are not needed if the mortar bed is to be bonded with the subfloor. Second, tile is set on the mortar bed while the mortar is still green, that is, not cured. If the tile is set after the bed has cured, a Portland cement bond coat is required between the tile and the mortar bed.

2. A. Match the words from A to the words from B to make up word combinations.

A

1. green
2. metal
3. resilient
4. cleavage
5. linoleum
6. hygroscopic
7. mortar
8. permanent
9. residential
10. wood

B

- a) membrane
- b) sleepers
- c) carpet
- d) application
- e) deformations
- f) mortar
- g) flooring
- h) material
- i) lath
- j) bed

B. Choose three word combinations from ex. 2. A and make up sentences with them.

3. Choose the correct option to complete the sentences.

1. Floor covering is applied over a floor structure...
a) to provide a walking surface; b) to decorate a walking surface; c) to prevent moisture.
2. Most wooden flooring is made from ...
a) pine; b) oak; c) birch.
3. Wooden flooring is also used for...
a) athletic floors; b) bathroom flooring; c) utilitarian purposes.
4. Resilient flooring is made of ...
a) steel; b) Portland cement; c) chemicals.
5. Tiles are set using ...
a) lime; b) mortar; c) gravel.

4. Work in pairs. Discuss the questions.

1. What is floor covering?
2. What materials can be used as the floor covering?
3. What does the usage of materials in flooring depend on?
4. What are the advantages of using wood as the floor covering?
5. What are the disadvantages of wood flooring?
6. Where can resilient flooring be laid?
7. What are the types of tiles?
8. Where is tile installation desirable?
9. How are tiles installed?

5. Work in pairs. Complete the table using the information from the text Floor Finishes.

Types of floor covering	Advantages	Disadvantages	Method of installation

6. A. Define the parts of the text Floor Finishes. Give them a title.

B. Make up a short summary of the text Floor Finishes according to the plan. Retell it using your notes.

1. The title of the text is....
2. The text is devoted to....
3. The main idea of the text is....
4. It consists of....
5. The first part is about....
6. The second (third, fourth, etc.) part deals with....
7. In conclusion I may say that....