

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

MARMOLEUM REPAIRS

1. Cigarette burns and light scratches can be repaired using steel wool (#00 or #000). Always work with the grain of the Marmoleum. Gently rub the damaged area until damage is removed. The repair is completed by re-applying floor finish in the repaired area.
2. Small gouges or cracks in Marmoleum can be repaired by filling them in with a paste commonly called "Hooper-Doofer". "Hooper Doofer" is made by scraping the surface of a scrap piece of material using a paint scraper or knife, then grinding the scrapings into a fine powder (a powder can also be produced by sanding the scrap). The powder is then mixed with a white glue (like Elmer's Glue) to form a paste.

Fill the area being repaired with the paste, making sure to leave an excess that (after drying) can be sanded even with the floor surface using fine steel wool. The repair is completed by re-applying floor finish in the repaired area.

3. Severely damaged areas, deep gouges or tears for example, can be repaired by removing the damaged Marmoleum and inserting a new piece. This can be done by cutting a new piece of matching Marmoleum large enough to cover the damaged area in the shape of a football, diamond or triangle (insert piece). If using a football or diamond shape, align the length of the insert piece with the machine direction (length) of the existing Marmoleum. If using a triangle, make sure that none of the sides are perpendicular to the length of the existing Marmoleum.

Secure the insert piece over the damaged area using double faced tape and use a knife to trace cut around the new material (merely "score" the material at this point - do not attempt to cut all the way through the existing Marmoleum). Alternatively, if using a diamond or triangle insert piece, trace cut around all but one side, place a square tightly against the remaining side, remove the insert piece, and score the last side of the shape by following the edge of the square (this sometimes enables a better fit).

After removing the insert piece, follow the trace cuts to finish cutting through the existing Marmoleum. Make sure the knife is slightly angled so as to undercut the edges of the insert shape. Carefully remove the damaged Marmoleum and scrape any residual adhesive from the substrate. Adhere the insert piece using new adhesive and roll the edges flush using a seam roller.

Remove any dried adhesive on the surface using mineral spirits followed by wiping with a damp cloth. Smooth any rough edges with fine steel wool. The repair is completed by re-applying floor finish in the repaired area.