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Any reference to SABS 0245 is deemed  
to be a reference to this standard  
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## **SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL STANDARD**

### **The maintenance of textile floor coverings**

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**Table of changes**

<b>Change No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Scope</b>
Amdt 1	2008	Amended to change the designation of SABS standards to SANS standards, to update the introductory paragraph to the normative references clause, and to update referenced standards.

**Foreword**

This South African standard was approved by National Committee SABS/TC 219, *Textile floor coverings*, in accordance with procedures of the SABS Standards Division, in compliance with annex 3 of the WTO/TBT agreement.

This document was published in June 2008. This document supersedes SABS 0245:1993 (first edition).

A vertical line in the margin shows where the text has been technically modified by amendment No. 1.

**This document is referenced in the South African Qualifications Authority Act, 1993 (Act No. 58 of 1993).**

Annexes A, B, C, D, E and F are for information only.

**Reaffirmed and reprinted in January 2014.  
This document will be reviewed every five years  
and be reaffirmed, amended, revised or withdrawn.**

**Introduction**

The aim of a maintenance programme for a textile floor covering is to retain its original appearance and texture for as long as possible. This aim can be achieved by keeping soil content and stains to a minimum, which will, in turn, prolong the useful life of the textile floor covering.

It is not traffic alone that wears out textile floor coverings, but also soil and grit on, and within, the use-surface. When people enter a building, they carry a certain amount of soil, mud and grit on the soles of their footwear. This soil is deposited on the textile floor coverings, and eventually works its way down into the use-surface.

To prolong the life of a textile floor covering, and to protect the investment, the quantity of soil should be kept to an absolute minimum. This can be done by regular and systematic cleaning of the textile floor covering with soil removal equipment.

The type of equipment chosen will depend entirely on the area to be cleaned, the number of obstructions present, the traffic load on the use-surface, the type of textile floor covering, the type of use-surface fibre, the availability of utilities, and the cleaning frequencies required.

The maintenance requirements of various buildings are directly affected by the traffic load and the type of cleaning programme used. After the textile floor covering has been chosen or specified, it is necessary to consider the maintenance programme, equipment, material and method.

## Contents

	Page
Foreword	
Introduction	
<b>1</b> Scope .....	3
<b>2</b> Normative references .....	3
<b>3</b> Definitions .....	3
<b>4</b> Maintenance programme .....	3
<b>5</b> Maintenance equipment and methods .....	5
<b>6</b> Procedure for impregnated dry powder cleaning .....	17
<b>7</b> Procedure for spray mist rotary pad cleaning .....	18
<b>8</b> Procedure for dry foam cleaning — Cylindrical-brush shampoo machines .....	20
<b>9</b> Procedure for shampoo cleaning .....	20
<b>10</b> Procedure for spray/extraction cleaning .....	23
<b>11</b> Stain removal .....	28
<b>Annex A</b> (informative) Textile fibres used in textile floor coverings .....	37
<b>Annex B</b> (informative) Types of textile floor coverings .....	37
<b>Annex C</b> (informative) On-site cleaning procedures .....	39
<b>Annex D</b> (informative) Chemicals for cleaning .....	42
<b>Annex E</b> (informative) Household chemicals .....	43
<b>Annex F</b> (informative) Burning tests as an aid to fibre identification .....	44

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Edition 1.1

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## **The maintenance of textile floor coverings**

### **1 Scope**

This standard gives guidance on suitable and appropriate maintenance techniques for textile floor coverings. The information enables users to maintain textile floor coverings of all types in good condition. This standard is applicable to both domestic and contract types of textile floor covering.

### **2 Normative references**

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies. Information on currently valid national and international standards can be obtained from the SABS Standards Division. **Amdt 1**

~~ISO 2424, *Textile floor coverings – Classification and terminology.*~~ **Amdt 1**

SANS 2424/ISO 2424, *Textile floor coverings – Vocabulary.* **Amdt 1**

SANS 10004, *Terms and definitions for textiles and textile merchandise.*

### **3 Definitions**

For the purposes of this standard, the definitions given in SANS 10004 and the following definition apply:

**textile floor covering**

material having a use-surface composed of textile material(s) and used for covering floors

NOTE This is a general term describing all types of product (see SANS 2424). **Amdt 1**

### **4 Maintenance programme**

#### **4.1 Planning a maintenance programme**

##### **4.1.1 General**

Just as specifications have to be concerned with traffic load and soiling rates, so too does the maintenance programme. For example, offices, restaurants, cafeterias, hospitals and lounges are areas where accidental spills, stains and even smoke contribute to overall soiling. Routine procedures need to be established for attending to such mishaps as quickly as possible.

Whatever the nature of the installation, it is necessary to prepare a system for dealing with soiling and to set up a maintenance programme. Recommended maintenance frequencies are given in tables 1 and 2.