

Countywide Services Agency

Environmental Management
Department

Environmental Health Division
John Rogers, Chief



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County of Sacramento

FLOOR MATERIALS FOR RETAIL FOOD FACILITIES

Where required

Floor materials used in retail food facilities must be of smooth and durable construction and of nonabsorbent materials, in all areas

- where food is prepared, packaged or stored,
- where any utensil is washed,
- where refuse or garbage is stored,
- where janitorial facilities are located,
- in all toilet and handwashing areas,
- at unpackaged customer self-service food and beverage areas,
- at waiter/waitress stations, and
- in employee change and storage areas.

Floor materials not accepted

The following floor materials are not accepted except in areas used exclusively for the sale of prepackaged food or in dining areas:

- Carpet,
- vinyl composition tile (VCT), and
- rubber or vinyl topset base.

Accepted floor material

The following are floor materials that County of Sacramento Environmental Health will accept:

- **Commercial grade homogeneous sheet vinyl** (minimum .08" wear thickness), solid vinyl product (no felt or fiber backing), heat welded seams, cove stick backing.
- **Quarry Tile** with a 3/8 inch radius cove base tile installed integral (flush) with the floor, TOPSET COVE BASE TILE IS NOT PERMITTED; minimum tile thickness ¼ inch; when an abrasive tile or raised tread pattern tile is used it may only be installed in walkways, floor drains may be required depending on the type of abrasive tile proposed, floor drains are required when raised tread pattern tiles are installed.

Continued on next page

FLOOR MATERIALS FOR RETAIL FOOD FACILITIES, continued

Accepted floor material, continued

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- **Ceramic tile** with a 3/8 inch radius cove base tile installed integral (flush) with the floor, TOPSET COVE BASE TILE IS NOT PERMITTED; minimum tile thickness 1/4 inch; when an abrasive tile or raised tread pattern tile is used it may only be installed in walkways, floor drains may be required depending on the type of abrasive tile proposed, floor drains are required when raised tread pattern tiles are installed.
 - **Poured or trowled epoxy resin** (NOT A PAINT), minimum finish thickness 3/16 inch; coved at floor/wall junctures and floor/toe-kick junctures with an integral 3/8 inch radius cove; smooth finish under equipment and on cove base, abrasive finish in walkways only, may require installation of floor drains depending on the degree of abrasiveness.
 - **Concrete** sealed with an approved, commercial grade, clear, penetrating sealer that is resistant to grease, acid, oil and moisture; **PAINT IS NOT ACCEPTABLE SEALER**. Concrete surface must be smooth and free from pits, chips, or exposed aggregate; cove base must either be an integral coved concrete curb or a “keyed-in” tile cove base. To “key-in” a tile cove base, the floor is saw-cut at the wall/floor juncture and an approved coved base is inserted and grouted in so as to be flush, integral, and continuous with the floor surface.
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Acceptable walk-in flooring

Interior and exterior walls of walk-in coolers or freezers may use a topset metal cove base (stainless steel, aluminum or galvanized) if used against a similar metal wall.

Cove Base

Floor surfaces shall continue up walls or toe-kicks (including floor mounted counter and cabinet toe-kick bases) at least four (4) inches, in a seamless manner, forming a minimum of 3/8 inch radius cove as an **integral** unit. This means the cove base tile is flush and continuous with the floor. **TOPSET COVE BASE IS NOT PERMITTED**. “Slimfoot” tile is an approved cove base.

Submit samples to Environmental Health Plan Review office prior to installation, not all “Slimfoot” tile is the same.

FLOOR MATERIALS FOR RETAIL FOOD FACILITIES, continued

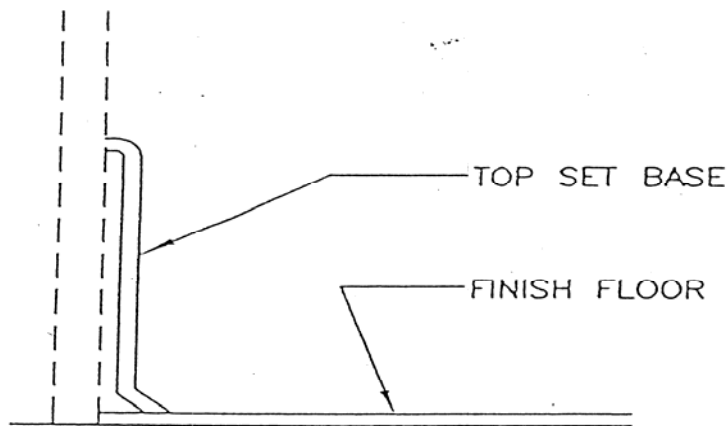
Contact

Before installing or repairing floors, contact this office to verify that approved materials and methods of installation will be used. Submit manufacturer specification sheets and floor samples to County of Sacramento, Environmental Health, Plan Review at (916) 874-6010 for review and approval prior to installation.

Improper installation

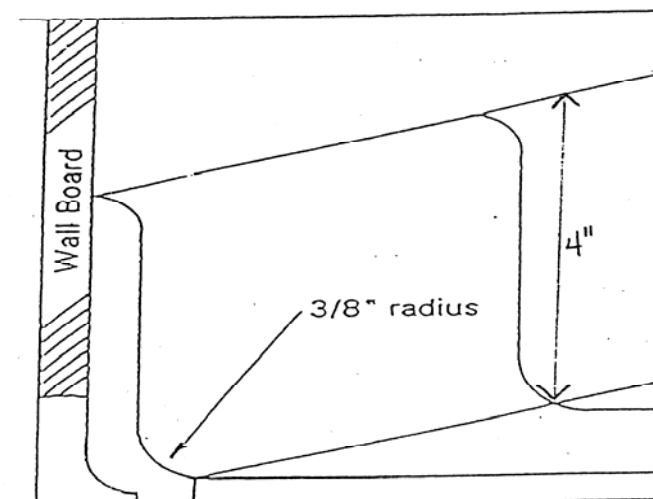
See following examples of proper and improper installation of integral coving.

INCORRECT



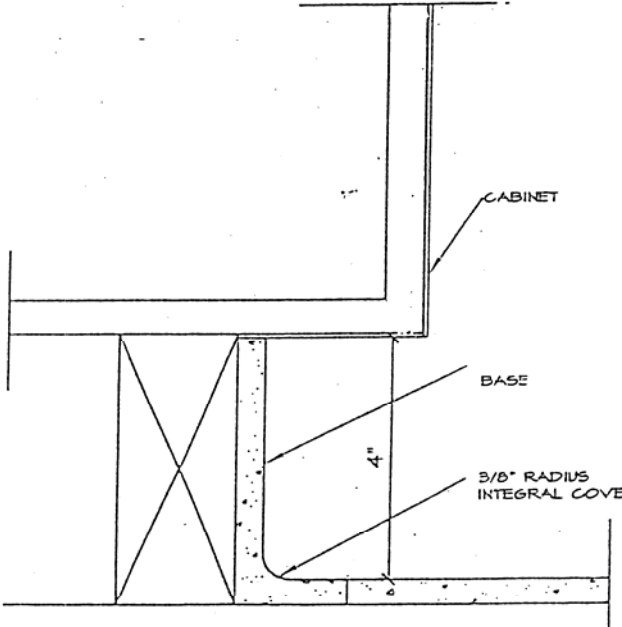
Topset cove base

CORRECT



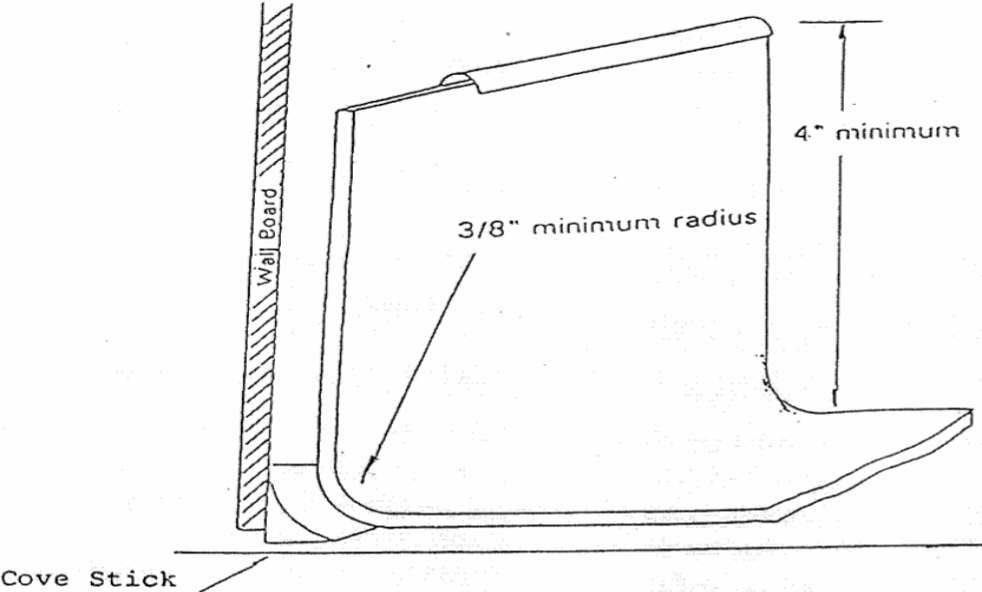
Tile floor

FLOOR MATERIALS FOR RETAIL FOOD FACILITIES, continued



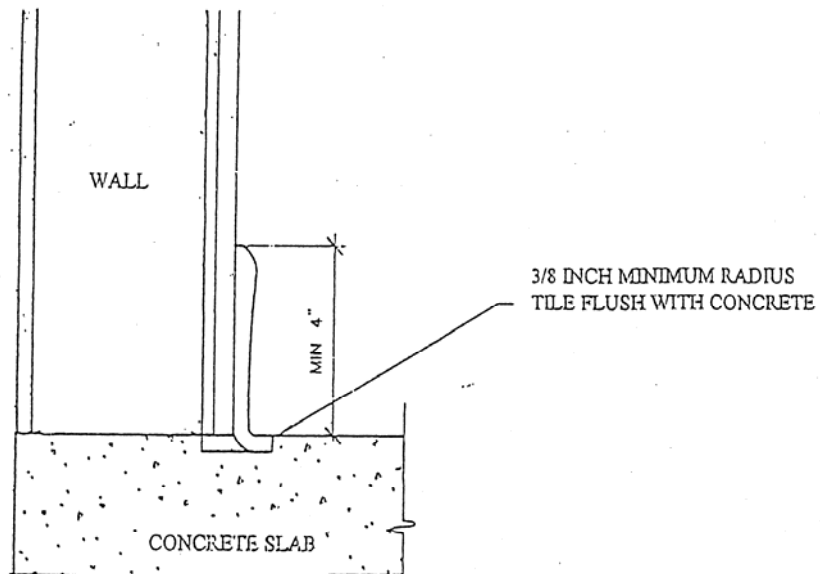
Cove Base at Cabinet Toe-kick

CORRECT



Sheet vinyl floor

FLOOR MATERIALS FOR RETAIL FOOD FACILITIES, continued



"Keyed-in" integral tile cove base

FLOOR MATERIALS REFERENCE SHEET

Approved sheet vinyl products include, but are not limited to: Alto, Armstrong (Medintech or Multitech), Mannington (Bio-Spec or Assurance), Tarkett (Contractor's Choice, Optima, Garnit Elite, or Eminent).

(Some approved concrete sealers include: Quikrete Acrylic Concrete Seal & Cure, Aqua-Mix, Rustoleum 6010.)