



Designed for possibilities.
Made for people.



Enhancing hygiene at the workplace

Creating a safer space for employees post COVID-19

Now more than ever, employees need assurance that their work environment promotes both their physical and mental wellbeing. As we start to return to offices, a review of your current building layout, furniture, and finishes should become top priority.

Recent developments have shifted workplace trends so that cleanliness and hygiene sit firmly at the forefront of office design, with the majority of employers trading home-like aesthetics for more commercial interior solutions that prioritize the safety of their staff, customers and guests. These solutions include surfaces capable of satisfying necessary hygienic requirements while maintaining their appearance and performance for long-term value.

Altro offers a wide variety of practical design options that allow you to create environments that help keep employees safe. Our sheet flooring and wall cladding ranges provide a hygienic alternative to traditional carpeting, tile and panel products, combining extreme durability with heat-welded seams to prevent evasive dirt and bacteria accumulation. This ensures a truly thorough cleaning and the ability to endure frequent maintenance without surface damage over time, a necessity in today's workspaces.



If managed poorly, (buildings) can spread disease. But if we get it right, we can enlist our schools, offices, and homes in this fight.

Joseph Allen, DSc, MPH
Co-Chair, IWBI Task Force
on COVID-19



1

Reduced in-office headcount

Alongside state guidelines and laws, set a maximum number of employees per square foot allowed in each area. Remove seating so each space has clear amount of occupants allowed to linger (conference rooms, etc.).

2

Barriers

Establish temporary and permanent barriers between existing workstations. Stagger layouts and or opt for designing more closed door offices than open air / cubicle based offices.

3

Distance

Encourage the use of social distancing for any small group activities including lunches, breaks and meetings, using outside spaces when available.

4

Healthcare grade surfaces

Switching from traditional workplace finishes to surfaces that foster a cleaner environment. Surfaces should be able to withstand scrubbing, hot cleaning (*over 132.8°F), routine wet cleaning, not foster the growth of microorganisms and enhance hygiene. Moving forward we anticipate to see more healthcare-grade surfaces being used in many sectors.

5

Work units

Develop smaller work units with their own kitchenettes, break areas and restrooms instead of larger, community-based kitchens, cafeterias and restrooms.

6

Cleaning and disinfecting

Adhere to the guidelines set by the CDC (Centers of disease Control) to develop, follow and maintain a plan to perform regular cleanings.

7

Employees

Create a plan for employees using state guidelines and laws. Self-certifying health, temperature checks, wearing face masks and disinfecting their workspaces on a daily basis.

*US National Library of Medicine

Do your current surfaces foster hygiene and give your staff the reassurance they need?

You may well currently have carpet or carpet tiles installed, paint on the walls and tiles both on your walls and floors. Let's take a close look at these surfaces with post COVID-19 recommendations.

Carpet / Carpet Tile



- ❌ Made from absorbent materials that trap dust, dirt + more
- ❌ Daily vacuuming will not kill viruses or bacteria
- ❌ Wet, detergent-based cleaning is not performed often enough
- ❌ Detergents can lead to over-wetting and foster mold + odors
- ❌ Long dry time after wet cleaning
- ✅ Good acoustics + underfoot comfort
- ✅ Home-like aesthetic

Tile



- ❌ Tiles can crack and shatter
- ❌ Grout is hard to clean
- ❌ Detergents damage grout
- ❌ Damaged tile and grout harbors microorganisms
- ❌ Poor acoustics + underfoot comfort
- ✅ Home-like aesthetic

Paint



- ❌ Paint is only microns thick and easily chipped
- ❌ Sheetrock substrate is porous and easily damaged
- ❌ Wet cleaning + detergents remove paint each time
- ❌ COVID-19 virus lives up to 72 hours on paint (W.H.O.)
- ❌ Frequent detergent cleaning is necessary to kill viruses
- ✅ Cost-effective
- ✅ Many colors to choose from

In large spaces, use the width of our flooring as a visual cue on how far away guests should maintain spacing.

Our sheet goods are 6' 7" wide and are 65' 5" long, great for long continuous runs of material.





Why choose Altro?

- ✓ Acoustic flooring options can minimize noise much like carpet and reduce foot fatigue.
 - Altro Cantata + Altro Wood adhesive-free floors - 14dB
 - Altro Wood Comfort + Altro Orchestra - 15dB
 - Altro Wood Acoustic + Altro Serenade - 19dB
- ✓ For even greater noise reduction, our acoustic underlayments can be added to any flooring.
 - Altro Acoustic Underlay 1101 - 18dB + flooring dB reduction
 - Altro EveryLay B - 20dB + flooring dB reduction
- ✓ Our flooring has high static load limits and resists indentation.
- ✓ Altro flooring + wall cladding can sustain cleaning temperatures up to 140°F; viruses are killed at 132.8°F – US National Library of Medicine. In order to get rid of viruses from hard surfaces, the ability to spray, steam or power clean is vital and more hygienic than adding additional detergents.
- ✓ Dirt and microorganisms sit on the surface of Altro flooring and wall cladding rather than penetrating, unlike carpet, tile grout and other porous surfaces.
- ✓ Fully bonded and watertight flooring and wall cladding prevents moisture from getting to the substrate and prevents microorganisms, bacteria and pests.
- ✓ Heat-welded seams in both flooring and wall cladding create a smooth monolithic join, reducing the occurrence of harboring microorganisms.
- ✓ Durable floor + wall products with long life expectancies mean you won't wear through them for decades and detergents won't corrode the surface with proper cleaning and disinfecting protocols.
- ✓ Our wall cladding is highly impact-resistant, protecting the substrate from damage and staff from unhygienic bacteria traps.
- ✓ Our recommended products for workplace design are simple to keep clean: they're easy to wipe, steam or even power wash.
- ✓ Tried and trusted partner - we've been pioneers in the healthcare industry and our products are installed in the strictest of hygienic and critical care locations like Operating Rooms, Sterilization Rooms, Cleanrooms and Laboratories.



Office areas

With employees resuming their normal workflow, office design trends are shifting focus towards eliminating any factors that can potentially compromise health and safety. Surfaces with easily replaceable sections, such as carpet tile, have been a staple of workplace interiors over the years. Meanwhile, these surfaces are notorious for trapping dirt, bacteria and other microbial contaminants that can evade routine maintenance by hiding between tiles and within fibers. As these pathogens accumulate, they can affect indoor air quality and produce harmful complications in employees including respiratory issues, fatigue and allergic reactions.

Smooth, monolithic surfaces with heat-welded seams and improved cleanability can help prevent harboring and potentially spreading microbial contaminants throughout your workspace. Altro adhesive-free flooring options are ideal for quick renovations help get your office up and running again.

- ✓ Altro Wood adhesive-free
- ✓ Altro Wood Comfort / Altro Wood Acoustic
- ✓ Altro Cantata
- ✓ Altro Orchestra / Altro Serenade
- ✓ Altro Whiterock Matte
- ✓ Altro Whiterock wall designs



Communal areas

Breakrooms, kitchenettes and communal areas used by employees on a daily basis are subject to food and drink spills that can produce slip and fall accidents as well as subsequent injuries. These same contaminants can evade routine maintenance by hiding in porous grout between tiles or within cracked surfaces and carpet fibers. As a result, bacteria, dust and mold are able to accumulate freely over time and compromise employee safety.

Smooth, easy-to-clean products with ample slip resistance, like Altro Wood adhesive-free, are the preferred option when designing recreation areas for your employees. In addition to benefiting hygiene and safety, these alternatives are available in a variety of bright, vibrant colors that can have an energizing effect on staff compared to palettes that are more neutral.

- ✓ Altro Wood adhesive-free
- ✓ Altro Wood Comfort / Altro Wood Acoustic
- ✓ Altro Cantata
- ✓ Altro Lavencia LVT
- ✓ Altro Whiterock Matte
- ✓ Altro Whiterock wall designs



Conference rooms

While virtual conferencing continues to rise in popularity, the need for designated meeting areas in the workspace still exists. These areas need to promote a hygienic environment for everyone involved while simultaneously allowing speakers and guests to feel comfortable and relaxed during presentations.

Warm, welcoming visuals including wood and linen looks work particularly well in these settings. Choosing smooth sheet products over carpeting can also benefit indoor air quality in conference rooms, as the absence of fibers prevents dirt, dust and bacteria from collecting and circulating throughout.

- ✓ Altro Wood adhesive-free
- ✓ Altro Wood Comfort / Altro Wood Acoustic
- ✓ Altro Cantata
- ✓ Altro Orchestra / Altro Serenade
- ✓ Altro Whiterock Matte
- ✓ Altro Whiterock wall designs
- ✓ Altro Whiterock Chameleon



Restrooms

Hygiene is obviously the top priority when designing employee restrooms. Though ceramic tiles are a common option in these areas, they are susceptible to cracking and chipping while the porous grout between them can harbor harmful bacteria and other microbial pathogens.

Sheet products with smooth, consistent surfaces offer improved durability and are easier to clean efficiently. The use of heat-welded seams is especially important in restrooms to prevent water ingress from frequent wet cleaning.

- ✓ Altro Wood adhesive-free
- ✓ Altro Wood Comfort / Altro Wood Acoustic
- ✓ Altro Cantata
- ✓ Altro Orchestra / Altro Serenade
- ✓ Altro Whiterock Matte
- ✓ Altro Whiterock wall designs

Our top flooring recommendation in workplace design is Altro Wood adhesive-free. With it's one-in-a-million slip-resistance reassurance, underfoot comfort, noise reduction properties, easy cleanability and natural aesthetic it is clear choice for this sector.



IT rooms

Spaces used for storing electrical equipment and servers require flooring with static dissipative properties. This is essential for preventing static buildup that can damage these items with increased exposure over time.

- ✓ Altro Walkway 20 SD
- ✓ Altro Whiterock Matte



Fitness centers

Workplace fitness centers are intended primarily for casual workouts involving cardio exercises, yoga and light weight training. In these rooms, flooring products with ample comfort underfoot and noise reduction properties are the preferred option. As most corporate gyms don't include heavy weights, cushioned back sheet goods are a great option for these areas.

- ✓ Altro Wood adhesive-free
- ✓ Altro Wood Comfort / Altro Wood Acoustic
- ✓ Altro Cantata
- ✓ Altro Orchestra / Altro Serenade



Areas requiring safety flooring - wet areas, commercial kitchens, etc.

If your workplace includes large commercial kitchens, serveries, showering facilities or even a pool - safety and hygiene should take equal priority. These areas are unique and Altro offers safety floor and wall cladding solutions for each application. Please visit altro.com/kitchen or altro.com/wet for more details.

Top picks



Altro Wood adhesive-free
14dB noise reduction
one-in-a-million slip reassurance



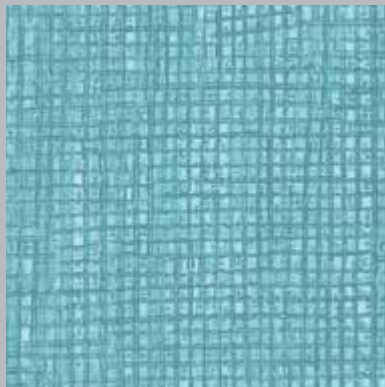
Altro Wood Comfort
15dB noise reduction



Altro Wood Acoustic
19dB noise reduction



Altro Cantata
14dB noise reduction



Altro Orchestra
15dB noise reduction



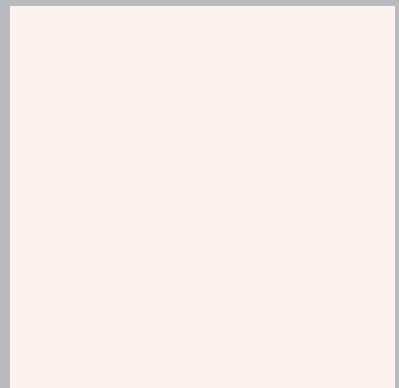
Altro Serenade
19dB noise reduction



Altro Lavencia LVT
Made in the USA



Altro Whiterock
wall designs



Altro Whiterock Matte

Cleaning

Proper cleaning is essential to keeping a facility hygienic no matter which interior finishes are selected. We highly recommend that a cleaning and sanitizing program is created specific to your facility that utilizes the resources and products as recommend by individual manufacturers.

Our cleaning, sanitizing and microbial guidelines are available at altro.com/cleaning

Samples

Altro recommends that color selection is never made through printed or digital materials. Please order a physical sample for color and pattern approval before placing your order with us.

Order samples 24 hours a day at altro.com/samples or find us on Material Bank.



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