

# COMMERCIAL Rubber Flooring

Rubber flooring is the best protective and resilient flooring option over hardwood, tile, laminate, or carpet which are common types of flooring most areas already come with. Each flooring option listed, other than rubber flooring, is susceptible to damage from either physical objects or by environmental factors such as moisture and direct sunlight. Rubber flooring is a fantastic resilient flooring option that provides protection against numerous potential hazards, both environmental and physical. Here at Rubber-Cal, we make rubber surfaces a specialty of ours and we aim to provide you with the highest quality rubber flooring currently on the market.

## Cellar & Basement Flooring

If you have a cellar or basement, you should seriously consider protecting the area with a rubber or **PVC floor**. These areas are versatile spaces that many choose to use for many different recreational purposes such as an at-home gym or a new bedroom. Many families also decide to use these basements as playrooms or dens for their children. Regardless of what your basement is utilized for, the existing basement flooring should be covered with a rubber or PVC flooring to protect the surface of the original flooring. Cellar and basement areas are often cold and prone to the presence of moisture. Depending on what the cellar floor area is used for, they also endure the presence of heavy physical objects like furniture or workout equipment. A rubber or PVC basement floor covering can protect the furniture above from unwanted and potentially expensive physical damage. There is no reason for not getting floor protectors because we offer many affordable options for basement flooring that are very easy to install. The rubber and PVC material of our basement flooring speaks for itself.

### 1. What do You Put on a Wet Basement Floor?

There are two material options basement flooring are available in to protect against a wet basement or cellar: rubber and PVC. Both materials offer excellent protection against moisture especially in regions where basements are prone to flooding during the wet months. Each material comes with their own set of unique characteristics that the other cannot provide. Additionally, a basement or cellar floor can be cold and uncomfortable to walk on barefoot but, a rubber or PVC flooring in a basement will provide that extra little bit of comfort to the area. Rubber and PVC are ideal material choices for cellar or basement flooring due to their ability to enhance traction and protect the flooring underneath from abrasions, chemical damage, and water damage.

#### 1(a). Rubber Flooring

Rubber is one of the ideal material choices for a basement or cellar floor due to its high coefficient of friction and its ability to protect the subflooring underneath. In extreme cases, basement flooring can even become completely flooded so it is important to find options for basement flooring that will not be affected by exposure to excess moisture. This can come because of any number of reasons, from a burst pipe to inclement weather causing rainwater to flow in. When you have a rubber basement floor covering, you do not have to worry as much. Rubber's resistance to moisture and non-porous nature means that the water does not impact it. The surface can be dried out and put back to use without suffering any permanent damage, unlike other materials such as carpet. This is just one of the qualities that makes rubber the perfect material for flooring in a basement. Additionally, rubber basement flooring is available in multiple synthetic rubber variations that each come with their own set of unique characteristics that further enhances rubber's durability. Many choose synthetic rubber flooring for their basement or cellar floor if these areas are exposed to chemicals or greases/oils.

#### 1(b). Vinyl Flooring

PVC is a slightly cheaper options for basement flooring compared to rubber but, is still a very versatile and ideal material to use. Much like rubber, PVC is a durable and traction enhancing flooring option that makes it perfect for a wet basement or cellar floor. However, unlike rubber, PVC is more resistant to heat and chemicals than even the synthetic variations of rubber. For instance, "PVC is resistant to all inorganic chemicals. It has very good resistance against diluted acids, diluted alkalis, and aliphatic hydrocarbons" (omnexus.specialchem.com). This makes PVC the best flooring option for basements or cellars where chemicals are being used or stored. In addition, "PVC has good physical as well as mechanical properties and...is abrasion resistant, lightweight and tough" (omnexus.specialchem.com). Overall, PVC is a cost-effective, durable, and versatile material that will perform exceptionally well in basements or cellars with abrasive conditions and where chemicals are being used or stored.

### What is the Best Flooring for a Wet Basement?

Above all other materials, rubber is **the best flooring for a wet basement**. One of the most common reasons that people get rubber flooring in a basement is specifically for its protection against moisture. Basements are often prone to varying degrees of

moisture year-round. This is often a nuisance but can end up causing serious damage. Water can cause slippery conditions, stain existing floors, and perhaps most harmful of all, cause mold and mildew to develop. If the basement or cellar floor has rubber over it, the harm from moisture is largely negated. Firstly, the rubber materials of our basement flooring products are naturally resistant to moisture. Rubber can prohibit water from forming microbial by-products such as mold and mildew. It is also an extremely slip-resistant material, meaning that your feet benefit from more traction while on a basement floor covering made of rubber no matter how wet it gets thanks to rubber's naturally high coefficient of friction. Above all, it is vital to protect basement flooring from water damage as basements can literally compromise the foundation of a house, and any damage sustained there can have a seriously negative impact on the floors and the rest of the building above.

## 2. Why is Rubber the Best Material for a Basement or Cellar Floor?

As mentioned in the section above, rubber is the best material when it comes to covering floors in wet areas but, when it comes to options for basement flooring or cellar flooring, another quality that sets rubber apart is its versatility. Different rubber materials provide different qualities and selling points. Many cellar and basement flooring options are made from recycled rubber, which offers superior durability. But, if you are using your basement or cellar as a workshop, rubber variations are also available that can provide extra resistance to physical abrasions and substances like oil and grease for your basement flooring. Additionally, rubber floors can provide better warmth and comfort qualities than any other flooring material. No matter what type of rubber you choose for your basement floor covering, it will be resilient, easy to install and easy to clean.

### 2(a). Physical Durability

Our various different options for basement flooring happen to serve one particular function in such venues: physical durability. The one thing commonly seen in a man-cave, bedroom, or fitness center is the presence of heavy physical objects. These can be furniture, weights and other items. Such objects are heavy and made of thick, abrasive materials like wood, metal, and plastic. Unprotected floors can easily be damaged by their presence. To prevent such costly damage from occurring, use rubber basement flooring under them. Rubber can endure physical impacts thanks to its durability and elasticity. The perfect barrier between sensitive sub-surfaces and hard heavy objects, it will absorb physical impacts and spread them throughout its own surfaces. The protection offered by rubber basement floor covering is dependable, long lasting, and very easy to install.

### 2(b). Comfort and Warmth

Another key quality offered by rubber basement flooring is the comfort it provides. Many types of rubber used for flooring in a basement have a softer and more pliable feel for your feet. This makes for an especially good cellar floor surface if you are using the area as a playroom for young children. Not only is rubber more comfortable to walk on, it protects against falls and scrapes by providing an extra buoyant surface. As an added benefit, rubber basement flooring can also help keep the area warm. Cellars and basements are often cold areas simply by the nature of their underground location. The existing concrete or wood floors of a basement do not insulate against cold temperatures. Rubber does an excellent job of providing insulation. Rubber flooring in a basement will help keep the area warmer, an important quality to have if you are turning your basement into a spare bedroom or home gym. By helping keeping basement flooring (and basements themselves) warmer, these mats help lower the total heating energy required to keep the basements heated – a money-saving advantage that anyone can appreciate.

### 2(c). Easy Installation and Maintenance

People often shy away from installing new protective flooring because of a perception that it is hard and cumbersome to install; however, this is a common misconception. Our line of rubber basement flooring is so easy to install that they make excellent Do-It-Yourself projects. In most cases, protective basement flooring can be installed during a laidback afternoon or lazy weekend. Within our options for basement flooring, people can choose from either rolled rubber flooring or interlocking tile flooring. The benefit of rolled rubber basement flooring is that you can get them cut to custom lengths of your specification. Custom fits are especially helpful for basements that are oddly shaped or feature irregular layouts. Furthermore, the rubber floors are easily put in place with either adhesive glue or double-sided tape. Alternatively, we offer interlocking tile options that are even easier to install! Some of them come with interlocking pins, while others feature puzzle-like edges. Both types of interlocking basement flooring are meant to facilitate a fast and easy installation process. Our DIY flooring options are meant to save you both time and money!

Regardless of which of the different options for basement flooring you choose; your basement and cellar floor areas will benefit from all of the protective qualities of a rubber or PVC floor. A rubber basement floor covering will guard the sensitive areas against the harms of moisture and heavy physical objects while also serving to insulate. A PVC basement or cellar floor will provide you with the ultimate chemical resisting flooring option. A warm and dry basement is much more comfortable than a cold and wet basement. If you need to install new flooring in a basement, then look no further than rubber. It is among the best basement flooring options available today!

# Eco-Friendly Flooring

Here, at Rubber-Cal, we are determined to do everything we can to do right by the environment so future generations can enjoy the all the natural beauties of nature. Due to this, a core principle of Rubber-Cal's philosophy is our commitment to providing eco-friendly flooring products. We only have one planet Earth to live on and Rubber-Cal believes that we should do all we can to protect and preserve it. One very important way that we can do our part is by providing environmentally friendly flooring options for consumers. Our line of green flooring is made from either natural, reclaimed or recycled rubber that repurposes old and discarded rubber materials into new products.

## History of Eco-Friendly Flooring

How did eco-friendly flooring made from recycled rubber become so popular? Recycled rubber derives from a manufacturing process that originated in the mid-1980s. Prior to 1985, the standard method of disposing rubber vehicle tires was to simply toss them in a landfill. Unfortunately, rubber is not a biodegradable material, and these tires would pile up over time and, according to Cal Recycle, millions of these tires are being still disposed of every year taking up valuable space that could be used for waste that is biodegradable. Additionally, over time, these tires become breeding grounds for vermin and disease, as well as giving off harmful emissions. The effect this has on the surrounding ecology is very detrimental and eventually led to the production of eco-friendly flooring to reduce the amount of environmental damage brought on by discarded rubber. When scientists began to alert manufacturers about the environmental impact that these old tire mountains were having on the environment, it was clear that something had to be done. They found their answer in recycling the rubber. Thanks to this discovery, the stage was set for the expansion of new eco-friendly flooring.

## 1. What is Eco-Friendly Flooring Made of?

Eco-friendly rubber flooring is made up of three main materials: natural rubber, recycled rubber, and reclaimed rubber. Each rubber variation comes with their own set of unique characteristics; however, they are all eco-friendly and cost-effective alternatives to other flooring options. Natural rubber is, as its name implies, a natural form of rubber that can be organically found in nature and harvested to create eco-friendly flooring. Recycled and reclaimed rubber, on the other hand, are made from shredded vehicle tires that have been repurposed and made into sheets to create sustainable flooring. Reusing these tires as environmentally friendly flooring frees up space for biodegradable waste in landfills, allowing the surrounding environment to "breathe" just a little better.

### 1(a). Natural Rubber

The most basic kind of eco-friendly flooring material is natural rubber. Rubber is a naturally occurring substance that is produced from the sap of the *Hevea Brasiliense*'s tree, which is found most commonly in Africa, South America, India, and Southeast Asia and Indonesia. This sap is collected by making cuts in the trees before it is processed and formed into the finished material which can be used in eco-friendly flooring. For many, the cultivation of this plant and its resources is a point of pride, as well as a means of making a living. When it comes to producing recycled rubber flooring, natural rubber is perfect because it is made through a truly sustainable process. Once a tree has been tapped for its latex, it is left to recover completely. Natural rubber is a very versatile material that can be used in products beyond green flooring and is sometimes mixed with synthetic rubbers in order to give a product enhanced oil and chemical resistant properties. By itself, however, it is an elastic, durable and cost-effective environmentally friendly flooring option. Furthermore, it was the only type of eco-conscious sustainable flooring available for a long time.

### 1(b). Recycled Rubber

Recycled rubber flooring is a desirable flooring option because it offers superior levels of long-term durability thanks to the tire rubber material that sustainable flooring products are made from. The shredded rubber material is molded back together, and the result is eco-friendly flooring that is grainy in texture. The rubber material in tires is manufactured to endure UV rays, ozone, moisture, and physical abrasions. One of the best aspects of recycled rubber flooring is that it retains the qualities of the original material. With this kind of durable rubber in use, our line of eco-friendly flooring products can withstand the rigors of use in areas like gyms, garages, warehouses, and many other commercial and industrial venues where the impact of heavy equipment may be present. However, the benefits of eco-friendly flooring reach much further than durability. The recycling process which is used to create green flooring is extremely cheap to carry out and, as a result, any environmentally friendly flooring made from recycled rubber is very cost-effective, because the savings from production are passed on to the consumer.

### 1(c). Reclaimed Rubber

Reclaimed rubber and recycled rubber are similar but have differences in the way they are produced since they are both made from repurposed vehicle tire rubber. However, reclaimed rubber is made when recycled rubber is broken down and re-vulcanized. Vulcanization is the process of heating up scrap pieces of vehicle tire rubber with sulfur to meld them together to form a larger, more solid piece of rubber. Like recycled rubber, a reclaimed floor is impervious to harsh outside forces such as direct sunlight

and ozone. But this process of vulcanization creates a more solid finish for reclaimed flooring than recycled rubber flooring creating a non-porous surface that is better at resisting moisture than recycled rubber.

## 2. Benefits of Eco-Friendly Flooring

Eco-friendly flooring features excellent protective qualities for both people and surfacing. Not only does it provide a tough and durable flooring option, but it can also provide many environmental and practical benefits. Rubber naturally has anti-slip properties that allow your feet to effectively grip onto the surface of a rubber floor. To further enhance traction, some reclaimed and recycled rubber flooring also come with traction enhancing surface designs or patterns for better anti-slip qualities. In addition to stabilizing your footing, our sustainable flooring products also safeguard existing floors made from more fragile materials like wood and tile from the damage that can be caused by high volumes of foot traffic or heavy equipment. The repurposed materials eco-friendly flooring is made of also offers environmental benefits that reduces your carbon footprint while lasting a long time, saving you money in frequent replacements. With eco-friendly flooring in place, you will be sparing yourself any future unwanted repair costs. Recycled rubber flooring is great for consumers in terms of practicality. However, it is also great for the environment thanks to the materials used to make it.

### 2(a). Traction

Rubber naturally has a high coefficient of friction which allows it to retain its traction abilities even when moisture is present. Often, eco-friendly rubber flooring is installed to help prevent slip and fall accidents, whether it be residentially or commercially. Since rubber will retain its traction even when exposed to moisture, eco-friendly flooring can be used interchangeably indoors and outdoors. Additionally, eco-friendly flooring made from rubber will also help keep equipment or machines firmly planted on its surface to prevent accidents from occurring when they are in use.

### 2(b). Floor Protection

In addition to its superior traction creating abilities, environmentally friendly flooring made from rubber is also the ideal flooring option for floor protection. Rubber is the ideal material for protective flooring options due to its durability and elasticity. This sustainable flooring absorbs the force of impact and evenly distributes vibrations across its surface to prevent the vibrations from concentrating on a single point and causing damage. Expensive flooring options such as hardwood or ceramic tile are also the easiest to damage; however, even concrete flooring can be damaged with enough exposure to heavy wear and tear. Depending on the level of wear and tear your environmentally friendly flooring will be experiencing, there are different thicknesses available ranging from as thin as 1/8 of an inch to as thick as 3 inches.

### 2(c). Cost-Effective

Imagine that you are a business owner in charge of a large warehouse distribution center, and you are given the task of ensuring that proper eco-friendly flooring is installed all throughout the facility. When it comes to covering a large area, affordability matters. When compared to synthetic rubber products, recycled rubber is the clear winner. Rubber-Cal appreciates that not every budget is the same and when an eco-conscious and cost-effective reclaimed floor alternative can be offered, we are happy to provide it. Eco-friendly flooring helps ease the burden on both wallets and the environment. Additionally, environmentally friendly flooring made from rubber will also save you in reparations as it is a durable and protective layer between any damaging force and the surface of the subflooring underneath.

### 2(d). Environmental Contribution

According to ScienceDaily, in an online research publication, the estimated annual carbon footprint per United States resident is 20 tons. A carbon footprint is a popular way of measuring the amount of carbon dioxide emissions generated by the energy requirements of any one person. Obviously, the higher a person carbon footprint, the more negative their impact on the environment. This is why it is so crucial to utilize energy-saving methods in your day-to-day life – a premier example being the utilization of eco-friendly flooring. Another environmental advantage when it comes to creating environmentally friendly flooring, other than striving to minimize your carbon footprint, is its sustainability. Reclaimed flooring and recycled rubber flooring are the ideal sustainable flooring because of its longevity. It can provide eco-friendly flooring that lasts for 20 years or more, as long as it is properly maintained. The lifespan is even longer when tiles are used, because they can be swapped out if they suffer high levels of wear. When your green flooring does finally need to be replaced, the material can be recycled again. When it comes to sustainable flooring, it doesn't get much better than that.

As a company, Rubber-Cal tries to do our part in reducing waste in the environment by using eco-conscious rubber whenever and wherever we can and by offering environmentally friendly flooring options for our customers to choose from. Our line of eco-friendly flooring can provide durable protection for a wide variety of applications and is versatile enough to be used both indoors and outdoors. Our green flooring is affordable and will help you contribute to reducing the amount of waste in the ecosystem. Now that the benefits of sustainable flooring are available to you, do your part to keep our planet clean.

# Garage Floor Covering

A garage is a versatile space that can be used for several recreational purposes other than a place to park your car. It can be converted into a home gym, an automotive workshop or even a brand-new bedroom! The one thing you should consider adding is the right kind of protective garage floor covering. Rubber or PVC garage flooring options are ideal choices for those looking to protect their garage floors from any unwanted damage. Rubber-Cal offers garage flooring options in both rolled rubber and PVC flooring or as rubber interlocking garage floor tiles so that you can have a choice in which option is best suited for your garage.

## Is Vinyl Flooring Good for Garage?

Vinyl, or PVC, garage flooring options are also ideal materials for covering your garage floors and is a more inexpensive alternative to rubber and its variations. Like rubber, PVC garage flooring is often used for protective purposes for both the existing floor and whatever is on top and to provide enhanced traction. PVC also, like some synthetic rubber variations, is resilient against “weathering, chemical rotting, corrosion and abrasion” ([omnexus.specialchem.com](http://omnexus.specialchem.com)). Unlike rubber, however, PVC is more chemical resistant and flame retardant than rubber garage flooring. In addition, “PVC has good physical as well as mechanical properties and provides excellent cost-performance advantages. It has long life span and need low maintenance”. PVC is a lighter and less expensive alternative flooring for garages that may encounter chemicals, greases/oils and abrasion causing items.

## Benefits of PVC Garage Flooring Options

Aside from the compositional qualities that make PVC flooring an ideal option for garage flooring, a beneficial quality PVC garage flooring has that rubber garage flooring does not offer is a metallic finish. PVC garage flooring is available in two different finishes – matte and metallic. A metallic finish offers a reflective surface that is ideal for dark areas such as basements and garages. These areas usually have low or dim lighting that make it difficult to see what you are doing. This can become especially dangerous when parking a car even when headlights and taillights are on. A metallic finish on a PVC floor can help reflect some of the light from other light sources to illuminate the area better.

## 1. What is Rubber Garage Flooring Used for?

A garage can be a rough area. If you look at your garage floor, you will probably notice that it is pretty beaten up and stained. A key feature of rubber garage floor covering adds floor protection; however, it can provide many more benefits including, moisture resistance, comfort and anti-slip properties. Synthetic rubber variations of garage flooring can offer added grease/oil and chemical resistance. While PVC can provide most of those benefits, it is no match to the many, many benefits of natural and synthetic rubber garage flooring.

### 1(a). Floor Protection

Rubber garage mats are meant to protect the existing flooring of your garage area. Rubber can guard against a range of damages that may occur from heavy objects and moisture as they tend to see the presence of heavier objects in them ranging from cars to automotive equipment, even beds and other furniture. When it comes to considering your garage flooring options, you have to take into account the sheer weight of these objects and the damage they can cause which may affect the overall appearance and integrity of your garage area. Rubber garage flooring is ideal for absorbing the impact of heavy abrasive objects.

### 1(b). Moisture Resistance

By the nature of its location, barely separated from the outdoors, a garage will be prone to wet condition exposure. Rainwater can run under a garage door and humidity can easily produce moisture. But a rubber garage floor covering is impervious to liquids and can safeguard against damage. In addition to damage from solid objects, rubber garage floor covering is great at repelling the harmful effects of water. In cases of moisture resistance, a rubber garage floor covering is particularly important as to prevent the formation of harmful organic by-products like mold and mildew. Rubber does not harbor organisms and unlike carpets or wood products it will not serve as a host of mold. It is a much better guard against moisture than existing wood or laminate floors. Rubber garage flooring is ideal for shielding any existing floors against potentially costly damages.

### 1(c). Comfort

Regardless of the type of rubber garage floor covering used in the room, the floors will be more comfortable to walk on. Rubber is much softer than bare concrete floors. Some of our rubber garage mats come with different thickness gauges that are meant to provide an extra degree of comfort for the feet standing on top of them. This is a very useful quality to have. For example, if you use your garage as a fitness area or a workshop you will often find yourself on your feet quite a bit. Pressure can slowly build

around your soles, ankles, and lower back, causing increasing amounts of discomfort. Rubber garage flooring can go a long way in minimizing the chance of discomfort occurring because it relieves such pressure.

#### **1(d). Anti-Slip Qualities**

An increase in comfort will also lead to an increase in safety. With a rubber garage floor covering secured in the area, your feet will benefit from anti-slip traction. Again, this is due to the rubber material that composes our garage flooring options. Rubber comes with an innately superior level of grip that will provide the traction your feet require. Some of our rubber garage mats and interlocking garage floor tiles are designed with special surface textures that are meant to enhance traction. In many cases, this texturing (combined with rubber's friction) allows garage floor covering to function admirably as a traction mat even when wet or dirty. If you need any further reasons to look at a garage floor covering, consider that some forms will have high levels of resistance to varying chemicals and fluids – essential in a setting such as a workshop – and is very easy to maintain through a simple cleaning process with soap and water.

## **2. Forms of Garage Flooring**

Garages are not all one size. There are some garages that are smaller and some that are larger; therefore, our line of garage floor covering can come in the form of rolled rubber garage mats or as interlocking garage floor tiles. Each are easily installed and customizable and are available with several different surface patterns that are meant to enhance traction. Our line of rubber garage flooring makes for a great Do-It-Yourself project that will save you the unnecessary expense of hiring outside help. Whether you are looking for large, wall-to-wall garage floor coverage or a rubber garage floor covering that you can easily customize into any size, there is a rubber garage flooring option that is best suited for your specific needs.

#### **2(a). Custom Cut Garage Matting Rolls**

Garage flooring options that come in the form of flooring rolls can be ordered in custom lengths up to 50 consecutive feet so that they better suit the specific dimensions of your garage space. Since this form of matting is generally a larger form of rubber garage mats, they are ideally used for covering wall-to-wall areas. These flooring rolls are the most recommended out of all other garage flooring options since they are the sturdiest. They are meant to be permanently installed using glue; however, if you would like a less permanent installation, double-sided tape is also an acceptable application method. These rolled mats were made with durability in mind and are ideal for garages that experience heavy wear and tear. Additionally, custom cut garage mats are available in both rubber and PVC materials.

#### **2(b). Interlocking Garage Floor Tiles**

If you desire an alternative to rolled rubber mats, then consider our line of interlocking garage floor tiles. Unlike custom cut flooring rolls, these tiles are only available in rubber materials. These rubber tiles are known for being very simple to handle with no other necessary adhesives for installation. Some tiles come in puzzle forms, which mean that their edges are designed to lock onto each other like pieces of a puzzle. Other tiles come with holes on their sides that are meant for special connector pins that hold the tiles together firmly. Garage floor covering in the form of tiles can be used as a temporary flooring solution, so they can be easily moved around as you see fit. Due to this easy interlocking mechanism, each of these interlocking garage floor tiles are able to be easily replaced in case it is damaged without having to replace the entire floor. This can be particularly useful in a garage floor covering, especially if you are using the room to store your car, or as a gym or workshop.

Garage floor covering made of rubber or PVC is a great investment and a necessity to have. With our easy to install garage flooring options coming in the forms of rolled PVC and rubber garage mats and rubber interlocking garage floor tiles, you will have strong floor protection at affordable rates. Their considerable anti-slip and anti-fatigue qualities will also help make your garage area be safer and more comfortable. Protect your garage area with Rubber-Cal's line of rubber or PVC garage floor covering!