



Unlike many natural floorcoverings, lino, rubber, laminate and vinyl require little more than a mop with a light detergent to keep them clean. Harsh kitchen cleaners, however, should be avoided. Both Forbo and Amtico supply a liquid cleaner and dressing to protect and polish their floorings

1 Lino has been laid in black-and-white stripes to dramatic effect in the bathroom of the Royal Suite at Hemingway Lodge hotel in Cape Town. The effect is modern and stylish. 2, 3, 4 & 8 Flooring specialist Sinclair Till sells bespoke lino patterns, derived from clients' drawings or its own range of designs. Shown here are 'White Flowers' (2), 'Box Tile' (3), 'Diagonal Stripes' (4) and 'Inlaid Circle' (8). Prices start from £48.40 a square metre.

5 Amtico has launched a range of modern-looking flooring which has a textural appearance but is smooth to the touch. Illustrated, from left, are 'Microspec' (flax), 'Rib' (flax and putty) and 'Stud' (mist and mud). The flooring comes as 25cm-square tiles, and costs £75 a square metre.

6 Marmoleum is a natural lino product, made from linseed oil, 'woodfleur', pine rosin and chalk, by Forbo. It is flecked with colour - for a plainer look, choose a darker colour, in which the flecks are less discernible. Marmoleum is available in tiles (each 33cm square, £31 a square metre) or in sheets (measuring 2 metres wide, £27 a square metre). It is available in a wide variety of colours and styles, which can be used individually or combined in a bespoke design. Photographed is a selection of traditional colours: from left, 810, 825, 844, 465 and 621.

7 These laminate floor tiles by Pergo come in a range of colours and also in wood finishes. Shown here are 'Pergo Modern Tiles' in cream (PMT 034002), cotto clay grey (PMT 034052) and glaze beige (PMT 034022). They cost £29.99 a square metre. >

