**Epoxy Floors: A Guide to Easy Maintenance**

Epoxy floors are tough and durable coatings used in various applications such as garage floors, high-traffic hallways, and warehouses. They are an excellent choice for areas with heavy machinery. Epoxy surfaces maintain their high luster even with continuous shifting of heavy objects. They are generally easy to maintain if basic rules are followed. Here's how to care for your epoxy floors:

1. **Keep the surfaces clean from dirt and grit**. To keep an epoxy floor in good condition, remove dirt and grit regularly. Use a shop vacuum with a soft brush attachment, and vacuum more frequently if there's a lot of dirt. Heavy machinery should only be moved across a dust-free and grit-free surface to prevent scratches.

2. **Avoid using soap-based cleaners.** Soap-based floor cleaners leave a haze on the epoxy surface that builds up over time. Epoxy floors do not need soap or warm water; a good mop or deck-scrubbing brush should suffice. If you need extra scrubbing power, use soft soap to help you deal with tougher spills.

3. **Spot Cleaning**. Sometimes, you only need to vacuum or sweep a small floor area where something has spilled or tracked in. Vacuum up the liquid that has been spilled along with any dirt and grime with a shop vac, and then clean the area with a mop and warm water. Epoxy floors are highly water-resistant and easy to clean when liquid spills occur.

4. **Heavily soiled epoxy floors**. Sweep and vacuum the entire area carefully to clean up the dirty epoxy floor. Remove all items in the way to get to the floor. Once you have removed all the surface dirt, grime, and grit, use a hard foam mop and warm/hot water to get rid of all the built-up dirt. Afterward, you can use a precise ammonia/water mix (2-3 ounces per gallon of hot water) for a second mopping.

5. **Stains.** Some stains, such as rust, must be lightly scrubbed with a kitchen scrubbing sponge, soft deck brush, and warm water. Avoid using steel wool or harsh chemicals like Comet; they are too abrasive. Use a soft scrub and a moderately abrasive scrubbing pad or brush. Don't ever use any cleaning compounds with citrus or acid in them. Citrus cleaners and vinegar will break down the epoxy catalyst and must be avoided.

6. **Oil, car chemicals, and other chemicals**. Clean up car spills promptly to avoid damaging your epoxy floor. Use shop towels or a paper towel to wipe up antifreeze, oil, and other car-related chemicals. Gas, paint, and household cleaners should also be cleaned up immediately to prevent damage to the floor.