

**Kwazulu-Natal Department Of Health**  
**Pharmaceutical Services**

**Minimum Requirements for Pharmacies**

**Specification for Finishes**

**The Underlying Principles**

Walls and floors may require washing to both ensure and maintain cleanliness. They therefore need to be treated in an appropriate manner. Surfaces which shed dust or particles are not acceptable for a pharmacy. Further, all cracks, peeling paint, loose or flaking paint must be excluded.

**Specific matters**

1. Walls to be smooth plastered, with no cracks or rough sections.
2. Walls to be painted with a durable and washable paint.
3. Ceilings to be painted with a durable and washable paint, if necessary, but must not permit dust through, no cracks or flaking paint.
4. Floors
  - a) The floor should be screeded to a smooth even, level, high quality finish, with neat joins between wall and floor.
  - b) Vinyl sheeting of the correct thickness should generally be used throughout. Sheet edges should be welded and all cracks, gaps and joints suitably closed and smooth. The sheeting should be laid with a suitable adhesive, evenly applied and leaving no bubbles etc.
  - c) Marley or other vinyl tiles are not recommended.
  - d) Glazed ceramic tiles may be used in toilets and kitchens as well as areas that may be subject to frequent washing or spillage, e.g. manufacturing areas. Grouting must be appropriate for the use, even and correctly done.

- e) **Epoxy coating may be used in both storage areas, offload and receiving areas. Surface must be prepared as in a) above, and the epoxy applied so as to be even, smooth, and free of lumps or cracks.**
  - f) **Carpets may be used in offices or tea lounges. A durable, hard-wearing, stain resistant, non-static synthetic carpet should be selected. Leading edges, for example at doorways, should be suitably protected with a metal strip.**
- 5. Skirting may be used to cover poor joins at wall and floor. The objective is to eliminate any cracks, gaps etc. They should be either vinyl, aluminum or painted / varnished wood. They should not allow water or dirt to be trapped behind them. However, it is preferable that they be eliminated by achieving a high standard of finish by joins at wall and floor which are smooth, square and without gaps.**
- 6. Expansion joints must be suitably covered. All cracks should be filled with a suitable filler that would allow for expansion and contraction without cracking.**

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