

Removing Black Tire Marks from Floors

Black tire marks found in garages, on driveways, and in industrial facilities are an unsightly but common occurrence. What's worse is that these black marks can be incredibly difficult to remove.

These black marks are caused by "plasticizer migration." Plasticizers are additives used in rubber to make it more flexible and to improve traction. As the tires run across surfaces, they heat up, and the plasticizers soften and can leach out of the tire. They are transferred into the surface they are touching, be it a garage floor or other concrete-type surface. The deeper the migration of the plasticizer, the more difficult it is to remove the tire mark.



Fortunately, there is a method to effectively remove these black marks from various concrete surfaces. The following method utilizes a citrus solvent degreaser, such as Multi-Clean's Mastery.

NOTE: *Mastery is a strong solvent and can attack some plastics, test before use. It should never be used in the solution tank of automatic scrubbers or carpet extractors. As with other solvent cleaners, rubber gloves should be worn when working by hand and breathing spray mist should be avoided.*



Black Tire Mark Removal Procedure

1. Apply Mastery to the floor, at full strength, using a trigger sprayer or pump-up sprayer.
2. Allow the solution to dwell for approximately 5 minutes. You should see the marks starting to liquefy.
3. Agitate the black tire marks with an autoscrubber equipped with an aggressive grit brush.
 - If an autoscrubber is not available, use a low speed floor machine or deck brush.
 - A pressure washer may also be used to rinse away dissolved tire marks.



4. Pick up the spent solution with an autoscrubber* while scrubbing with a solution of Formula 340 to ensure all of the residue is removed.
 - If an autoscrubber is not to be used, use a wet-dry vacuum.

***CAUTION:** *Autoscrubber and wet-dry vacuum equipment should be thoroughly rinsed immediately after use. Prolonged contact with citrus solvent degreasers such as Mastery can swell squeegees and gaskets and may harm some plastics.*

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