



WALLS, CEILINGS, AND FLOORING TRADES SUBFLOORING QUALITY

PROJECT OVERVIEW

A flooring contractor was asked to submit a quote to a client for a flooring replacement in a modular office. But, the contractor found several things that would affect the quality of the finished project.

FLOORING AND SUBFLOORING QUALITY ISSUES

The client planned to replace the double-wide modular office with a permanent building—in a few years.

Flooring and more needed fixing right away while occupants still used the office.

- A roof needed repair.
The roof leak caused mold in the ceiling and wall that needed to be cleaned out.
- The subfloor and floor were broken in many places.
- Some windows leaked, causing water to pool on the floor.
- Other repairs were also needed.

After initial repairs, the project budget increased.

Here is why: The Flooring Contractor found the following.

- A few flooring joists had dry-rotted. They were removed and replaced.
- Some of the kitchen base cabinets had rotted due to the leaking water. They were replaced.
- Most subflooring boards were replaced.
- A new luxury vinyl floor tile was installed over a premium quality vapor-barrier underlayment to prevent moisture issues.

LESSONS LEARNED

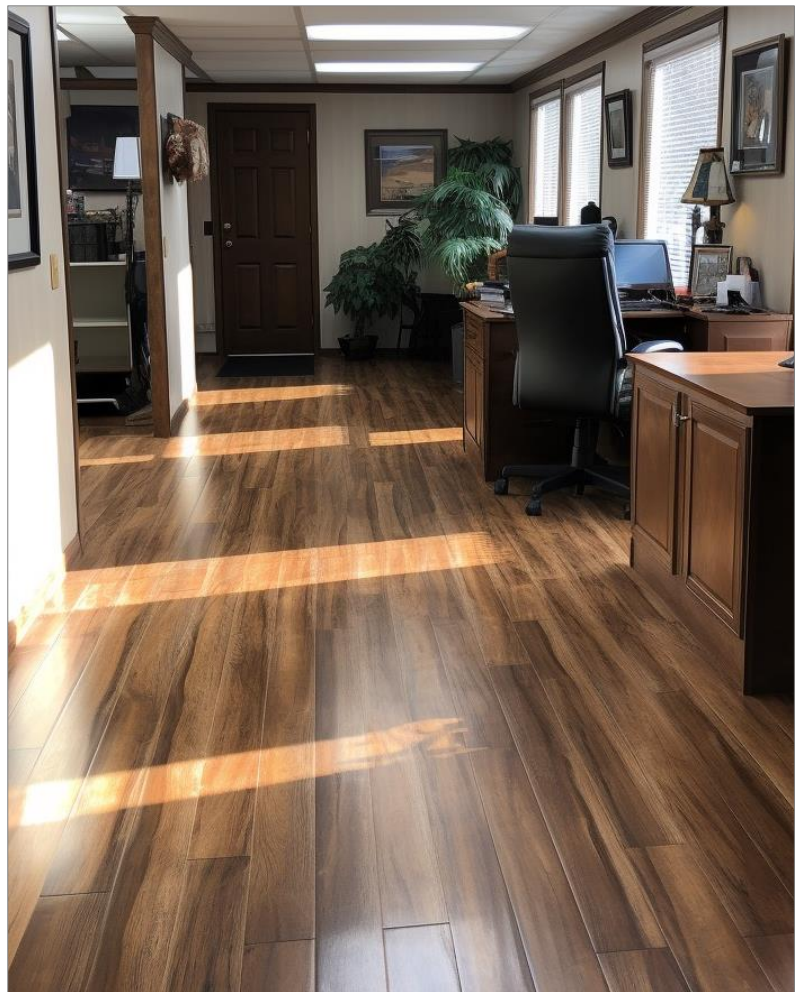
- The substandard floor needs addressing immediately, or it affects project quality.
 - Structurally sound subflooring is essential.
- Rotten subflooring or supports will not provide adequate support to prevent new flooring from excessive flexing under foot traffic.
 - Flexing leads to separation at flooring joints and damage.
- A dry subfloor is necessary to prevent moisture-driven rotting.
 - An inspection should point out wet areas.

Carefully inspect subfloors for compromised structural supports and replace them for leveling the floor before installation of flooring.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is it critical to thoroughly clean subflooring before installing floor finishes?
2. Should you inspect the crawlspace of an older building before installing new flooring?
3. What is your company policy on taking on jobs with floor structural issues that a client will not repair?

**This is a quality floor job
in a double-wide modular office.**





WALLS, CEILINGS, AND FLOORING TRADES

VEHICLE LOAD SECUREMENT

SAFETY TOOLBOX TALK

OVERVIEW

Load Securement is a broad topic that covers all aspects of fastening or securing materials and equipment to a stable surface.

- The Finishes–Walls Ceiling Flooring Trade topic, Vehicle Load Securement Safety, is geared toward securing materials to company vehicles and equipment.

Properly secured materials and equipment will eliminate their potential to be accidentally dislodged.

- Failed load securement on US roadways over a four-year period has led to 200,000 crashes, resulting in over 500 deaths and 39,000 injuries.
- Materials and equipment are dislodged for several reasons, such as vehicle accidents or incidents, improper load ties, lack of load ties, removing load ties out of sequence, and many more.

LEARN AND APPLY THE FOLLOWING

Hazards of Working Around Vehicle Unsecured Loads

- Loads not secured on a project site have the potential to dislodge from their storage area, and materials may drop or fall onto workers, causing injury and damage to property.
- Unsecured or improperly secured loads on vehicles can destabilize vehicles, making it easy for a driver to lose control of the vehicle, resulting in rollovers, jackknife accidents, cargo loss, and increased danger for everyone on the road, not just the load driver.
- Unsecured items in the back of a pickup are known to disappear. Chances are they rolled out of the bed or were dislodged and caught by the wind. Where do they end up, hopefully landing safely on the road's edge?

Signs of an Unsecured Load

Look for trucks with 1) poorly or sloppily stacked materials, 2) loads stacked lopsided or uneven, 3) loads not strapped or tied down, and 4) overloaded vehicles.

Vehicle Load Securement Safety

- Keep workers not involved in vehicle loading and unloading tasks away from the area.
 - Before use, maintain and inspect straps, tie-downs, and other fastening equipment.
 - Load materials evenly and keep equipment and materials level—secure loads following safe industry practices.
 - Stack and store materials with no more than a 4:1 height-to-base ratio.
 - Always inspect loads after securing them.
- After you start transporting a load, after a few minutes or a few miles of transportation, inspect the load.
 - Material may suddenly shift and become unstable.
 - Use caution when unstrapping the load.
 - Many loads require that unstrapping follow a sequence to prevent shifting, especially cylindrical materials.
- While transporting or during an accident, unsecured or improperly secured scaffolding will shift and damage vehicles and cause injury or death. Unsecured paint buckets and buckets and bags of finishing compounds are a hazard in a vehicle accident.
 - Ensure that no containers are leaking before loading.
 - Never transport paint buckets that can slide or shift. Make sure they are secured.

Figure 1 Securely Tie-Down Scaffolding



Meeting Date:

Supervisor:

Employee Name:

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are the hazards and signs of an Unsecured Load?
2. What are our project's requirements for safe Vehicle Load Securement?
3. Does everyone feel confident in their training in Vehicle Load Securement?