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Daily Care, Disinfection, and Storage for Tingley PVC Knee Boots

Tingley PVC Knee Boots are available in several different performance levels. Our top of the line PVC boot is the Premier G2[®], which is made with ultrahigh molecular weight PVC and specialty plasticizers to produce boots with outstanding chemical resistance, durability, longevity, and comfort. The PVC line continues with Profile[®], Pulsar[™], and concludes with Pilot[™] General Purpose PVC boots.

Daily care, cleaning, disinfecting (if desired), and storage information is presented below for the following Tingley PVC boot brands and styles:

- Premier G2[®] PVC Knee Boots (Styles 93155 and 93255)
- Profile[®] PVC Knee Boots (Styles 51154, 51254, and 51446)
- Pulsar[™] PVC Knee Boots (Styles 43151 and 43251)
- Pilot[™] G2 General Purpose PVC Knee Boots (Styles 31151, 31251, and 31341)
- Women's "Trim Fit" PVC Knee Boot (Style 51446)

Daily Care: At a minimum, the exterior of the boots should be rinsed at the end of the shift with copious quantities of clean water (temperature range between 10°C and 45°C) to remove any contaminants, cleaners, or disinfectants to which the boots may have been exposed during wear.

Cleaning: Longevity of the boots can be further enhanced by washing the exterior of the boots with mild soap/detergent and warm water (temperature range between 25°C and 55°C). A soft-bristled brush may be used to aid in removing particulates. Boots should then be allowed to air dry for at least 6 hours before redonning. Removing the insole (aka footbed) for air drying may be required for individuals with excessive foot perspiration. Before redonning, inspect the boots on both the interior and exterior for nicks, punctures, cuts, cracks, tears, hardening, discoloration, or any other signs of degradation. If any of these degradation signs are found the boots should be considered unfit for use and discarded in accordance with all local, state, and federal requirements.

First, prepare a cleaning solution. There is a wide range of solutions that can be used for this. The following is offered as an example. Please consult your local Tingley representative if you have a specific question on a cleaning solution.

Commercially Available Detergent Cleaning Solution: To clean the boot exterior, mix a solution of one teaspoon liquid, heavy-duty laundry detergent that contains enough enzymes to break apart soil (Tide and Persil are considered heavy-duty) and two cups warm water (temperature range between 25°C and 55°C). Soak a clean cloth in the solution and wipe down the entire exterior of the boot. Rinse the exterior with plenty of warm water to rinse away the detergent solution.

Disinfecting (If Desired): Tingley PVC boots may be disinfected on the exterior and/or interior. Exterior disinfecting may be accomplished by requiring employees to walk through a disinfecting bath or mechanized boot washer upon entering or exiting a work area. Alternatively, the following instructions can be followed for manually disinfecting the exterior and/or interior of the boot styles referenced above.

NOTE: Interior disinfection is a simple and straight-forward process given that Tingley PVC boots do not contain a textile sock liner. Interior disinfection is typically performed when employers have high employee turnover and wish to repurpose a boot previously worn by another employee. Interior disinfection may also be performed on a periodic basis to maintain clean, sanitary, and odor-free footwear for a given individual.

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The process begins by removing and discarding the insole (aka footbed) followed by a thorough inspection of the boots on both the interior and exterior for nicks, punctures, cuts, cracks, tears, hardening, discoloration, or any other signs of degradation. If any of these degradation signs are found the boots should be considered unfit for use and discarded in accordance with all local, state, and federal requirements.

Next, prepare a disinfecting solution. Two choices are presented below for different levels of disinfection need. Please consult your local Tingley representative if you have a specific question on a disinfecting solution. Work in a well-ventilated space. Use of suitable gloves and eye protection is advised.

Mild Disinfecting Solution: Prepare a solution of 50 percent distilled white vinegar and 50 percent warm water (temperature range between 25°C and 55°C). Place the vinegar mixture in a spray bottle and lightly mist the inside of the boots. Hang the boots upside down and allow the boots to air dry away from direct heat and sunlight.

Strong Disinfection Solution: If the boots have been worn in environments where exposure to high bacterial loads are likely (i.e. contaminated flood waters, sewers, etc.), then the boot interior should be disinfected with a solution of pine oil, chlorine bleach, or phenolic (e.g. Lysol) disinfectant. Mix according to directions and scrub the exterior and interior of the boots with a soft-bristled brush. Allow disinfectants to remain in contact with interior boot surfaces for at least 1 minute, then thoroughly rinse with clean warm water (temperature range between 25°C and 55°C).. Hang the boots upside down and allow to air dry away from direct heat and sunlight. Once dry, insert a new insole. **NOTE:** Extended use of chlorine bleach may damage the PVC boots, especially the lower grade Pilot and Pulsar PVC formulations.

Storage: Boots may be stored for longer periods of time provided they are kept in a cool, dry location away from direct sunlight and heat. Before use, inspect the boots on both the interior and exterior for nicks, punctures, cuts, cracks, tears, hardening, discoloration, or any other signs of degradation. If any of these degradation signs are found the boots should be considered un-fit for use and discarded in accordance with all local, state, and federal requirements.

Replacement Insoles: The following are OEM insole replacements which are available from Tingley Rubber Corporation.

OEM Insoles - Style CI136, Replacement Gel-Cushioned Contour Insole

Extra thick and comfortable, these high-quality, polyurethane, contour insoles resist compression set for long wear. A heel gel pad helps absorb the impact of walking and standing for reduced muscle fatigue in legs and feet. Fabric covering wicks moisture, while the perforated foot bed promotes airflow and faster drying. These insoles are standard on Tingley's Premier G2 (#93155 and 93255). They will also fit well and improve the comfort on Profile (#51154 and 51254), Pulsar (#43151 and 43251), and Pilot G2 with Steel Toe and Steel PR Midsole (#31341). Available in four sizes (SM – XL) with pre-marked lines to easily cut to size. Sold by the pair.

OEM Insoles - Style CI124, Replacement Polyurethane Contour Insole

These insoles resist compression set for long wear comfort and are constructed of three layers. The top layer is made of polypropylene for moisture wicking and absorption. The middle is polyurethane with open cell construction for breathability. The bottom layer is made of polyethylene, which conforms to the shape of the foot for secure placement. These insoles are more economical than the Gel-Cushioned insoles and will fit well with any of Tingley's PVC boots (Premier G2, Profile, Pulsar, and Pilot G2). These insoles also fit well with Tingley's Steplite X, Airgo, Pylon and Flite boots. Available in four sizes (SM – XL). Sold by the pair.