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Daily Care, Disinfection, and Storage for Tingley Flite Boots

Tingley Flite® footwear is available in knee boots and work shoe styles. The daily care, cleaning, disinfecting (if desired), and storage information presented below covers the following Tingley Flite styles:

- Flite Knee Boot w/ Chevron-Plus® treads (Style 26256)
- Flite Knee Boot w/ Cleated treads (Style 27251)
- Flite Knee Boot w/ Safety-Loc treads (Style 28259)
- Flite Work Shoe w/ Cleated treads (Style 27211)

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 Flite 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 Flite 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.

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.



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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 (e.g. 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 discolor and/or damage the Flite boots over time.

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 is the recommended replacement for Flite boots. It is available from Tingley Rubber Corporation.

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. Available in four sizes (SM – XL) covering boot size from size 5 through 13. Cut to fit using the old insoles as a cutting guide or use the template provided in the package. Insoles can be cut to length with ordinary scissors. Sold by the pair.