

**2.4-2.3.2.2** Flooring surfaces shall provide smooth transitions between different flooring materials.

**2.4-2.3.2.3** Flooring surfaces shall allow for ease of ambulation and self-propulsion.

**2.4-2.3.2.4** Flooring surfaces shall allow easy movement of all wheeled equipment used in the facility.

**\*2.4-2.3.2.5** Flooring surfaces, including those on stairways, shall be stable, firm, and slip-resistant.

- (1) The slip resistance ratings of flooring surfaces shall be appropriate for the area of use—for dry or wet conditions and for use on ramps and slopes.
- (2) Slip-resistant flooring products shall be used for surfaces in bathing areas and rooms, wet areas, and ramps and entries from exterior to interior spaces.
- (3) Carpet in resident areas shall be installed to prevent trip hazards or interference with resident, participant, or outpatient use of resident-operated mobility devices and assistive ambulation devices and staff use of carts and equipment.

**2.4-2.3.2.6 Areas subject to frequent wet-cleaning methods**

- (1) The floors and wall bases of kitchens, soiled workrooms, toilet rooms, and other areas subject to wet-cleaning methods shall be constructed of materials that are not physically affected by germicidal or other types of cleaning solutions.
- (2) Areas subject to wet cleaning shall have floors that are homogeneous and have sealed joints.
- (3) Wall bases in areas that require wet cleaning (e.g., soiled and clean utility rooms, environmental services rooms with mop sinks) shall be continuous

and coved with the floor, sealed to the wall, and constructed without voids.

**2.4-2.3.2.7 Food preparation areas**

- (1) Floors in areas used for food preparation and assembly shall be water-resistant.
- (2) Floor surfaces, including tile joints, shall be resistant to food acids.
- (3) Floor construction in dietary and food preparation areas shall be free of spaces that can harbor pests. All joints shall be sealed.
- (4) Slip-resistant flooring products shall be used throughout kitchens, including wet areas.

**\*2.4-2.3.2.8 Highly polished flooring or flooring finishes that create glare shall be avoided.**

**2.4-2.3.2.9** Floor openings for pipes, ducts, or conduits as well as joints at structural elements shall be tightly sealed.

**\*2.4-2.3.2.10** All changes of level (i.e., stairs, steps, and ramps) shall have a strong value contrast between vertical and horizontal surfaces.

**2.4-2.3.3 Walls and Wall Protection**

**\*2.4-2.3.3.1 Wall finishes**

- \***(1) Wall finishes shall be washable.
- (2) Wall finishes near plumbing fixtures shall be smooth, scrubbable, and moisture-resistant.
- (3) Wall surfaces in areas routinely subjected to wet spray or splatter (e.g. kitchens, housekeeping closets) shall be water-resistant.
- (4) Wall surfaces shall have a matte finish. Use of

**APPENDIX**

**A2.4-2.3.2.5** ASTM C1028: *Standard Test Method for Determining the Static Coefficient of Friction of Ceramic Tile and Other Like Surfaces by the Horizontal Dynamometer Pull-Meter Method* can be used to determine the slip resistance of flooring surfaces.

**A2.4-2.3.2.8** Use of non-wax flooring eliminates finish glare. Where a finish coat is required, smooth flooring surfaces should be sealed with a matte finish to reduce surface glare.

**A2.4-2.3.2.10** Color contrast between walls and floors and minimization of transitions between different types of flooring may reduce fall risk.

**A2.4-2.3.3.1 Color/value of wall finishes**

- a. Wall finishes should consist of colors/values that contrast with the floor material to distinguish vertical and horizontal planes (an issue of balance).
- b. The color/value of wall finishes should be in the range of 60–80 percent light reflectance value (LRV) to provide acceptable contrast with the floor and maximize light distribution in the space.

**A2.4-2.3.3.1 (1)** Selection of wall finishes should take into consideration adjacent uses, such as cooking, dishwashing, food preparation, and toileting.