

Expanded Technologies

Floor, Furniture and Surface Protectors for all Environments

Felt Pads • Sliders • Gripper™ Pads



Felt Pads Decrease Maintenance Costs Dramatically

Case Study: Traver Elementary School

For over 30 years, Dick Kronwall has been the Maintenance Supervisor at Traver Elementary School, Linn-Bloomfield Joint District No. 4 in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. Keeping the school clean became much easier four years ago when Kronwall was introduced to Expanded Technologies' self-adhesive felt pads that stick onto the bottoms of furniture legs to protect the floor from scratches. They also keep the furniture joints from loosening by reducing the stress on the joints.

"Matt York introduced the product to me," explains Kronwall. "His mother was a teacher at Traver, and I knew Matt when he was a little kid. When he told me about the pads, he was working at Expanded Technologies. I really appreciate the introduction because I am so happy with the product. They save my floors. They save on wax and save time on buffing. They have saved money for the district in time and materials."

What makes these felt pads better than other products? "I have never used any other felt pad regularly; they just don't work," Kronwall replies. "When I tried Expanded Technologies' pads, I thought they would be like all the other products out there, but, boy, was I glad to be wrong. I buy them direct in bulk from Bret Bushey at Expanded, and that is terrific."

The felt pads are an ideal solution in a school because furniture is constantly moved to rearrange classrooms and clean floors. "We use the pads in all the rooms, I put them on the legs of the desks, chairs and tables. Right now, we are using three different sizes: 3/4", 1", and 1-1/4". We use the product on anything that gets moved."

How has Kronwall's routine changed since he installed the felt pads? "I sweep every night, mop once a week and buff about once a month. The pads have cut my buffing in half. I used to buff every 2 weeks, but now that isn't necessary. It also takes me less time to buff because there are less scratches and scuffs."

Do the felt pads last? "I am prepared to change the pads about once a year, but not all the pads need to be changed that often. Usually, the tables last a couple years." Do the pads fall off easily? "Not really. They definitely stick better than I thought they would. When I do replace them, they are really hard to get off."

The faculty members at Traver have also noticed a difference since the installation of felt pads. "They like the product, too. They are constantly sliding the desks, and with the pads they slide a lot easier. They don't make as much noise either. Our administrator is definitely a fan for all the reasons I mentioned, especially saving the school district money."

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How much money has the school saved? Before installing the pads, Kronwall was spending about 10 hours buffing the floors, 18 times per year (twice a month during the school year)—180 hours of buffing annually. Since installing Expanded Technologies' pads, Kronwall spends only 8 hours buffing, 9 times per year (once a month during the school year)—a total of 72 hours. At an hourly rate of \$20 for labor, the school is saving \$2160 per year. The pads cost \$115 for a net savings of \$2045.

Any final words? "I have recommended the felt pads to colleagues and will continue to do so. I am very happy with the product. It has saved me time, material and made my job a lot easier. They are well worth the investment."