



Accidents in the workplace rarely happen due to carelessness alone. Often, clear guidance is missing: routes are not clearly defined, hazard zones are not recognisable, or rules are only known verbally. Floor markings provide a remedy. They direct movement, separate types of traffic, and make risks visible – permanently and without the need for additional explanatory measures.

This article provides a practical overview of five proven floor markings, their areas of application, and the common colour codes according to ASR A1.3.

1

Pedestrian and traffic route markings – clear separation, fewer conflicts

The most important measure for accident prevention is the clear separation of pedestrian and vehicle traffic. Floor markings define where people walk, where vehicles drive, and where standing is permitted – regardless of the daily condition or experience of employees.

Typical areas of application:

- ▶ Warehouses and production halls
- ▶ Order picking zones
- ▶ Loading areas

Colour codes according to ASR A1.3:

- ▶ **White:** Traffic routes, general order
- ▶ **Yellow:** Demarcation of traffic routes or hazard areas

Practical tip: Lines should be continuous, high-contrast, and sufficiently wide. Interruptions lead to uncertainty – especially for new employees or external contractors.

2

Hazard zone markings – making risks visible

Not every area may be entered or driven through. Floor markings make hazard zones clearly recognisable and automatically increase attention.

Typical areas of application:

- ▶ Machine surroundings
- ▶ Swing zones
- ▶ Drop edges

Colour codes:

- ▶ **Yellow-black:** Warning of hazardous locations

Practical tip: Hazard markings are only effective when they are not used excessively. Less is more here – but consistently.

3

Restricted areas – keeping clear what must remain clear

Restricted areas prevent safety-relevant zones from being unintentionally blocked. They are an effective means against "brief parking" and accumulated disorder.

Typical areas of application:

- ▶ Emergency exits
- ▶ Fire extinguishers and first aid stations
- ▶ Switch and distribution boxes

Colour codes:

- ▶ **Yellow:** Demarcation
- ▶ **Red-white (in combination):** Entry or parking prohibited

4

Storage and parking space markings – order reduces risks

Defined parking spaces for pallets, containers, or trolleys provide structure and prevent bottlenecks or blocked routes.

Typical areas of application:

- ▶ Staging zones
- ▶ Goods receipt and despatch
- ▶ Assembly areas

Colour codes:

- ▶ **White:** Standard storage areas
- ▶ **Blue:** Areas for technical equipment or maintenance

5

Temporary markings – staying flexible, acting safely

Construction sites, maintenance work, or special events require short-notice adjustments. Temporary floor markings enable quick solutions without structural interventions.

Typical areas of application:

- ▶ Conversion phases
- ▶ Seasonal additional areas
- ▶ Test layouts

Practical tip: Temporary markings should be clearly recognisable as such and regularly checked to avoid permanent temporary solutions.

Conclusion:

Floor markings are not a detail, but a central safety instrument. When used correctly, they reduce accidents, simplify processes, and provide orientation – permanently and efficiently.