

Grout Care

1. Grout is the mortar-type material used to fill the space between individual tiles or stones. Its purpose is simply to fill the joint and become a permanent, integral part of the floor.
2. Neither sealing the grout nor using a 100% Epoxy Grout will guarantee against surface build up or discoloration of the grout.
3. Grout needs to be cleaned on a periodic basis to remove any surface residue build up.
4. This routine cleaning can be done with a neutral pH-balanced daily-use household or commercial cleaner, depending on the application.
5. When heavy-duty grout cleaning is required, you can use a professional strength tile and grout cleaner that is capable of removing grease, soap scum, body oil, mildew stains, algae, and synthetic or acrylic waxes from the grout joints.

Routine Maintenance

1. Cleaning your new floor with a damp mop once a week is the best thing you can do to maintain your ceramic floor.
2. A simple sweeping or vacuuming of your tile floor prior to mopping will remove any dust or debris.
3. Make sure that any cleaner you have chosen is compatible with grout cleaning, is neutral pH, and will not stain the grout.
4. Heavy traffic areas should be mopped more than once per week.
5. Never use a detergent or soap because it may dull the surface.

6. When cleaning, the entire area should be cleaned or scrubbed with the cleaning solution, using a cotton mop, cloth, sponge, or non-metallic brush.
7. The entire flooring area should then be rinsed with clean water to remove any cleaning solution residue.
8. Cleaning unglazed tiles should be done on a regular basis using cleaners that have a neutral pH for safe regular use; these cleaners are better suited for removing grease, oils, and normal spills from unglazed products.
9. Remember, routine cleaners should never contain acids, vinegar, chlorines or ammonia, as these chemicals can damage and discolor the grout or surface of the stone or tile.
10. Always thoroughly rinse the flooring surface with clean, clear water after cleaning to avoid any periodic residue build up or mold and mildew growth.

Protecting Your Floor

1. Protect your tile by affixing felt or similar pads to the legs of any metal, iron, wood or plastic furniture that could scratch and dull the surface.
2. Exterior metal furniture which rests directly on the tile floors may rust and cause permanent staining.
3. Good quality entry mats will help protect your tile from wear by collecting dirt, sand, grit and other substances such as oil, asphalt, or driveway sealer which might otherwise be tracked onto your floor.
4. You can also place these mats at heavy pivot locations, such as in front of the stairs, kitchen sink, or stove.