

Sealing Cement Tiles

Dry-Treat Tips for Sealing Encaustic Tiles - Stain-Proof Original

1. ALWAYS DO A TEST TILE FIRST – If you are not familiar with the tile or Stain-Proof Original, please do a test first.
2. PRE-SEAL YOUR TILE – Pre-sealing is a very easy step, but the most important one for a successful cement tile installation. The tiles can be pre-sealed prior to installation, or if already installed, prior to grouting. If pre-sealing prior to installing, wait 12 hours before installing, if pre-sealing already installed tile, wait 24 hours before grouting. The tiles must be clean and dry at the time you seal with Stain-Proof Original. The average coverage rate for most cement tile is 55 sf/qt with Stain-Proof Original. Remember, when we say 55 sf/qt, you will get both coats of sealer from the one quart. You can apply the sealer with a lambswool applicator (our #1 choice), high density foam roller, or a high volume/low pressure sprayer for larger installations. DO NOT USE: a sponge, rags or towels, brushes or pour the sealer directly to the tile and then spread. Apply the Stain-Proof Original so the surface is mirror wet for 3-5 seconds. After 15 minutes, remove any excess sealer with a terry cloth towel and then go over the tile again with a microfiber towel to make sure there is no residue on the tile.
3. INSTALL THE PRE-SEALED TILE TO THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS
4. GROUT – Most manufacturers are recommending grout joints be no smaller than 1/8" and that the grout be neutral in color. If you have a question on grout selection and joint width, always contact the manufacturer or your distributor for further information. When grouting, it is advised that you do small areas at a time, 3-4 square feet. Make sure to use plenty of clean water and clean sponges for your clean-up.
5. FINAL SEALING – Once the grout has cured, usually 72 hours, you can apply the final coat of Stain-Proof Original. Repeat the sealing steps in #2, making sure that special care is taken when removing the excess with a microfiber towel. Our impregnating sealers are not shiny, so there should be no sheen to the tile installation.
6. USE – Keep all traffic off the finished installation for a minimum of 24 hours! In wet areas 48 hours!



PLEASE NOTE:

If you are using Dry-Treat's Intensifia to enhance your installation, then steps 1-5 will be the same. The only difference is that Intensifia needs to sit wet (dwell time) on the surface for 30 minutes before wiping off the excess. Intensifia is an impregnating enhancer, so the surface should never have a sheen once the residue has been correctly removed.

Please visit drytreat.com for additional sealer information and download our Surface Maintenance Guide for the long term care of your new installation.

Surface Care for Cement Tile Floors and Walls

YOUR CEMENT TILE HAS BEEN SEALED WITH A DRY-TREAT WORLD LEADING PERMANENT IMPREGNATING SEALER, FOR PREMIUM STAIN PROTECTION. WITH CORRECT CARE, YOUR CEMENT TILES WILL LOOK BEAUTIFUL FOR MANY YEARS.

SPILLS SHOULD BE WIPED UP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. Impregnating sealers work by repelling liquids rather than blocking the pores of the concrete. The reason is so that air can still move through the pores allowing the material to 'breathe' naturally. It is the best technology available to protect against staining while preserving the look and natural integrity of your surface.

Since the pores of your cement tile remain open, the surface is not immune from staining, but the sealer will give you plenty of time to clean up liquids before they absorb into the pores and stain. Using walk on /off mats is also recommended.

FOR DAILY CLEANING USE REJUVENATA™ ACTIVE

Rejuvenata™ ACTIVE is a natural active enzyme cleaner that cleans general grime and stains caused by oil, mold, food and beverages.

MORE STUBBORN GRIME, 'SPRING' CLEANING, OR STAIN REMOVAL, USE HANAFINN OXY-KLENZA™

Oxy-Klenza™ is a unique and powerful oxygen based, odorless alkaline cleaner. Another option is S-Tech Stone & Masonry Cleaner™, a peroxide based PH balanced cleaner.

Acidic cleaners should never be used.



PLEASE NOTE:

- Impregnating sealers will NOT prevent surface etching on cement tile, so it is important to wipe up spills from acidic substances (including citrus juice, vinegar, cola and wine) immediately, before acid etching occurs.
- Impregnating sealers repel water and oil but DO NOT repel solvent based liquids, e.g. solvent based inks.
- DO NOT leave wet items, vases, and similar things on your surface. For example, the water underneath a wet plastic planter will evaporate very slowly, and if left for days or weeks might stain the surface.