



Jeffrey Court



JEFFREY COURT

TILE CARE & MAINTENANCE

CERAMIC & PORCELAIN TILE MAINTENANCE

ROUTINE CARE

Tile should be maintained on a regular basis to prevent build-up of soil, grease, residue, soap detergents, sealers, dampness, liquids, etc., to keep the surface clean and lessen slippery conditions.

Ceramic and porcelain tiles require minimal maintenance. They can be cleaned with clear water and/or a pH neutral liquid cleaner. After applying the cleaner, rinse with clear water and wipe dry to prevent film formation. As with most porcelains, spilled liquids may stain light-colored tiles if not removed promptly. Sealing or acid cleaning is not recommended for any of Jeffrey Court's ceramic or porcelain tiles.

SEALER/WAX/FLOOR FINISH REMOVAL

If a topical sealer or floor wax needs to be removed from a ceramic tile you should use a Tile Sealer & Adhesive Remover. Always test a small area first. Apply a generous amount of undiluted sealer and adhesive remover to the area.

Allow setting without drying until coating or residue softens. Reapply as needed until sealer softens and can be removed. If needed, scrub with a white nylon scrub pad. Wipe up the residue with a cotton towel or sponge. Rinse thoroughly with clean water.

NOTE: Do not use on Natural Stone products.

CERAMIC & PORCELAIN TILE GROUT CARE

GROUT CLEAN UP

Grout haze may be left behind on the tile surface as part of the grouting process. This can typically be buffed off the surface after the grout has cured.

The haze removal can be difficult when buffing with a clean rag or floor machine. Cementitious grout haze can be removed with Sulfamic Acid, a mild acid that attacks and breaks down cement smears. Grout haze removers, which usually contain Sulfamic Acid, can be used for this.

Epoxy Grout haze can be removed with an Epoxy Haze Remover. These removers are formulated to safely and quickly remove cured epoxy haze from tile installations. Their formulation will soften most epoxy hazes for easy removal without damaging the grout or tile. Sulfamic Acid or grout removers should never be used on Natural Stone products.

CERAMIC & PORCELAIN TILE GROUT CARE (continued)

PENETRATING/IMPREGNATING SEALER

Tile installations typically use cementitious grouts. Cement-based grout should be sealed after installation to prevent the color from staining. Grout should be sealed with a penetrating/impregnating sealer that does not contain silicone. Silicone can shorten the life of the sealer.

Epoxy grouts, are chemically cured and acid resistant ,therefore, do not require a sealer. The application of a good quality penetrating/ impregnating sealer into the grout joints of cementitious grout will not change the natural color of the grout, but will prevent the penetration of moisture, ease maintenance, and help prevent staining or discoloration.

Only the grout should be sealed. Grout can be sealed 72 hours after installation. Different grades of penetrating/ impregnating sealers exist. The life and price will differ between a low-quality and high-quality sealer. Sealer may need to be reapplied on an annual basis depending on sealer quality, traffic, and maintenance routine. Refer to the manufacturer's warranty, technical and product instructions for specific details on product installation, useful life, and product applications .

GROUT MAINTENANCE

Grout needs to be cleaned periodically to remove any surface buildup. Routine grout cleaning can be done with a household or commercial cleaner depending on the application. When heavy duty grout cleaning is required, you will need to use a professional strength Tile and Grout Cleaner that can remove grease, soap scum, body oil, mildew stains, algae, and synthetic or acrylic waxes from the grout joints. We recommend using a product that does not contain polluting chemicals and has low volatile organic compound (VOC) levels. Sealing the grout or using an epoxy grout does not guarantee against surface buildup or discoloration.

GROUT COLOR RESTORATION

When grout color needs to be restored, you may use a grout stain to restore or change the color of the grout. Grout Stains are epoxy-based and are designed to penetrate into the grout and seal the surface with a permanent color. Once the grout has been stained there is no need to seal it again with a penetrating/ impregnating sealer. Prior to staining, grout joints should be cleaned thoroughly to remove any dirt, oils, grease or sealers with a professional strength Tile and Grout Cleaner.

GROUTING UNGLAZED/MATTE/TEXTURED PORCELAIN

Porcelain tiles with a matte or textured surface may contain structure or micro texture for slip resistance and visual enhancement. We recommend using a grout release before grouting to more easily remove the different types of grout, latex modified grout, epoxy grout used today.

NATURAL STONE MAINTENANCE

ROUTINE CARE

To ensure Natural Stone tiles maintain their look and longevity proper maintenance is required. Natural Stone is naturally porous and requires different maintenance than ceramic tile.

Many ceramic tile cleaners can stain, damage or dull natural stone. Dirt and dust will scratch the surface of natural stone. It should be vacuumed or dust mopped frequently to remove abrasive agents from the surface. Natural Stone should be cleaned with neutral cleaners, that do not contain acid or bleach. Acids, even a light solution of vinegar and water, will etch and damage Natural Stone.

NATURAL STONE CLEANERS

Only cleaners designed for cleaning natural stone should be used. These cleaners do not contain acids and are concentrated neutral pH cleaners that will not affect existing sealers. The stone surface should be dampened with clear water. This keeps the cleaning solution on the surface so it can be effective. The cleaning solution should be applied to the surface with a sponge or mop. Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.

On walls, kitchen counters and vanity tops, a spray bottle can be used to apply the cleaning solution. Make sure to follow the manufacturer's specified amount of time. Scrub with a sponge, synthetic mop, soft bristle brush or through the use of a floor scrubbing machine. Mop up the dirty solution and buff dry.

For polished natural stone tiles, you can occasionally apply a spray-buff wax-type floor finish to enhance the natural beauty and luster of polished stone. Apply the finish with a spray applicator and buff immediately with a white nylon pad. Reapply as often as needed. This product is not intended to restore the original shine, but can maintain and protect the stone's original shine.

DEEP NATURAL STONE CLEANING

If more intense cleaning is required, you will need to use a heavy-duty non-hazardous and nonpolluting natural stone cleaner and degreaser to effectively remove dirt, grease, grime, waxes and floor finishes. An optimal heavy-duty cleaner should contain low VOCs. These products are concentrated and intended to deep clean the stone without damaging it.

Always make sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions. Apply the cleaner and water solution mix to the surface of the stone with a sponge or mop. Allow setting for the manufacturer's specified amount of time. Agitate with a sponge, synthetic mop, and soft bristle brush or through the use of a floor scrubbing machine.

Mop up the dirty solution and buff dry. Make sure to change out the cleaning solution every 100 square feet to avoid reintroducing dirty water during the cleaning process. Rinse thoroughly with clean water when finished.

NATURAL STONE MAINTENANCE (continued)

STAIN REMOVAL

Poultice will remove stains and grout haze from natural stone. Poultice is a fine, nonacidic, absorptive clay cleaning powder that removes deep-set oil stains, grease and light cementitious grout haze from Natural Stone.

PLEASE NOTE: Poultice may dull the shine of polished stone. If this occurs, a marble polish must be used to restore the natural shine.

MARBLE RESTORATION

If a marble's finish is dulled, scratched or etched, you can restore its natural shine with a marble polish. The process uses re-crystallization to remove fine scratches and restore the stone's original shine and polish. This is not an application of a topical sealer or wax to cover-up damaged or worn surfaces.

FINISHING

Only apply a natural stone finish to a polished natural stone. This type of product will enhance the shine and add a protective coating for "soft" or polished marbles. Ensure the finish is wax-based, designed to add luster and enhance the beauty of sealed and polished Natural Stone. A topical finish can change the appearance and performance of natural stone. Make sure to test a small area before applying on the entire surface. Applying topical sealer or wax should never be done to add shine to a honed, scratched or non-polished stone. This will create maintenance and/or a slip resistance problem.

GROUTING NEW INSTALLATIONS

Sealing is strongly recommended for new Natural Stone installations to provide maximum stain protection. Immediately after natural stone has been installed and grouted, The project should be covered to protect it from debris during any remaining construction. The protective barrier should remain intact until construction is completed.

PRE-GROUT SEALING

A non-sanded grout is recommended for natural stone installations. This grout has fine particles of cement, polymers and color pigments that penetrate the microscopic pores of the stone's surface where they become trapped and appear as a stain in the stone. We recommend that all natural stone be sealed prior to grouting to protect it from staining. The application of a good quality sealer should be used before grouting and applied again as the final sealing process once the installation is completed.

SEALING

A high-end penetrating/impregnating sealer is recommended. A stone enhancer sealer can be used on tumbled, antique stones or on slate where a darker, enriched or highlighted character is desired. When choosing either one of these sealers, make sure the product you select provides maximum stain protection. Natural stone should be tested regularly per manufacturer's instructions to guarantee the sealer is working properly.

NATURAL STONE GROUT CARE



NATURAL STONE GROUT CARE (continued)



SEALING (continued)

Penetrating/impregnating sealers have a no-sheen natural look and can be water-based or solvent-based, and work for interior and exterior applications. Natural stone enhancer sealers are also no-sheen, penetrating/impregnating sealers that are intended to darken, enrich and highlight the natural color and beauty of natural stone products.

Always test loose pieces of tile to guarantee desired effect with enhancing sealers. Keep in mind that, they will also darken the color of grout. They are, generally, suitable for interior and exterior use, and rated to protect the stone. Always refer to manufacturer's instructions for specific information on the sealer and make sure that it is applied in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.



GLASS AND MIXED MATERIAL MAINTENANCE



GENERAL CLEANING

Glass tile, should be cleaned on a regular basis to prevent build-up of soil, grease, residue, soap detergents, sealers, dampness, liquids, etc., to keep the surface clean and lessen slippery conditions.

Use a glass cleaner and a soft lint-free cloth for cleaning glass tile. A minimally abrasive cleanser and soft bristle brush can be used to remove soap scum or water deposits.



NOTICE



Metal Tile

To clean metal tile, use a liquid non-abrasive household cleaner.

DO NOT use scouring pads, steel wool, sandpaper or other abrasive products. Avoid cleaners containing ammonia, bleach, abrasives, or other hazardous/ polluting compounds as these may scratch the tile. Always test in a small area while using a new cleaner to ensure compatibility.



⚠ WARNING

THIS PRODUCT CAN EXPOSE YOU TO CHEMICALS INCLUDING CRYSTALLINE SILICA WHICH IS KNOWN TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO CAUSE CANCER. FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO WWW.P65WARNINGS.CA.GOV.

CAUTION: SILICA DUST HARMFUL IF INHALED.

EXPOSURE TO SILICA DUST FROM CUTTING, GRINDING, OR POLISHING CAN CAUSE ACUTE LUNG INJURY, SILICOSIS, OR CANCER. WEAR A RESPIRATOR WHEN CUTTING, GRINDING, OR POLISHING. USE WET CUTTING METHODS AND DO NOT DRY CUT. CHILDREN SHOULD NOT BE PRESENT DURING CUTTING, GRINDING, OR POLISHING. SEE THE SDS AT WWW.HD.JEFFREYCOURT.COM.

