



CERDOMUS

TILE STUDIO



GRANDE SLAB MAINTENANCE

ADVICE FOR LAYING AND MAINTENANCE

Laying

Before laying on any surface, make sure that the material is appropriate and sufficient in terms of quantity, shade and work-size to suit the laying needs. All regulations and precautions concerning the correct execution of the works must be followed (preparing the bed, grout or adhesive composition, respect for drying times, position of the expansion joints, beating, etc....)

Laying with Adhesives

Laying must be done by qualified staff using appropriate equipment. The surface to be laid (screed) must be perfectly level. Maximum recommended value no more than 3mm for an uneven surface measured with a 2m ruler. The surface to be laid must be well seasoned, dust-free and with no visible cracks. During laying the use of appropriate lighting is strongly recommended. The choice of adhesive depends on the type of tile (type and size), the type of surface laid on and the type of foreseen use. Check that the tiles are laid correctly before the adhesive dries in order to facilitate any required corrections.

Laying with Fresh Mortar

Laying with fresh cement-based mortar or "thick layers" is not recommended for sizes more than 30 cm long and with non-absorbent supports

Joints

Joints are very important elements for maintaining a good tiled surface, it is recommended to make use of the collaboration and/or advice of a professional layer. The company declines all responsibility for laying without joints; minimum joint laying has a gap of 2 mm.

The joints must be positioned: on structural joints; between the floor and the wall (perimeter joints); between one tile and another (laying joints); between the tiles and other materials (e.g. combinations of ceramics/linoleum/wood).

Grouting Laid Surfaces

Before grouting wait for the adhesive to dry completely and make sure that the laying joints are empty and free of all traces of adhesive and/or dust. Grout small areas at a time (4-5 m²). This is particularly important for structured products, non-slip and polished surfaces. Remove excess grout from the tiles using diagonal movements when the product is still damp and remove all residues, particularly for external surfaces. Clean carefully using a sponge dampened in clean, limpid water and go over the whole surface, including the gaps, with a damp cloth. For grouting which has a strong colour contrast to the laid tiles, test the grout on a small, hidden area. When using epoxy grouts, clean with a sponge and plenty of water. The reaction and hardening times of these products make it impossible to remove any residues once they have hardened. The day after grouting, completely clean the surface with an alkaline detergent. Consult the grout manufacturers to verify the correct choice of grout for the type of tile.

Cleaning and Maintenance After Laying

Worksites are deemed to be completely finished once they have been cleared of all tools and materials used during the operations. To reduce the risk of damaging tiled surfaces, protect them and avoid the presence of abrasive materials (dust and residues from operations carried out after laying) as far as possible.

Initial Cleaning

Washing after laying is of fundamental importance to all operations carried out afterwards and to assure correct maintenance. Careful initial cleaning keeps floors beautiful and protected longer and is done once only before using the floor. Initial cleaning should be carried out 4-5 days after laying, and in any case no longer than 10 days after laying and grouting. The grouted and cleaned surface may have a concrete film which cannot be removed using water alone, and therefore an acid-based product, suitably diluted (from 1:10 to 1:4 in cold water) should be used, following the manufacturer's instructions.

The first operation is to wet the tiled surface and particularly the gaps (grout is not usually acid-resistant). Spread the prepared acid solution and leave for a short time (2 minutes). Do not allow the applied product to dry. Remove the solution using a brushing machine (with a non-abrasive disk), wet vac or other means and/or manually, then rinse well. It should be remembered that machine cleaning (which is particularly recommended for textured products and large surfaces) must always be completed by hand in tight corners, along walls and any spaces that the brushing machine cannot easily reach. It is always advisable to test the resistance of the product to acids on an unlaied tile or a small hidden surface; particularly for lapped or polished products. It is not recommended to use cleaning products containing hydrofluoric acid (HF) or its derivatives.

ADVICE FOR LAYING AND MAINTENANCE

Ordinary Cleaning

Ordinary cleaning removes dirt and marks and restores the surface to its original appearance. Porcelain stoneware tiles do not require protective treatment, and a thorough, systematic clean is sufficient to maintain the surface. Careful cleaning must be done by washing normally using hot water, a cloth or soft sponge and, if required, neutral detergents. For large areas, industrial washing machines can be used, with completion by hand where required.

Recommendations:

Do not rub the surfaces using abrasive tools, such as metallic sponges or hard brushes, which could scratch them or leave indelible marks; Grease and oil residues can be removed using detergents using organic or alkaline solvents (pH>9) followed by careful rinsing; Avoid the use of soap as this tends to leave a slimy layer, particularly when used with hard water; Do not use products containing wax or shining agents; Avoid the use of abrasive detergents on shiny and/or polished surfaces; they may be used on matt materials, checking first on a small hidden tiled area. Generally speaking, when using any non-neutral detergent, check first on an unlaidd tile or a small hidden portion of the floor.

Fine Porcelain Stoneware: Matt Type; Polished Type

Cleaning	Jobs To Be Performed	Thorough washing and rinsing - Matt type
	Machine	Single brush machine Wet vacuum
	Equipment	Soft disk
	Product	Acid-based scale remover
	Notes	Spread the solution. Wash, vacuum. Rinse, vacuum
Treatment	Polished Type	Flat Brush
		Waterproofing Product
		Remove the dry residue after 24 hours with a single-brush machine and soft disk
Maintenance	Routine cleaning - Matt and Polished Type	Scrubber-dryer
		Broom - Rag Detergent for ceramic floors For daily cleaning; for removing dirt from traffic
	Special cleaning - Matt Type	Single-brush machine Wet vacuum Rag Strong floor detergent Dilute as per instructions on the label
Stain Removal - Polished Type	Detergent-stain remover Apply the product on the stain and the entire affected tile, without diluting, leave to dry, rinse.	