



ALFAGRES TERRAZZO TILES

INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

Install in accordance with current versions of American National Standards Institute, Inc. (ANSI) "A108 American National Standard Specifications for Installation of Ceramic Tile" and Tile Council of North America "Handbook for Ceramic, Glass, and Stone Tile Installation".

ALFAGRES Terrazzo Tiles are provided with beveled edges, initial protectant sealer, carton box package and are available in a Polished or Brushed finish.

1. Examine areas to be installed with terrazzo tiles for compliance and tolerances affecting its installation.
 - Arrange terrazzo tiles continuously beginning from the center line so that symmetry will be achieved.
 - Perimeter pieces to be minimum half tile.
 - Chipped, cracked, split pieces and edges are not acceptable on the face of the tile.
 - Make joints even, straight, plumb and of uniform width to tolerance +/- 1/16" over 8' (1.5mm in 2.4m).
 - Minimum recommended grout joint width is 1/8"
 - The maximum allowable substrate variation can be no more the 1/8" in 10' and 1/16" in 24".
 - Install divider strips at junction of flooring and dissimilar materials.
 - Control dust to prevent air pollution and protect other work from dust generated by grinding operations.

2. Set lay-out for terrazzo tiles referred from the building geometry.
 - See to it that 100% of the back of the tile is covered with mortar so that there will be no lack of bond with substrate and it will not emit a hallow sound when tapped.
 - Cut tiles using electric saw to exact dimension.
 - When using a heavy pigmented grout, it's recommended to use a grout release prior to grouting. A test area is recommended to ensure the grout release was adequately applied.
 - During installation, clean promptly the surface of the tiles from mortar or grout splashes to maintain a neat condition.

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MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS.

- Wash surfaces with cleaner to remove splashes of mortar and sealer.
- Rinse with water and allow to dry thoroughly.
- Immediately clean any organic and / or inorganic substance that falls on the product in order to avoid staining.
- DO NOT use acidic cleaners, cleaners that contain citrus (d-limonene), butoxyethanol (butyl Cellosolve), amine-based cleaners, isopropyl alcohol, solvent based cleaners, degreasers, or non-neutral cleaners.
- DO NOT use spray buff products or chemical dust mop treatments.
- Avoid hitting tiles with hard objects.
- For a better care use mat in every entrance.
- ALFAGRES Terrazzo Tile may be periodically burnished using Purple Diamond Pad to maintain gloss.
- When the terrazzo tile no longer returns to gloss by burnishing, an additional application of Stone Floor Protector should be applied.
- Stone Floor Protector will wear down over time due to floor traffic. On average, high traffic areas should be recoated at least once every 6 months. Light to moderate traffic areas should be recoated at least once a year.

DAYLY MAINTENANCE

- Remove dust daily by sweeping using a dust mop and then wash with mop and water.
- For regular tile cleaning, only use water and neutral soaps. Do not use chlorine, acids or abrasive products.
- Apply neutral wax periodically to renew shining. Never use petroleum-based wax, since they stain the floor. Clean up the dirt or dust daily by using tow or carpet pieces in order to avoid scratching the tile.



Sealed Floor:

- **Daily:** use mop or permanent shiner (do not sweep). Use a solution of water and special neutral pH detergent, moping uniformly, washing the mop constantly and changing the water (use two buckets).

According to traffic, follow these recommendations:

Heavy traffic: Shine daily with high or low revolution machine (500 or 175 RPM) and white Pad.

Medium traffic: Shine 2-3 times per week.

Low traffic: Shine 1-2 times per week.

- **Weekly or Bi-weekly:** For heavy traffic, with high dirtiness and scratches, use a mop or polisher. Then, wet the floor and wash it with special detergent and a rotor machine of 175 RPM and red Pad or washing brush. This process must be quick, collecting residuals with mop and water.
- If the floor is deteriorated, apply a fine layer of sealant, and let it dry for 15-20 minutes. Then, shine with a 1500 RPM machine.
- This procedure varies and is determined by the supervisor based on the performance of the floor regarding traffic and dirtiness.

WARNINGS:

- Do not** use metallic elements to clean, since they damage the tile surface.
- Do not** use aggressive cleaners such as acids (muriatic, nitric and acetic).
- Do not** use oil byproducts (diesel, gasoline, etc.).
- Do not** use shavings or sawdust.
- Do not** use powder detergent.
- Do not** use oil-based wax.
- Do not** use final work cleaner or similar.

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