

Care and Maintenance

Initial Cleaning

After installation use an acid decalcifying product to remove all mortar, adhesives and epoxy residues that may be left in the joints.

- Rub energetically to obtain maximum cleaning.
- After washing, rinse thoroughly with plenty of water to remove all traces of the detergent used.

General Maintenance and Care

Due to the characteristics of the production process, the surface of the porcelain tile or panel material is waterproof (the water absorption is minimum). Therefore dirt cannot penetrate, but it is necessary to remove it from the surface.

- **Do not** use detergents containing waxes or waxing products in order to avoid the forming of greasy layers.
- Many general purpose, neutral cleaners are effective for the regular maintenance and cleaning of Porcelain stoneware with the exception of Hydrofluoric Acid (HF) or its compounds.
- The cleaner used should be non-oil, non-animal fat, non-soap base. Cleaners with oil components may cause problems due to residues left behind in the cleaning process, which may trap dirt.
- Rinse the surface with clean cold water. Repeat until the surface is completely free of solution.

Maintenance and Care for Tile Flooring

For best results, the following maintenance procedures are recommended for the various finishes of our porcelain collections.

Honed

For moderate soiling:

- Sweep, using a soft, natural-bristle broom or vacuum floor of debris.

- Saturate the floor with the recommended amount of general purpose neutral cleaner and agitate the solution. An auto-scrubber may be used.
- Allow the solution to sit on the surface a minimum of five minutes to increase the suspension of the dirt particles and produce a cleaner surface.
- Remove the dirty cleaning solution from the floor either with a wet-vacuum or mop and rinse with clean water.
- Remove excess water from the floor. Buff with dry mop or towel.

For heavy soiling:

- Sweep or vacuum floor of debris.
- Deeply soiled or stain-appearing spots on the surface of the tile might need to be pre-treated. Different surface contaminants require different cleaning methods and chemicals (see chart).
- Scrub with cleaning compound and floor machine equipped with abrasive pad or stiff, natural-bristle brush. For small areas, use a scrub brush.
- Remove the dirty cleaning solution with a wet vacuum and rinse with clean, clear water. For small applications this may be done with a clean mop. To thoroughly remove the cleaning agent from the surface, it may be necessary to rinse the floor more than once.
- Remove excess water from the floor.

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Polished

- Sweep or vacuum the floor of loose dirt. An untreated, dry dust mop may be more effective than a soft bristle broom.
- Wipe or mop with a diluted solution of neutral cleaner or clean, clear water.
- If cleaning solution is used, rinse thoroughly with clean water.
- Dry or buff to increase shine and prevent water spots.

Slate and Industrial Finishes

Porcelain stoneware textured surfaces offer an excellent safety feature due to their higher degree of slip-resistance. However, they require a slight variation in cleaning procedure. Due to the texture of the tile surface, it will be necessary to “reach” the soil that rests on the low points of the tile. Standard wet mopping will not be effective in cleaning these textured surfaces.

- Sweep or vacuum floor. If sweeping, use a soft bristle broom. A strong, thorough bristle action is required to remove debris. Sweep in two directions. First, follow the direction of the tile, then sweep diagonal to the tile to ensure complete removal of all foreign material.

- Saturate the surface with a neutral cleaning solution (use a degreaser in food preparation areas), agitate and allow the mixture to remain on the floor for a few minutes giving the cleaner time to activate. Use a scrub machine or bristle brush to scrub, once again using a cross-action pattern to ensure soil removal.
- Rinse the floor with clean water and remove with a wet vacuum or dry toweling to eliminate dirty water from escaping into the low points of the surface. Note: Maintenance frequency and procedure type will depend on several factors including pedestrian traffic, weather conditions, walk-off mats, color of floor (lighter floors show more soiling) and environment. Take these conditions under consideration when planning the maintenance schedule.

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Stain Chart

A porcelain stoneware floor will maintain its beauty long after it was installed. To keep it as the day it was put in, a regular routine maintenance is usually sufficient. The following chart outlines the most appropriate cleaner for each type of stain. Common household cleaners such as Mr. Clean, Spic'n'Span are generally sufficient if a good cleaning routine is kept. For specific stains, the following products are recommended.

	STAIN	FILA	LEGGE	AQUA MIX	MIRACLE SEALANTS	COMMON
Food Groups	Mustard Ketchup Mayonnaise Tea Ice Cream Beer/Wine Orange Juice Grape Juice Coffee Soy Sauce Sodas	PS/87	Citronex or Neutral Cleaner	Tile & Grout Cleaner* or Tile Plus More	Porcelain and Ceramic Tile Cleaner	Mr. Clean Formula 409 Spic'n Span Comet Windex Lysol
Oil & Grease	Vegetable Mineral Petroleum Wax Sealer Meat Grease Hydraulic Oil Trans. Fluid Linseed Oil Lipstick Rubber Shoe Polish Paint (Oil Based)	NoSpot PS/87	Grout Stripper* or Legge-Solve-it	Heavy-Duty Tile & Grout Cleaner*	Porcelain and Ceramic Tile Cleaner	Mr. Clean 409 Spic'n Span Fantastic Comet Windex Lysol Soft Scrub
Markers/ Graffiti	Felt Tip Ink Water Marker Permanent Fluorescent Crayon	PS/87 No Paint	Legge-Solve-It	Heavy-Duty Tile & Grout Cleaner* or Sealer & Adhesive Remover	Porcelain and Ceramic Tile Cleaner	Comet Soft Scrub Mr. Clean

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Stain Chart (Cont'd)

	STAIN	FILA	LEGGE	AQUA MIX	MIRACLE SEALANTS	COMMON
Water-Based Agents	Water Base Paint or Stain	PS/87	Grout Stripper*	Heavy-Duty Tile & Grout Cleaner* or Sealer & Adhesive Remove	Porcelain and Ceramic Tile Cleaner	Comet or Mr. Clean
		No Paint				
Tile Grout	Cement	Deterdek	Grout Stripper*	Phosphoric Acid Group Cleaner or Haze Clean-Up*	GCFR	White Vinegar or Lime-A-Way
	Latex or Polymer	Deterdek	Grout Stripper*	Grout Haze Clean-Up*	GCFR	
	Epoxy	Deterdek	Legge-Solve-It**	Sealer & Adhesive Remover	Epoxy Grout Film Remover	