

Sealing Grout

Protecting your polished or unpolished floors is vital today. One common mistake is to treat the main tile surface while forgetting about the grouting. Mould, mildew, stains and foul odors are a few side effects from unsealed grout. If your grout and flooring is new you are ready to seal.

Older grout must be cleaned up before applying the Sealer. Cleaning up stained grout requires aggressive scrubbing for best results. Usually, muriatic acid is used for this procedure. Although it is inexpensive to purchase, we find the Health and Safety aspects can outweigh the price and your health. We suggest using a low foaming acid cleaner. It does cost more; however, it is highly concentrated, safe and a low foaming combination of citric and phosphoric acids. It does not contain hydrochloric or sulfuric acids. Simply dilute the product. Allow five to ten minute dwell time, scrub completely with a rotary swing machine or auto scrubber. Wet pick-up and clear water rinse. This procedure will bring your grouting back to as close to new results as you can get. Actual results may vary depending on age and maintenance programs.

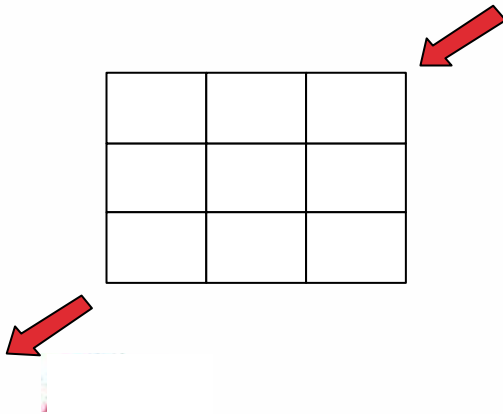
You are now ready to flood seal the grouting.

Step 1 Use an Acrylic Sealer or Stone and Tile Sealer.

Step 2 Apply liberally to floor similar to that of applying floor finish, ensuring that you completely fill the grout line to the top. Keep in mind that grouting is similar to the surface of a sponge and will soak up a lot of sealer.

Step 3 Take a new synthetic wet mop, dip in clear cool water and damp mop the top surface as if you were damp mopping. Try not to dig in to the grouting. This will remove most of the sealer from the tips of the tiles. You can allow the sealer to wear off the tile tops if not time is allowed. You may wish to use a floor squeeze for this procedure depending on surface of floor tile. Draw the squeeze and wet mop diagonally across the tile surface to prevent pulling too much sealer out of the grout lines. A second coat may be required to completely fill the grouting; depending on much of the sealer saturates the grout.

RIGHT



WRONG

