



10. CLEANING

SlimmKer

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1. REMOVING CEMENT REMAINS

When the tiles have been laid and grouted, the surface will be covered in an opaque cement film that masks its real appearance. The surface must be thoroughly cleaned to remove any surplus grouting material or dirt from the tilelaying process. A slightly acidic detergent should be used (such as Fila Deterdek) which does not give off any toxic vapours, damage the tile joints or tiles, or have a harmful effect on the environment.

Follow these steps in all cases:

- Before proceeding to clean the surface, wait until the tile grout is fully set. The manufacturer will specify the required setting time.
- Mop the surface with plenty of clean water.
- Dilute 1 part of cleaning agent in 5 or 10 parts of water, depending on the amount of dirt. Spread the solution thoroughly over the floor and leave it to act for about 10 minutes.
- Rinse the surface several times with lots of clean water so as to remove any waste material or dirt.
- If the dirt (cement) remains are very dry or there are a lot of them, repeat the above procedure as many times as necessary, rubbing it with a plastic fibers brush to enhance the action of the product. Always carry out a prior cleaning test on an unlaied tile before cleaning the tiled surface.

2. EVERYDAY CLEANING

To remove environmental dust, use a dry dust mop. It is not advisable to use wax-based products or self-shining wax. To care for the flooring properly, the use of a slightly acid detergent is suggested, such as DETERDEX in the first clean or natural vinegar. Use a small amount diluted in the cleaning water.

In the course of time, after continuous use of the tiled surfaced, it can be given a thorough clean if necessary by following the cleaning process used when it was first laid.

It is important not to drag any heavy object directly on the surface so as not to cause unnecessary scratches.



3. CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS BY TYPE OF STAIN

NATURAL AND BUSH-HAMMERED SURFACES

The stains should be cleaned away as soon as they occur, to prevent them from drying. Before any type of special cleaning product is used on porcelain slabs, test it out on an area that is not very visible to check that the shine or colour are not affected by the product.

Type of stain	Step 1	Step 2
Cement, lime scale, scratches by metal objects, oxides	Wash with water as soon as possible and rub the area gently with a cloth.	Deterdek, commercial cement remover
Remains of epoxy grouting	Wash with water as soon as possible and rub the area gently with a cloth.	Fila CR10, Grease remover
Fat, grease, food, rubber, ink, felt tip pen, blood, nicotine, vomit, urine, etc.	Wash with water as soon as possible and rub the area gently with a cloth.	Fila PS/87
Graffiti, paint, varnish	Wash with water as soon as possible and rub the area gently with a cloth.	Fila NoPaint Star, commercial solvent
Coffee, tea, juice, soft drinks	Wash with water as soon as possible and rub the area gently with a cloth.	Fila SR/95
Candle wax for repairing scratches, tree resin, remains of adhesive tape	Wash with water as soon as possible and rub the area gently with a cloth.	Filasolv, commercial solvent
Silicone	Wash with water as soon as possible and rub the area gently with a cloth.	Fila Zero Sil, acetone
Dirty joints	Wash with water as soon as possible and rub the area gently with a cloth.	Fuganet

* For further information, visit www.filasolutions.com

3. CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS BY TYPE OF STAIN

POLISHED SURFACES

As in natural and bush-hammered surfaces, the stains should be cleaned away as soon as they occur, to prevent them from drying. Before any type of special cleaning product is used on porcelain slabs, test it out on an area that is not very visible to check that the shine or colour are not affected by the product.

To clean surfaces with a polished finish, remember that their chemical resistance is lower than that of other finishes and so some substances might affect their appearance.

Do not use scouring pads or other cleaning materials that might be too rough for the surface. Inalco recommends cleaning utensils for glassware.

Clean the surface with a damp cloth and soapy water and then dry it with an absorbent cloth. If the stain persists, moisten it with hot water, leave it to act, and then dry the surface with a clean dry cloth.

Suitable cleaning products for polished surfaces include oven cleaners, solvents, grease removers and ammonia. Cleaning products to avoid include abrasive cleaners or sponges, rust removers, FERROKIT, hydrofluoric acid and other concentrated acids, bleach and products with a pH of more than 11.

Although in thermal shock tests the polished finish was found to withstand extreme temperatures, it is better to use protective objects like coasters, table mats and napkins.

Likewise, do not cut anything directly on the countertop surface, throw objects onto it or drag them across it. Polished finishes should not be used in areas with sinks due to the greater likelihood of wear and tear from everyday use.



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