

CARE AND CLEANING

INSTRUCTIONS FOR INITIAL CLEANING AFTER INSTALLATION

Quick, thorough initial cleaning is of fundamental importance and is necessary on all types of ceramic surfaces to allow easy subsequent daily cleaning. In the event of the failure to carry out this procedure properly, smears may be left which make it impossible to keep the floor clean in spite of thorough routine cleaning. The surface must be washed thoroughly to remove cement and grout residues. For cement-based grouts, clean within no more than 48 hours. For grouts containing latex or epoxy resins, cleaning must be carried out very quickly, since the components are very difficult to remove once set.

The recommended products for this type of cleaning are acid-based (see table of examples).

To clean, proceed as follows:

- Apply the acid product diluted in a 10-20% solution to the surface.
- Wait 7/10 minutes.
- Clean with a vigorous scrubbing action. Use manual cleaning tools, or appropriate floor cleaning appliances (floor cleaners fitted with white felt brushes are recommended; do not use black brushes which leave a carbon residue). Take care to clean the whole surface as evenly as possible.
- Neutralise the acid solution by washing with plenty of water, hot if possible.

Keep rinsing until all acid residue has been removed.

To aid in the initial acid cleaning operation, use of a special vacuum drier is recommended to prevent the water-acid solution from drying; if the solution dries to form a coating over the surface, the cleaning procedure will have failed. For structured products, with noticeable relief patterns or anti-slip surfaces, acid washing must be carried out as soon as possible after installation. Before washing with acid, excess grout should be removed with a sponge and water during the installation procedure itself.

The effect of the washing operation should be tested on a spare tile before proceeding, especially in the case of semi-polished or polished products.

PROTECTING THE FLOOR DURING THE REMAINDER OF THE CONSTRUCTION WORK

After installation and cleaning, it is essential to take special care to protect the floor to prevent damage during finishing works on the site. The entire surface should be covered with cardboard of suitable thickness.

ROUTINE CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS

Emilceramica products are easy to care for, confirming our commitment to the environment. However, cleaning procedures and frequency will always depend on the context in which the tiles are used.

For effective care, we recommend the following:

1. Do not leave dirt on the surface for too long.
2. Wash surfaces regularly with neutral or degreasing cleaners diluted in hot water, following the instructions on the pack.
3. Rinse with clean water.

EXTRAORDINARY CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS

Extraordinary cleaning procedures are needed if the floor becomes stained or dirty with specific substances due to accidents. In this case, professional, alkaline cleaners, specifically developed for the type of dirt to be removed (see table of examples), are required.

FOR EFFECTIVE EXTRAORDINARY CLEANING, WE RECOMMEND THE FOLLOWING:

1. Wash with water to remove superficial dirt.
2. Apply the alkaline product diluted in a solution of about 3% to the surface. The cleaner concentration can be gradually increased to deal with difficult cases where coatings or unusually tough stains have to be removed.
3. Wait 7/10 minutes. For stubborn stains, the abrasive effect can be increased by using a dry powder soap, sprinkling it over the cleaner at the end of the waiting time.
4. Clean with a vigorous scrubbing action. Use suitable manual cleaning tools or appropriate floor cleaning appliances (floor cleaners fitted with white felt brushes are recommended; do not use black brushes which leave a carbon residue). Take care to clean the whole surface as evenly as possible.
5. Rinse with plenty of water, hot if possible. Keep rinsing until all residue has been removed.

TYPE OF DIRT	RECOMMENDED CLEANER					
	Solvent (acetone, turpentine or dry-cleaning fluid)		Acid cleaner		Alkaline cleaner	
	FILA	FABER	FILA	FABER	FILA	FABER
Beer, wine					FILA PS - 87	Coloured Stain Remover
Coffee					FILA PS - 87	Coloured Stain Remover
Tar	FILA SOLV	Solvent Stripper				
Rubber	FILA SOLV	Solvent Stripper				
Cement			ETERDEK	Cement Remover		
Candle wax	FILA SOLV	Wax Remover				
Coca Cola					FILA PS - 87	Coloured Stain Remover
Lime bloom			ETERDEK	Cement Remover		
Plaster			ETERDEK	Cement Remover		
Animal fats					FILA SOLV	Wax Remover
Vegetable fats					FILA SOLV	Wax Remover
Ice-cream					FILA SOLV	Wax Remover
Inks					FILA PS - 87 - SR 95	Coloured Stain Remover
Marker pens					FILA PS - 87	Coloured Stain Remover
Ketchup					FILA PS - 87	Coloured Stain Remover
Mayonnaise					FILA PS - 87	Coloured Stain Remover
Jams					FILA PS - 87	Coloured Stain Remover
Engine / silicone oils	FILA SOLV	Solvent Stripper			FILA PS - 87	Coloured Stain Remover
Flaxseed oil	FILA SOLV	Solvent Stripper				
Tyre					FILA PS - 87	Wax Remover Solvent Stripper
Metal residues			ETERDEK	Cement Remover		
Resins or enamels			FILA NO PAINT STAR			
Lipstick					FILA PS - 87	Tile Cleaner
Rust			ETERDEK	Cement Remover		
Grouting material			ETERDEK	Cement Remover		
Emulsion paints			ETERDEK	Cement Remover		
Silicone	FILA SOLV	Alkaline Cleaner				
Chewing-gum					FILA PS - 87	Solvent Stripper

IMPORTANT!

Take great care when using acids or other chemical products; comply strictly with the instructions provided by the producer on the pack. Always start using products diluted 1:5 in water and gradually increase the concentration if the stain is not removed.