

Instruction for proper cleaning of honed (polished) ceramic tiles.

Dear Customer,

Thank you for choosing a product from our catalogue. The article you have purchased is in the polished category, with a softly luminous surface obtained by a special process carried out after the tile has been fired.

The product's outstanding quality and special finish mean it must be cared for properly if it is to conserve its characteristics over time.

1. Type of surface.

Polishing is a process which polishes the surface using special diamond tools and carbon brushes, which shape the tile's structure to create finishes with different degrees of shine.

2. Initial cleaning instructions

After installation, the tile layer usually washes the tiles with a suitable acid cleaner to remove all remnants of the grout sealant which have accumulated in the cavities of the tiny ridges on the surface.

This procedure is necessary on all ceramic tiles but is particularly important on honed (polished) materials; after the tooled finishing, the surface might retain residues of grout sealant which bed in and are then difficult to remove with cleaners of other kinds.

Time before acid cleaning:

- with quick-setting cement sealants → 2-3 days from completion of installation.
- with traditional products → 7-8 days from completion of installation.

Optimal cleaning is obtained as follows:

1. Application of Fila DETERDEK[®] (commercial product) diluted in a 10-20% solution to the surface¹.
2. Wait of 5-7 minutes.
3. Removal of the cleaner with a vigorous mechanical cleaning action using the usual hand cleaning equipment, or a suitable floor-cleaning appliance².
4. Neutralise the acid solution by washing with plenty of water.

N.B.: for the initial acid cleaning, 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.

¹ Other professional acid cleaning agents can be used as an alternative to the stated product.

² Floor-cleaning appliances with coloured felt brushes are recommended; do not use black brushes which leave a carbon residue.

Important note:

Stubborn smears, uniform glossy coatings or dull stains noted even several months after installation are often due to grout sealant residues left on the surface. Thorough cleaning with acid can restore the floor to its original condition.

3. Routine care instructions

1. Wash with water to remove superficial dirt.
2. Application of Fila Cleaner[®] Fila (commercial product) diluted to an average of 1:200 to the surface³.
3. Wait 5-7 minutes.
4. Removal of the cleaner with a vigorous mechanical cleaning action using the usual hand cleaning equipment, or a suitable floor-cleaning appliance.
5. Dry the floor completely.

- *Note: the concentration of the cleaning product may vary depending on the difficulty of obtaining a satisfactory result.*
- *Note 2: for optimal results from the cleaning operation, it is particularly important to combine the effect of the detergent with a vigorous mechanical cleaning action.*

4. Extraordinary care instructions.

In the event of stains which are particularly hard to remove, due to the nature of the substance involved or the time it has been left on the surface, the operation described in point 3 should be repeated.

- If the desired results are still not obtained, a fresh acid cleaning procedure as described in point 1 can be carried out, taking special care to rinse with plenty of water when done.

Note: the abrasive mechanical action of sponges or floor-cleaners may be enhanced by dry powder cleaning products, for use in combination with alkaline cleaners.

Appendix: products mentioned and references.

Emilceramica does not have official agreements with any floor cleaning product producers. However, our laboratories' studies have revealed that the products mentioned in this document have the right technical characteristics to achieve optimal results when cleaning ceramic tiles.

List of products/producers.

For specialist use, initial cleaning after installation or dirt which has bedded in over time.

³ Other ordinary alkaline cleaning agents (ordinary floor detergents) without wax additives can be used as an alternative to the stated product.

Producer:

Fila Industria Chimica S.p.A.

Via Garibaldi 32
35018 San Martino di Lupari (Padova)
Tel. (+39) 049.94.67.300
Fax (+39) 049.94.60.753

Internet site: www.filachim.com
e-mail: info@filachim.com

Acid cleaner: **DETERDEK[®]**

Alkaline cleaner: **PS 87[®]**

For routine care:

Neutral detergent: **Fila Cleaner[®]**

Or:

producer:

Faber Chimica S.r.l.

Via G. Ceresani, 10
Loc. Campo d'Olmo
60044 Fabriano (Ancona)
Telefono: +39 0732 627178
Fax: +39 0732 22935

internet site: www.faberchimica.com
E-mail: info@faberchimica.com

Acid cleaner (strong): **Cement Remover[®]**

Acid cleaner (mild): **Tile Cleaner[®]**

Alkaline cleaner: **Alcalin Cleaner[®]**

For routine care:

Neutral cleaner: **Floor Cleaner[®]**