POOL TILE MAINTENANCE GUIDE

oceancare
PRODUCTS

ECO FRIENDLY

What's in your pool?

Most people don't think about the chemicals they use to service their pool tile. However, many common pool tile cleaners contain toxic chemicals and aggressive acids, which can damage tile and pose serious health risks to users. At Oceancare we believe maintenance products should do more than remove calcium or prevent stains. With our low VOC sealers and all natural, biodegradable, non-toxic, acid free cleaners, Oceancare Products combine industry-leading performance with the ultimate peace of mind.

Proper care and maintenance is crucial to the long-term appearance and performance of pools and water features. The following information outlines recommended products and techniques for the cleaning, sealing and protection of most pool and exterior tile and is general in nature.

WATER BALANCE

Start-Up: Source water should be tested prior to filling and adjusted per industry guidelines such as the National Plasterers Council's "Swimming Pool Start-Up Procedures", available at www.npconline.org. Fill water with low calcium hardness, low pH and/or low alkalinity can be corrosive to plaster, grout, thin-set mortar, concrete, natural stone and metals.

Ongoing Maintenance: Proper water balance and chemistry is critical for controlling calcium deposits (mineral scale). Water balance is calculated via the Langelier Saturation Index (LSI). The water's LSI is a numeric expression of the water's balance and takes into consideration multiple factors. When water is balanced the LSI equals zero and variation between 0.0 and 0.5 is considered acceptable. LSI levels greater than 0.5 may lead to water cloudiness and accelerated mineral scaling. Negative LSI levels may lead to corrosion of cement-based materials (e.g. plaster & grout) and metal surfaces. Pool water chemistry should be measured and maintained by a pool-maintenance professional.

SEALING POROUS MATERIALS

Sealers are beneficial for natural stone, masonry (i.e. coping) and cement-based grouts. To protect porous materials and ease maintenance, seal installations with either Oceancare High Performance Penetrating Sealer (natural look) or Oceancare High Performance Enhancing Sealer (color enriching).

PREVENTING CALCIUM BUILD-UP

To inhibit the bond of calcium deposits, apply Oceancare Glass & Tile Shield to new and/or clean pool tile. Protected tile surfaces will be easier to maintain and most calcium deposits can be removed with regular brushing or scrubbing, dramatically reducing or even eliminating the need for chemical cleaners or aggressive cleaning methods. For optimum protection, apply Glass & Tile Shield to pool tile every 6 months.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Pool tile should be brushed or scrubbed as part of a weekly pool maintenance program. Avoid the use of pumice stones or wire brushes, which can damage tile surfaces.

To remove waterline scum and grime, apply Oceancare All Purpose Cleaner & Degreaser to the tile surface and scrub with a nylon bristle scrub brush or a 3M White or Blue nylon scrub pad.

To remove mineral scale and calcium deposits, apply Oceancare Calcium Releaser to the tile surface and scrub with a nylon bristle scrub brush or a 3M White or Blue nylon scrub pad. Do not use abrasive or acidic cleaners.

MEDIA-BLASTING

In cases of heavy calcium deposits, mineral scale or neglected tile, media-blasting may be necessary. Media-blasting is a process in which an abrasive material is pressurized and shot at a surface to remove heavy deposits. This is generally performed by pool tile cleaning specialists through the use of portable media-blasting equipment. An array of blasting media is available, ranging from glass bead (aggressive) to baking soda (mild). Generally, baking soda or similar hardness blasting media (i.e. kieserite) is aggressive enough to remove scale but is safe for tile (including glass tile). As with all cleaning procedures, this process should be tested in an inconspicuous area to ensure the results will meet your expectations and not damage the tile surface.

Once media-blasting is complete, pool tile installations should be sealed, protected and regularly maintained with Oceancare Products.

WARNING Certain acids will damage tile glaze and iridescent glass tile. Care should be taken to protect tile surfaces when using acids in the pool finishing process and when adding acid to the pool water. DO NOT allow products that contain hydrofluoric, hydrochloric, muriatic or phosphoric acid to come in direct contact with the tile. In the case of accidental contact, neutralize immediately with baking soda and water (1lb: 3 gallons).
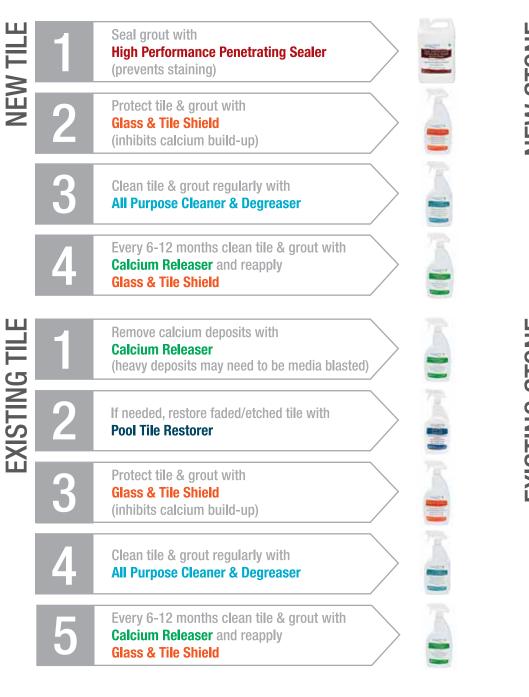
NOTE: Always wear personal protection equipment, follow instructions for product use and protect surrounding surfaces when using cleaning or sealing products. Test all products in an inconspicuous area for desired effect.
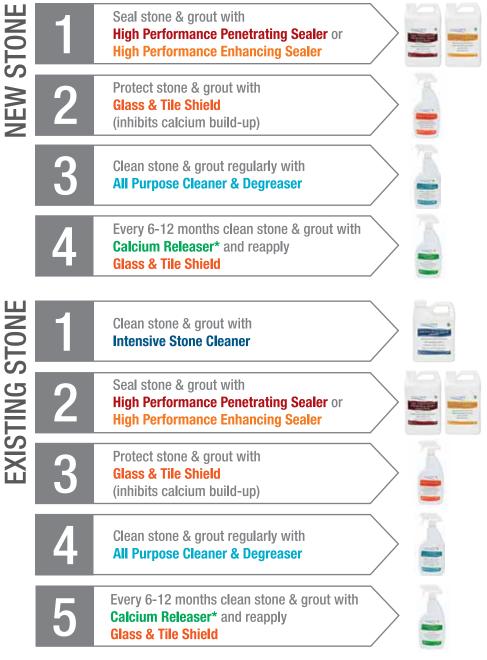
While each Oceancare Product can be used on its own, they are most effective when used together as part of a maintenance system. Select the appropriate system from the options below.

NEW TILE

1 Seal grout with
High Performance Penetrating Sealer
(prevents staining)

2 Protect tile & grout with
Glass & Tile Shield
(inhibits calcium build-up)

3 Clean tile & grout regularly with
All Purpose Cleaner & Degreaser

4 Every 6-12 months clean tile & grout with
Calcium Releaser and reapply
Glass & Tile Shield

EXISTING TILE

1 Remove calcium deposits with
Calcium Releaser
(heavy deposits may need to be media blasted)

2 If needed, restore faded/etched tile with
Pool Tile Restorer

3 Protect tile & grout with
Glass & Tile Shield
(inhibits calcium build-up)

4 Clean tile & grout regularly with
All Purpose Cleaner & Degreaser

5 Every 6-12 months clean tile & grout with
Calcium Releaser and reapply
Glass & Tile Shield

NEW STONE

1 Seal stone & grout with
High Performance Penetrating Sealer or
High Performance Enhancing Sealer

2 Protect stone & grout with
Glass & Tile Shield
(inhibits calcium build-up)

3 Clean stone & grout regularly with
All Purpose Cleaner & Degreaser

4 Every 6-12 months clean stone & grout with
Calcium Releaser* and reapply
Glass & Tile Shield

EXISTING STONE

1 Clean stone & grout with
Intensive Stone Cleaner

2 Seal stone & grout with
High Performance Penetrating Sealer or
High Performance Enhancing Sealer

3 Protect stone & grout with
Glass & Tile Shield
(inhibits calcium build-up)

4 Clean stone & grout regularly with
All Purpose Cleaner & Degreaser

5 Every 6-12 months clean stone & grout with
Calcium Releaser* and reapply
Glass & Tile Shield

* Calcium Releaser may damage some stone. Use only if necessary.

UNPROTECTED TILE	CLEANED AND PROTECTED WITH OCEANCARE

Calcium Releaser

A non-toxic, acid free cleaner that removes calcium deposits and efflorescence from pool tile, shower doors and plumbing fixtures. Calcium deposits are removed through the use of advanced acid-mimic technology, which targets mineral deposits without acid damage to glass, porcelain and ceramic tile surfaces or most metal finishes.

Available sizes / part number / coverage*
Quart Trigger Spray / 128109 / 75 sq. ft.
Gallon / 96101 / 300 sq. ft.

- Removes calcium deposits and efflorescence
- Acid free – Non-toxic
- Use with porcelain, ceramic and glass
- Does not affect pool pH

Glass & Tile Shield

An invisible, non-toxic, easy to apply surface protectant that inhibits the bond of calcium and other material deposits. Protected surfaces are easier to maintain and most deposits are removed with light brushing or scrubbing. This eliminates the need for abrasive or acidic cleaners and keeps your surfaces looking new, longer. Use on ceramic tile, porcelain tile, glass tile, natural stone. Excellent for pools, ponds and rock water features.

Available sizes / part number / coverage*
Quart Trigger Spray / 128577 / 75 sq. ft.
Gallon / 128578 / 300 sq. ft.

- Prevents calcium and mineral build-up
- Reduces maintenance on tile, shower doors & more
- Excellent for pools and water features
- Invisible, non-toxic & easy to apply
- Reapply every 6-12 months

*Actual coverages may vary depending on surface texture, porosity and rate of application

High Performance Penetrating Sealer
Hybrid Carrier Technology®

Penetrates and protects grout, natural stone and other porous masonry materials. Forms an invisible, no-sheen barrier that is resistant to water and oil and provides superior stain protection. Low residue formula is specifically designed to be easier and faster to apply than traditional penetrating sealers. May be applied to dry, damp, cured or uncured grout or natural stone (seriously…immediately after grouting!).

Available sizes / part number / coverage*

Quart / 100006 / 125-625 sq. ft.

Gallon / 100007 / 500-2500 sq. ft.

- Maintains natural look
- Seal the same day you grout
- Low residue – Low odor – Low VOC
- Interior and exterior use
- Reseal every 2-3 years

High Performance Enhancing Sealer
Hybrid Carrier Technology®

A low VOC, all-in-one color enhancer and penetrating sealer for both interior and exterior applications. Intensifies and enriches the color of natural stone, grout, concrete and other porous masonry materials. Forms a barrier that is resistant to water and oil and provides superior stain protection.

Available sizes / part number / coverage*

Quart / 104970 / 50-375 sq. ft.

Gallon / 104971 / 200-1500 sq. ft.

- Enriches natural stone color
- Excellent for travertine pavers
- Superior stain protection
- UV resistant for exterior use
- No acrylic solids to clog pool filters
- Reseal every 3-5 years

BEFORE | **AFTER**

*Actual coverages may vary depending on surface texture, porosity and rate of application

All Purpose Cleaner & Degreaser

A 100% natural, plant-derived, citrus-based cleaner that quickly cuts through body oil, sunscreen and makeup, which can accumulate on pool waterlines. Designed for use with all types of pool tile and vinyl pool liners.

- Removes waterline grease and grime
- 100% Natural-Biodegradable-Non-toxic
- Will not promote algae growth or affect pool pH

Available sizes / part number / coverage*
Quart Trigger Spray / 96099 / 200-400 sq. ft.

Pool Tile Restorer

An easy to apply, non-toxic, low VOC surface treatment that adds color and luster to old, faded or etched pool tile. Effective on most pool tile types including ceramic, porcelain and glass tile. Can be applied after acid washing or media-blasting to restore damaged or etched tile surfaces. Safe for use in pools, overspray or runoff that gets into pool water will not adversely affect pool water chemistry, clog filters or damage equipment.

Available sizes / part number / coverage*
Quart Trigger Spray / 140673 / 100-400 sq. ft.

- Adds color and luster to old, faded or etched pool tile
- Low to medium sheen
- Use on ceramic, porcelain or glass tile
- UV stable - will not yellow, crack or peel
- Low VOC - Easy to apply - Non-toxic

Intensive Stone Cleaner
Concentrate

A concentrated, acid-free, non-toxic, biodegradable, intensive cleaner designed for periodic use on natural stone surfaces. Cuts through years worth of heavy soil to restore natural stone surfaces to their original beauty. Use at maximum strength (1:4) for heavy-duty cleaning or make over 7 gallons of cleaning solution (1:30).

- Restoration cleaner for natural stone and grout
- Cuts through heavy soil and grease
- Biodegradable – Acid free – Non-toxic
- Makes up to 7 gallons of cleaning solution

Available sizes / part number / coverage*
Quart / 111141 / 400-2400 sq. ft.

ACID ETCHED TILE	TREATED WITH POOL TILE RESTORER

*Actual coverages may vary depending on surface texture, porosity and rate of application