

CEMENT TILE CARE & MAINTENANCE

Disclaimer: This document is a general reference guide for cleaning and maintaining cement tile. Always follow manufacturer recommendations for installing & maintaining products. If available, these are typically located in each box of tile and sometimes online. The following guide provides general information and should be read in its entirety.

*****[Recommended cleaners can be viewed & purchased here](#)*****

Cement tile is unglazed naturally made material and can last a lifetime if installed and cared for properly. It is recommended to seal cement tile and reapply yearly (or sooner if needed). Whether sealed or not, cement will develop a patina, over time.

General Tips

- Always store extra tiles in case they are needed in the future. Store in a cool dry place & if boxed keep the boxes dry as well.
- Regularly inspect tiles and have any damaged tiles professionally removed/replaced if desired.
- Use walk-off mats to reduce dust and particulate assembly.
- Always test cleaners and sealers on a sample if possible.
- Prolonged sun exposure can fade colors, especially green and blue.
- Never grind or buff cement tiles with an abrasive pad or disc, as this will damage the surface & color.

Sealing - Sealing is a required step in protecting the beauty and ensuring the longevity of your cement tile. Sealers provide stain resistance (not stain proofing), which allows for extra time to clean up potentially damaging spills by sealing micropores, and acts as a pigment protector. If the manufacturer recommended sealer is Dry-Treat, apply a minimum of 2-3 coats or 4 or more coats if installed on a backsplash where hot oil may present.

- Test sealers prior to use, on a sample is preferred.
- Re-seal every year or sooner in high traffic areas
- Use the manufacturer's recommended sealer, which can be purchased with the tile. If this is not available, use a Stonetech product that is formulated for cement.
- Use care & be meticulous when sealing and always read every instruction before starting.
- Tiles must be completely dry before sealing. Never seal damp or wet cement tiles.

Cleaning

- Sweep up debris with a broom before cleaning. Vacuum cleaners should be avoided or used with great care as the rollers could damage the floor.
- Use a pH neutral cleaner with no grit and buff tiles with a soft white pad. Add a capful of liquid wax to the water for extra protection.
- Do not use acidic or alkaline cleaners such as ammonia, vinegar, or bleach as these can damage cement.

Troubleshooting

- If your cement tiles are scratched, 220 grit sandpaper can be used to buff out scratches. Always reseal after.

Brass Inlaid Cement - Cement tiles with brass inlays will age with a patina, and are prone to tarnish and require additional maintenance. Any tarnish that accumulates can be removed with wet sanding using 320 grit sandpaper. The wet sanding process can be repeated as many times as necessary to keep the brass looking shiny & new, however, tiles must be re-sealed after each round of sanding. Cement with brass inlays will age with vintage appeal