

Alterna Grouting Tiles & Planks



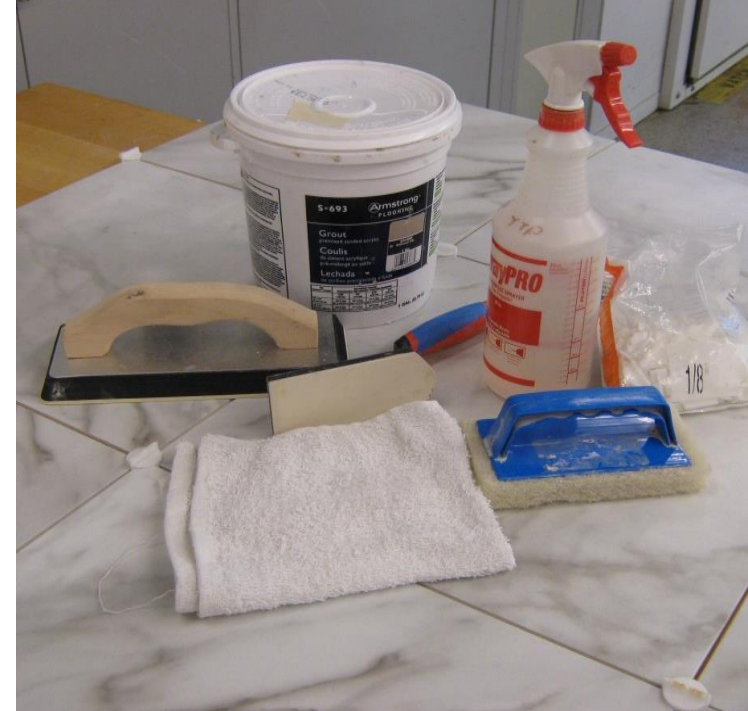
Armstrong[®]
FLOORING

Inspiring Great Spaces™

Grouting Alterna

Tiles and Planks

- Armstrong S-693 Premixed Sanded Acrylic Grout
- Soft rubber float
- Soft rubber Margin float
- White 3M pad
- Tile spacers
- Gloves
- Two- 5 Gallon Buckets (3 Buckets Recommended)
- Two Sponges/cellulose sponge
- Spray Bottle



Grouting Alterna

Tiles and Planks

- Different types of spacers are available.
- VCT spacers are 1/8"
- Spacing –
1/16" minimum 1/4" maximum
- Actual grout joint will appear slightly larger due to rounded edges on the tile or plank
- Remove spacers and thoroughly roll the tile or plank installation with a 100lb. roller.
- Grouting should not be completed unless all tiles or planks are firmly bonded.



Pieces of VCT used as spacers

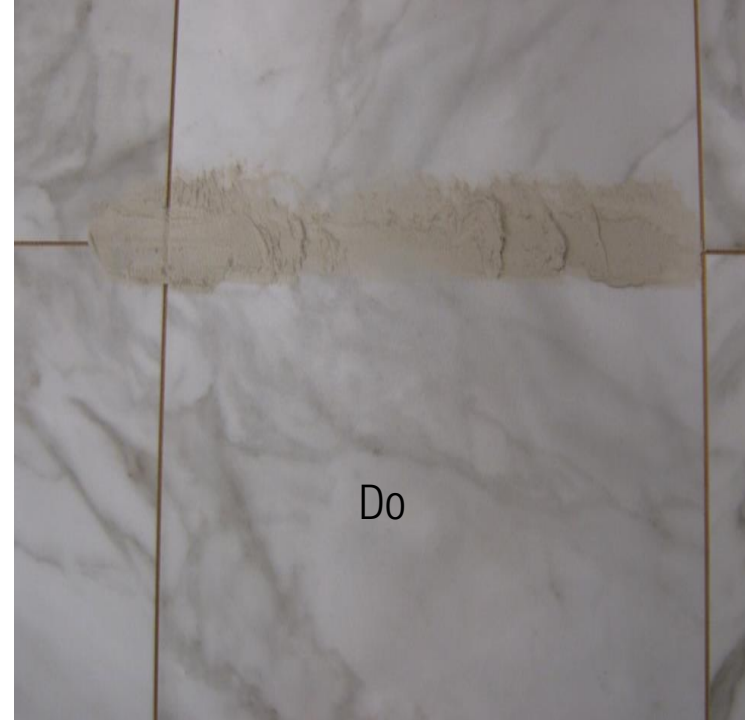


Round spacers

Applying Grout

With the Float

- Pack grout full in the joints only.
- Work small areas of about 10 SF at a time to prevent the grout from drying hard on the face of the tile.
- Shown here is typical grouting as would be done with ceramic tile where you use the float over the entire floor surface- do not do this with Armstrong Engineered tile.





Applying **S-693 Grout**

- With engineered tile, it is best to minimize spreading grout over the entire floor.
- Try to apply and pack it down only in the immediate area of the open joints.



Applying **S-693 Grout**

Hold float almost vertical and pull the edge of the float diagonally across the tile to remove as much of the grout as possible from the face, while still leaving joints nice and full.

Cleaning Alterna

Tile and Planks

- Use a grout sponge or spray bottle to lightly wet the surface before the grout dries hard on the Tile or plank face.
- Making sure to keep the sponge flat to the surface.
- Loosen residue from tile surface by lightly rubbing the damp sponge diagonally across the surface.
- Avoid excessive water on the tiles or planks.
- Be careful not to wipe the grout out of the joints.



Cleaning Alterna

Tile and Planks

- Take a clean damp sponge and slowly wipe diagonally to remove the remaining grout residue and water.
- Hold the sponge flat and make only one pass with the sponge on the first side; then flip it over and make one pass with the second side of the sponge before rinsing it out.



Cleaning Alterna

Tile and Planks

- Take a clean damp sponge and ring almost all of the water out of the cellulose sponge.
- Hold the sponge flat and make only one pass with the sponge on the first side; then flip it over and make one pass with the second side of the sponge before rinsing it out.
- Make sure to have two 5 gallon buckets available. This is recommend but a preferred method would to have three buckets available to cycle the buckets.
- Having clean water available will reduce any hazing on the face of the tiles or planks.



Cleaning Alterna

Tile and Planks

- Take a clean damp sponge and ring out almost all of the water.
- Hold the sponge flat, and make only one pass very lightly. Then, flip the sponge over and make another pass.
- You are just trying to pick up the excess water on the face of the tile or plank.



Cleaning Alterna

Tile and Planks

- If there are small beads of water remaining on the surface just place a dry or slightly damp towel and pull on top of the surface .





Cleaning Alterna Planks and Tiles

It is a good idea to avoid “over working” the grout with repeated cleanings as the joints will become washed out and weakened by excessive water which may cause cracks. If you need to clean dried grout from the surface, just mist lightly with water onto the tile or plank. Do not spray on the freshly grouted areas.

Cleaning Alterna

Tile and Planks

- A very slight grout haze is normal after the initial cleaning.
- Wait at least 24 hours, until the grout is completely dry, before the final clean-up step.



Final Cleaning

Tile and Planks

- The final step is to clean any remaining residue from the face of the tile or planks. This can be completed using Once n Done with a terry cloth towel or a white 3M pad if necessary.



Additional Notes

Grouting Alterna Tile and Planks

- S-693 can simply be reapplied if voids or low spots are discovered during final inspection.
- Do not use grout sealers on the finished S-693 grout application.
- Routine maintenance should be done with Armstrong Once 'n Done No-Rinse Floor Cleaner. Do not use New Beginning cleaner
- Armstrong provides a lifetime warranty on Alterna for manufacturing defects.
- Use Armstrong S-693 Pre-mixed Sanded Acrylic Grout when installing Alterna with grout.
- Armstrong will continue to warrant the product for manufacturing defects even if it is grouted.

Additional Notes

Grouting Alterna Tile and Planks

- Tile maybe walked on immediately however, NO heavy rolling traffic for an additional 72 hrs. after installation
- Use pieces of hardboard or underlayment panels to protect the floor when moving heavy furniture and appliances back into the room
- Do NOT use mats with latex or rubber backing as they can cause permanent discoloration of your floor
- Do NOT use vacuums that use a beater bar or turn beater bar off
- Do NOT use electric brooms with hard plastic bottoms with no padding
- Do NOT use abrasive scrubbing tools
- Do not use detergents abrasive, cleaners or “mop and shine” products