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Encaustic Cement Tiles Important Information

The encaustic cement tiles have a unique finish. The organic pigments and salt present in the cement produce a varied and chalky look similar to lime wash paints. Most of the variations and salts present on a newly laid surface will settle slightly, but will remain a permanent feature.

Applications

Suitable for any indoor area. Tiles may be used for shower bases however strong household bleaches and cleaners may affect the pigment of the tile. Therefore we recommend a mild of Ph neutral detergent is used in this area.

Outdoor installation is not recommended due to the combination of harsh Australian UV light and moisture, which bleach the pigment. Covered verandahs and walkways, which are protected from the elements are possible.

Installation

1. Mud, slurry or sand and cement.
2. Adhesive installation with Construction Chemicals Kemgrip Floor & Wall for masonry surfaces or Monoflex for surfaces subject to vibration (cement sheet over timber, heated concrete slabs, cement render, fibre cement sheet, plasterboard and existing sound tiled surfaces).

For further technical information, contact Construction Chemicals on 02 9756 3533.

If the tiler uses a rubber mallet to tap the tiles into place, light marks can be left on the tile. These are easily removed by scrubbing with hot soapy water.

Unopened boxes and tiles may be damp due to the method of production and shipping. During the initial laying period, the tiles will often appear very dirty and easily scuffed. This is a result of salt present in the cement being deposited onto the tile surface making it rough and crusty. A light scour or scrub will remove the excess crystallized salts. This may be done after sealing with Sealers Choice to avoid reactivating the salt.



Grouting

Your tiler may choose to apply a pre seal prior to grouting, although this is not essential. We do not recommend using coloured oxides in the grout as the colour could seep into the tiles. Our suggestion is Kemgrout Sanded Buff which can be ordered with the tiles. For darker colours use grey cement and clean sand.

Grout joints to be fine – approximately 3-5mm.

Sealing

The tiles have been lightly pre-sealed at the factory to act as a grout release which will be degraded during the grouting process. However a coat of sealer can be applied prior to grouting for added ease.

A simple water test will determine whether the tiles require further sealing immediately. We recommend the clean up is carried out using a cleaning pad and Aquamix Nanoscrub to achieve great results.

To ensure effective sealing , the floor should be completely dry before sealing with Aquamix Sealers Choice to seal and preserve – matt finish – 2 coats.

For further technical information contact Construction Technologies Australia on 02 967 4 1004.

Disclaimer

Aeria Country Floors does not recommend the use of acid or strong household detergents, which may attack the surface and pigment of the tile. If the tile is used in a shower base, the colour will appear a shade darker and the paler colours may have a grey hue. Exposure to the elements and strong UV light may affect the tile colour and pigment.

BEFORE YOU LAY YOUR TILES PLEASE NOTE:

Please check your tiles to make sure they are what you ordered. If there is any concern regarding the quantity, size, colour, shade or variation of batch, the tiles must not be laid.

If a defect is discovered whilst the tiles are being laid, work must stop immediately and your supplier must be contacted.



Prior to laying tiles the homeowner, tiler or builder must:

- Inspect tiles for any defect
- Check that the tiles delivered to site are the correct quantity, colour, shade and size as ordered or selected.
- Check that the shades are consistent through the batch delivered.
- Ensure that there are enough tiles on site for the project. If not order some more of the same batch before work commences.

During laying we suggest:

- Mixing tiles from several boxes to ensure blending of any inherent shade variation.
- Always clean any adhesive, grout and wax from the surface of the tiles.
- If sealing is required, make sure that the tiles are thoroughly cleaned before sealing.

Please note: Australian standards define acceptable variation imperfections allowable in any batch. Claims for defects, size, shade variation and incorrect delivery and other fault that should have been reasonably obvious before laying was carried out, will not be accepted.