

Tile & Stone Installation Systems

Maintenance of tile where non-cement grout was used

Routine care and maintenance

Focus of this section

Routine cleaning and maintenance of porcelain, ceramic and natural-stone tiles grouted with one of MAPEI's non-Portland-cement grouts: *Kerapoxy*[®] CQ, *Kerapoxy IEG CQ*, *MAPEI Flexcolor*[™] CQ, *MAPEI Flexcolor 3D* or *Ultracolor*[®] Plus FA

Materials needed

Synthetic mop, micro-fiber pad or sponge, soft nylon bristle brush, clean mop bucket or floor-scrubbing machine equipped with white nylon scrubpads. The use of a squeegee and wet vacuum is also acceptable for removing liquid from the surface. For large commercial floors, it will be beneficial to use a walk-behind/ride-on floor-scrubbing machine that is equipped with a nylon bristle brush or white nylon scrubpads.

Sweep or vacuum the area often to remove dirt, dust, debris, contaminants and other abrasives. Regular damp-mopping and monthly scrubbing are needed to keep the floor and grout clean. Remove spills, food and other staining materials as soon as possible. Use a mop or scrub brush for cleaning small areas. For large commercial areas, use a walk-behind/ride-on floor-scrubbing machine.

Caution: The use of strong alkaline, acidic, abrasive and ammonia-based cleaners can damage stone and grout, and can greatly diminish the stain repellency of sealers. Use a mild, neutral-pH detergent that is specifically formulated for use on delicate natural stone, tile and grout, such as *UltraCare*[™] Concentrated Tile & Grout Cleaner.

Recommended MAPEI product #1 and how to apply it

UltraCare Concentrated Tile & Grout Cleaner

1. Sweep or vacuum the installation area.
2. Mix 2 to 4 U.S. oz. (59 to 118 mL) of *UltraCare* Concentrated Tile & Grout Cleaner into 1 U.S. gal. (3.79 L) of clean water.
3. Liberally apply the solution to a manageable area using a mop, sponge, cloth or appropriate mechanical equipment and allow it to remain on the surface for several minutes.
4. Agitate with sponge, nylon scrubpad or soft nylon bristle brush.

5. Remove the dirty solution using a mop or wet vacuum.
6. Rinse with clean water and allow the area to completely dry before allowing light foot traffic. Change the water as it becomes dirty, or every 500 sq. ft. (46.5 m²), so as to not re-deposit soil onto the surface.
7. Once the tile and grout have thoroughly dried, apply an appropriate penetrating sealer, according to the surface being sealed and the protection desired. Three premium impregnating *UltraCare* sealers – Penetrating Plus Stone, Tile & Grout Sealer; Penetrating SB Stone, Tile & Grout Sealer; and Penetrating Plus SB Stone & Porcelain Tile Sealer – provide protection against water- and oil-based staining.

Note: *Kerapoxy* grouts, *MAPEI Flexcolor CQ*, *MAPEI Flexcolor 3D* and *Ultracolor Plus FA* have increased stain resistance with very low absorption rates and do not require sealing, but sealers will not harm them. For guidance, refer to the Technical Data Sheet (TDS) for the grout you have selected.

Recommended MAPEI product #2 and how to apply it

UltraCare Everyday Stone, Tile & Grout Cleaner

1. Spray *UltraCare* Everyday Stone, Tile & Grout Cleaner directly onto the soiled tile or grout.
2. Remove the product from the surface using a clean, dry, lint-free towel or damp sponge. Rinsing is not necessary. For heavily soiled areas, scrub instead with a white scrubpad.
3. Wipe the surface for a final time using a clean, damp cloth or sponge.

Heavy-duty/restorative deep cleaning

Focus of this section

Heavy-duty, restorative cleaning and maintenance of porcelain, ceramic and natural-stone tiles with *Kerapoxy CQ*, *Kerapoxy IEG CQ*, *MAPEI Flexcolor CQ*, *MAPEI Flexcolor 3D* and *Ultracolor Plus FA* grouts

Materials needed

Synthetic mop, micro-fiber pad or sponge, soft nylon bristle brush, clean mop bucket or floor-scrubbing machine equipped with white nylon scrubpads. The use of a squeegee and wet vacuum is also acceptable to remove liquid from the surface. For large commercial floors, it will be beneficial to use a walk-behind/

ride-on floor-scrubbing machine that is equipped with a nylon bristle brush or white nylon scrubpads.

Over time, all grout and floors can become soiled, even with routine cleaning. Using the right products – *UltraCare Heavy-Duty Stone, Tile & Grout Cleaner* or *UltraCare Abrasive Surface Cleaner* – to deep-clean the surface can restore tiles and grout to an acceptable or like-new condition.

Recommended MAPEI products and how to apply them

UltraCare Heavy-Duty Stone, Tile & Grout Cleaner; UltraCare Abrasive Surface Cleaner

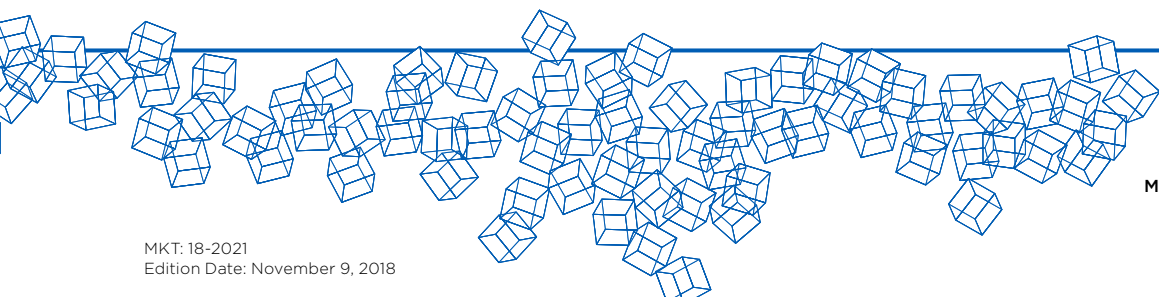
1. Sweep or vacuum the installation area.
2. Mix 1 part of *UltraCare Heavy-Duty Stone, Tile & Grout Cleaner* with 2 to 3 parts of clean water.
3. Liberally apply the solution to a manageable area and allow it to dwell for up to 10 minutes. Do not allow the solution to dry on the surface.
4. Agitate the applied solution with a nylon scrubpad or medium, stiff, nylon bristle brush.
5. For heavily soiled areas, apply an equal amount of *UltraCare Abrasive Surface Cleaner* directly to the same area before scrubbing.
6. Remove dirty solution using a sponge, mop or cloth. For larger areas, use a squeegee to pull spent material into puddles and recover the liquid using a wet vacuum.
7. Rinse the area with clean water. Change water as it becomes dirty, or every 300 sq. ft. (27.9 m²).
8. Allow at least 48 hours of drying time before applying an *UltraCare* sealer.
9. Apply an appropriate penetrating sealer, according to the surface being sealed and the protection desired. Three premium impregnating *UltraCare* sealers – Penetrating Plus Stone, Tile & Grout Sealer; Penetrating SB Stone, Tile & Grout Sealer; and Penetrating Plus SB Stone & Porcelain Tile Sealer – provide protection against water- and oil-based staining.

Note: *Kerapoxy CQ*, *Kerapoxy IEG CQ*, *MAPEI Flexcolor CQ*, *MAPEI Flexcolor 3D* and *Ultracolor Plus FA* grouts have increased stain resistance, with very low absorption rates, and do not require sealing.

Before using a product, always read its label. Test products in a small, inconspicuous area to determine suitability, ease of use and desired results. Avoid skin and eye contact by using proper personal protective equipment (PPE) when using any liquid cleaners or sealers. Refer to the product's label, TDS and

Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for additional safety and handling information and specifications.

Jobsite conditions vary and may present installation issues not covered in this technical bulletin. For the most current product information, visit www.mapei.com or contact MAPEI's Technical Services Product Support Team.



MKT: 18-2021
Edition Date: November 9, 2018



MAPEI Headquarters of North America
1144 East Newport Center Drive
Deerfield Beach, Florida 33442
1-888-US-MAPEI (1-888-876-2734) /
(954) 246-8888