

HOW TO INSTALL TERRAZZO TILES

A Detailed installation & care guide

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Please read this guide in full before beginning installation. Relative terrazzo tiles are precision products that require appropriate tools, adhesives, and handling. Always work with a professional tile installer experienced in natural or terrazzo materials.

REVIEW YOUR ORDER

- Inspect all tiles carefully upon delivery.
 - We recommend ordering **10-15% overage** for cutting, waste, and breakage.
 - Store tiles **indoors** in a **dry, covered** area. Exposure to rain or humidity may damage the product or packaging.
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REQUIRED MATERIALS

For Installation:

- High-performance **elastic cement adhesive** (suitable for stone/terrazzo)
- Notched trowel
- Wet sponge & buckets
- Rubber grout float
- Wet saw (for cutting)
- Straight edge or level
- Clean cloth or mop

For Grouting:

- Grouting cement or suitable filler (color-matched to tile)
- Clean water & sponge
- Neutral pH cleaner

For Protection & Maintenance:

- **Fila FOB Xtreme** (recommended waterproofing/stain-proofing sealer)
 - Neutral detergent
 - Colorless liquid wax (optional, for ongoing maintenance)
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SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

- The substrate must be:
 - **Flat, smooth, clean** (free from dust, oils, waxes, and debris)
 - **Crack-free**, compact, and dry
 - **Mechanically strong and dimensionally stable**
 - Lay tiles only on **fully cured screeds** that have completed their shrinkage to prevent cracking or tile detachment.
 - Typical cure time is **7-10 days (about 1 and a half weeks) per cm** of screed thickness unless using fast-setting binders.
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TILE INSTALLATION

1. **Dry Layout:**
 - a. Blend tiles from all boxes and dry lay to preview variation and layout.
2. **Adhesive Application:**
 - a. Use a high-performance, elastic adhesive suitable for terrazzo/stone.
 - b. Apply using the **double-spread technique** (on both floor and tile).
 - c. Avoid uneven subfloors to reduce grinding and finish disruption.
3. **Tile Placement:**
 - a. Press tiles firmly into place. Use a level to ensure even alignment.
 - b. Remove excess adhesive immediately.

CURING TIME

Allow adhesive to fully cure before grouting. Follow adhesive manufacturer's timing guidelines.

GROUTING

- Ensure joints are **clean, dust-free, and wide enough** for proper grout bonding.
 - Use a grout or filler **color-matched** to the tile.
 - Spread grout thoroughly over the entire tile surface and into the joints, ensuring full coverage, in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
 - **Remove excess grout while still fresh** to avoid stains or film.
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INITIAL CLEANING (AFTER INSTALLATION)

- Do **not** use acidic, alkaline, or abrasive cleaners.
 - Wash with a **neutral pH detergent** diluted in clean water.
 - Rinse thoroughly with water and dry with a soft towel or mop.
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SURFACE PROTECTION

- Apply a **waterproofing/stain-proofing agent** like **Fila FOB Xtreme** once tiles are fully dry and clean.
 - Recommended especially for high-traffic or spill-prone areas (kitchens, cafes, lobbies).
 - Follow sealer instructions and avoid over-application.
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MAINTENANCE & CLEANING

- Regularly sweep or dust-mop to remove grit and dirt.
- Clean using **neutral pH cleaner** with water.

- For enhanced maintenance, we recommend the “**washing waxing**” method:
 - Mix a **colorless liquid wax** into water during mopping to preserve the surface.
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INSTALLATION SAFETY

- Always wear a **dust mask** and **safety glasses** while unpacking, cutting, or installing tiles.
- Use gloves when handling grout, mortar, or sealers to protect your skin.
- If you need to do a lot of cutting, try to do it **outside or in a well-ventilated area** to avoid breathing in dust.
- After finishing your work, make sure to **wash your hands thoroughly** with soap and water — especially before eating or drinking.