

## **Encaustic Cement Tiles Installation Guide**

Encaustic Cement Tiles are hand-made tiles and show nuances in design and colors. Each cement tile is individually made and variations in thickness, size and colour and imperfection like irregular edges and corners, as well as pattern contours being partly blurred are inherent to the manufacturing process. These characteristics add to the tile's natural appeal and do not compromise performance. Slight variations in pigmentation and design bleed can occur from tile to tile, and batch to batch. Individual tiles will not be identical. These tiles are not machine-made, and general variations are considered to be a natural charm of the tiles.

**We recommend mixing the cement tiles from different boxes during setting-out** to produce a beautiful naturally rich appearance.

### **Tile installation**

- We recommend the installation work for cement tiles is done after all other construction works--if at all possible. Fix the tiles at the last stage of the work. Otherwise the surface will be dirty and will be next to impossible to clean, if it is soiled by the result of construction works.
- The tiling substrate must be prepared in accordance with the design, lower than the tiled finish level by -20 to -25mm.
- Cement tiles must be installed on a well levelled, clean and dry surface. Moisture and/or Humidity in screed will cause fur deposits on the tile's surface. This effect is a natural reaction of cement-based products and can cause the tiles to surface stain, color fade or can damage the surface of the tile showing cracks and pitting.
- If you are laying tile on a concrete slab, be sure the slab is completely cured to prevent white efflorescence spots from showing up later on the surface of the tile as water evaporates through it.
- Fill a bucket with clean water. Briefly dip the tiles in the water for 3 to 5 seconds and let the excess drip away in a second bucket or vessel. Refresh the water as required. This is to remove any dust and in order to pre-wet the back of the tiles prior setting-out. Avoid letting the tiles sit in water for long periods of time.
- **This is a good time to mix tiles randomly from different boxes**, so that color variations are not laid in rows or clusters and that the overall 'look' has balanced colour and tonal variation.
- Apply regular cement tile adhesive/thinset mortar evenly on the surface the tile is being laid on, using a large-toothed comb trowel. Also apply adhesive on the back of the tile.
- Once you position the tiles; Press the tile down firmly with your hands **ONLY**, DO NOT USE A HAMMER OR RUBBER Mallet, since cracks may show up later, even if you do not see them immediately.
- It is necessary to install the tiles leaving a 1.5 or 2 mm gap for the joints to be grouted.
- Please bear in mind that the tiles must be kept meticulously clean through the whole installation process - we recommend wearing protective latex gloves. Any staining to the surface of the tile before sealing will be difficult to remove.
- On pressing and leveling the tiles, you might get some up-spill of adhesive/thinset mortar. Make sure you clean this adhesive/thinset mortar with a wet towel immediately. It is very important that the adhesive/thinset mortar is not allowed to dry on the surface of the tiles as it will stain the tiles permanently.
- Once the tiles are installed and the cement adhesive/thinset mortar is dry, clean the surface by scrubbing it with clean fresh water. It will remove the thin layer of pigmented dust that can still cover the tiles. Allow the tile to dry completely for 8-10 hours.
- **Prior to grouting**, apply one coat of FILA **HYDROREP** protector. Follow product manufacturer instructions for application. Always test the product first on a cut or waste tile. This product must be allowed to dry for 24 hours.

## Grouting

- Before grouting, cement tiles should be allowed to dry for at least 36 hours. We recommend grouting 3 days after fixing is complete.
- Use white or light grey non-pigmented/un-tinted unsanded grout ONLY, **never use dyed or dark grout; as pigments from the grout will stain the tiles irreversibly.** Improper installation can cause the tiles to be stained by the grout tint, causing haze over dark regions, or making lighter regions appear dingy.
- Wipe the tiles with a moist sponge before grouting.
- Knife-out all the joints to remove any excessive adhesive/thinset mortar.
- Fill the gap between the tiles using a filling-knife, without spreading the grout on tiles. Apply the grout just enough in the area around of tile join only. Please don't apply the grout over the whole tile's surface. Always moving diagonally across the joints.
- Any grout excess/surplus must be removed/cleaned immediately with a wet cloth/sponge before it dries.
- Do not use any oils or cleaning chemicals to the tile face.
- Never use acid (cement dissolver) to remove the excess or stains of grout.

## Treatment with Sealer

- Once grouting is completed as described in the 'Grouting' section of this document, seal the tiles with FILA**FOB** sealer. Follow product manufacturer instructions for application in conjunction with the outline guide below. Always test the product first on a cut or waste tile.
- Always try the sealer on a loose tile before applying it on the entire surface, to measure the grade of absorption of the tiles.
- The FILA**FOB** sealer is applied after the installation of the cement tiles and grouting, over a clean and dry floor.
- ALWAYS CHECK THE MOISTURE CONTENT OF THE TILED SURFACE WITH A MOISTURE METER PRIOR TO SEALER APPLICATION. This is to avoid entrapment of residual moisture in the tiles which could show patches and/or blotches once sealed and also over time.
- FILA**FOB** sealer is a solvent based sealer that limits water and oil penetration.
- FILA**FOB** sealer impregnates the tile, reduces its porosity and keeps its natural matt aspect.
- It must be applied with a brush or a foam roller on a dry and clean surface. One or more successive applications can be done until the tile is saturated. You may buff with a fine cloth to give it an even distribution.
- Do not apply too much. The excess would leave glistening stains on the surface (drop or brush traces).
- Allow a full 24 hours for the product to dry prior to any foot traffic.



- UNPOLISHED STONE AND AGGLOMERATES
- CONCRETE
- MANUFACTURED STONE



### WHAT IT'S FOR

- Protects outdoor floors from water and damp.
- Makes walls and coverings water-repellent.
- Ideal for cement.
- Protects grout joints.
- Protects against deterioration due to weather conditions.

### ADVANTAGES

- It provides a breathable, lasting and renewable protection.
- Does not affect the material's natural look.
- Does not yellow with ageing or with any environmental condition.
- High penetration capacity.
- Provides high coverage.
- Prevents moss and mould formation.
- It protects against efflorescence.

### HOW TO USE IT

**No dilution required:** ready to use.

#### Application:

Using a paintbrush, apply the product evenly and continually to a clean dry surface. You can apply the product once or twice, depending on the absorbing capacity of material, waiting 24 hours between one coat and the next. Apply one coat on low-absorbency natural stones (such as slate), and two coats on more absorbent natural stones or on cement. For outdoor surfaces where oil-repellent qualities are also required, after 24 hours apply a finishing coat of FILAFOB.

**Maintenance:** diluted solution of FILACLEANER

#### FOR PROFESSIONAL USE ONLY:

spray the product (airless system) on vertical surfaces until they are saturated and use appropriate PPE, as indicated in the safety information sheet.

#### Caution:

On natural stone carry out a patch test on a small surface area to check for any changes in colour. Do not apply the product externally if rain is forecast.

#### COVERAGE

With one litre:

Natural stone	10/20 m <sup>2</sup>
Concrete	5 m <sup>2</sup>

"Coverage shown is for guidance purposes only and refers to single coats"

#### Packaging

1-litre cans in boxes of 12.  
5-litre cans in boxes of 4.

#### WARNINGS

- Keep out of reach of children.
- Do not disperse into the environment after use.
- It does not protect marble and limestone from acid.
- The use of a single-disc cleaning machine is permitted only if it is perfectly undamaged.

Outdoor flooring must be properly laid before being treated and must satisfy all specific requirements, including: adequate sloping, properly executed expansion joints, perfect insulation from underlying ground, proven compatibility with sub-zero temperatures.

#### TEMPERATURES

Storage temperature: from 0°C to 30°C  
The product should be applied to materials with temperature between 5° and 30°C.

#### COMPOSITION

A mixture of siloxane compounds dispersed in de-aromatised hydrocarbon solvent.

#### LABELLING

Warning: Danger

Hazard indication:

Flammable liquid and vapour. May be fatal if swallowed and enters airways. May cause drowsiness or dizziness.

Repeated exposure may cause skin dryness or cracking.

Caution recommendations: If medical advice is needed, have product container or label at hand. Keep out of reach of children. Keep away from heat, hot surfaces, sparks, open flames and other ignition sources. No smoking. Keep container tightly closed. Wear protective gloves / eye protection / face protection.

IF SWALLOWED: immediately call a POISON CENTER / doctor. Dispose of contents / container in accordance with official regulations. Contains: De-aromatized mineral turpentine



#### TECHNICAL FEATURES

Appearance: liquid

Colour: colourless

Odour: slight hydrocarbon solvent smell

Density: 0,777 kg/l

Flash point: 40 °C

This information is the result of our most up-to-date technical know-how and is based on ongoing laboratory research and testing. Nevertheless, for reasons beyond our control, any suggestions always require appropriate analysis, testing and monitoring. Fila shall not accept any responsibility for improper use of its products.



- TERRACOTTA
- QUARRY TILES
- CONCRETE
- UNPOLISHED NATURAL STONE
- TUFO



### WHAT IT'S FOR

- Stain-proofing agent for internal and external surfaces.
- Protective base coat before waxing internal surfaces with rustic or textured finishes.
- Excellent for coloured cement tiles.
- Natural effect breathing protection.

### ADVANTAGES

- Does not alter original colour and appearance.
- Does not form surface film.
- Does not alter terracotta frost resistance.
- The product is certified foodsafe.
- Excellent on rustic ground terracotta and tumbled marble.
- Ideal for use near kitchens, barbecues and car driveways.

### COVERAGE

With one litre:

Stone	10/20 m <sup>2</sup>
Terracotta rustic Tuscan, polished	15/20 m <sup>2</sup>
Terracotta handmade, Spanish, hollow tile, brick	5/10 m <sup>2</sup>

"Coverage shown is for guidance purposes only and refers to single coats"

### HOW TO USE IT

**No dilution required:** ready to use.

#### Application:

**For exterior use:** Apply one coat of water-repellent product beforehand (FILAES82 if it is a terracotta surface or HYDROREP on a natural stone surface) with the surface dry and clean. Allow until it is absolutely dry (about 24 hours), then apply FILAFOB undiluted using a large, flat paintbrush, also soaking the joints well. Allow 24 hours before walking on the floor.

**For interior use:** With the surface clean and dry, apply FILAFOB undiluted using a large, flat paintbrush, also soaking the joints well. Wait 24 hours before walking on the floor. Complete the treatment with the most suitable wax for the specific surface (e.g. FILAMATT - natural effect, FILASATIN - satin effect, FILALONGLIFE - polished effect).

**Maintenance:** diluted solution of FILACLEANER.

#### Caution:

Never apply FILAFOB onto a surface that is already waxed. Do not apply FILAFOB during the hottest hours of the day in summer. Carry out a patch test on a small surface area to check for any changes in colour. Do not apply the product externally if rain is forecast.

### Packaging

250-ml bottles in boxes of 12.  
1-litre cans in boxes of 6.  
5-litre cans in boxes of 4.

#### WARNINGS

- Keep out of reach of children.
- Do not disperse into the environment after use.
- Ventilate the area if applied on internal surfaces.
- The use of a single-disc cleaning machine is permitted only if it is perfectly undamaged.
- Outdoor flooring must be properly laid before being treated and must satisfy all specific requirements, including: adequate sloping, properly executed expansion joints, perfect insulation from underlying ground, proven compatibility with sub-zero temperatures.
- Does not protect marble and limestone from acid.

#### TEMPERATURES

Storage temperature: from 0° to 30°C  
The product should be applied to materials with temperature between 5° and 30° C.

#### COMPOSITION

A blend of synthetic resins dispersed in de-aromatised hydrocarbon solvent. Pursuant to it Leg Dec. No.161/06  
Binding primers (waterproofing). EU limit value for this product (Cat: 1/h): 750 g/l (2010). This product contains no more than 57.99 g/l.

#### LABELLING

##### Warning: Danger

##### Hazard indication:

Flammable liquid and vapour. May be fatal if swallowed and enters airways. May cause long lasting harmful effects to aquatic life. Repeated exposure may cause skin dryness or cracking.

##### Caution recommendations:

If medical advice is needed, have product container or label at hand. Keep out of reach of children. Keep away from heat / sparks / open flames / hot surfaces. No smoking. Wear protective gloves / protective clothing / eye protection / face protection. IF SWALLOWED: Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor / physician. Dispose of contents / container in accordance with official regulations. Contains: ISOALCANI C10-C12.



#### TECHNICAL FEATURES

**Appearance:** liquid

**Colour:** transparent colourless

**Odour:** typical hydrocarbon solvent smell

**Density:** 0.763 kg/l

**Flash point:** 40 °C

This information is the result of our most up-to-date technical know-how and is based on ongoing laboratory research and testing. Nevertheless, for reasons beyond our control, any suggestions always require appropriate analysis, testing and monitoring. Fila shall not accept any responsibility for improper use of its products.