



HARD SURFACE

Tile Cleaning—Grout Sealing

INTRODUCTION

In the cleaning pre-inspection, determine if the grout is sealed or not (if previously sealed, you may not have to do it again). After the grout is cleaned and starting to dry, you need to decide what sealer to apply. In most cases, you will apply **Premium Grout & Stone Sealer**. The only time you will not apply **Premium Grout & Stone Sealer** is when a colored sealer is needed to even-out the color of the grout, or a darker grout is developing a white haze on its surface as it dries. This is called efflorescence and needs to be removed before applying a sealer. This phenomenon is caused by water; therefore, **Premium Grout & Stone Sealer** should not be used. **Solvent-Based Grout Sealer** and **Clear Grout Sealer** with color additives can be applied after 24 hours.

PROCEDURE

- **STEP 1**
Pre-test grout to see if previously sealed or not.
- **STEP 2**
Place air movers to dry the grout as thoroughly as possible before applying sealer. The dryer the grout, the better the penetration of the sealer. The grout needs to dry 24 hours before applying the **Solvent-Based Grout Sealer**.
- **STEP 3**
Apply the sealer of choice with your preferred method. The **Injectimate** with the **Grout Sealer Kit** will be the preferred method when applying the **Premium Grout & Stone Sealer**. The **Groutwand** or **Groutstick** will need to be used when applying the **Solvent-Based Grout Sealer** and the **Clear Grout Sealer with Color Additives**.
- **STEP 4**
In a test area, see how much sealer a grout line will absorb. Apply this amount as evenly as possible with the proper grout sealing tool.
- **STEP 5**
Wipe any excess sealer off non-porous tiles with terry-cloth towel and/or sponge as you seal.

➤ STEP 6

Let it dry and keep people off for three to four hours. Leave instructions to not clean for 72 hours to allow thorough time for curing of the sealer.

Chemicals Needed



Premium Grout & Stone Sealer

Type: Grout sealer
Highlights: Water-based sealer that protects against water or oil-based soils.



Solvent-Based Grout Sealer

Type: Grout sealer
Highlights: A low-odor, solvent-based sealer for any cementitious surface.



Clear Grout Sealer & Color Additives

Type: Grout sealer
Highlights: This clear grout sealer can be colored with a choice of several additives.

Accessories Needed



Injectimate w/ Grout Sealing Kit

Description: Grout sealer applicator
Purpose: Allows total control of the amount of sealer applied. Use only with water-based sealer.



Groutstick

Description: Grout sealer applicator
Purpose: Applies grout sealer evenly, without waste.



Turbo-Stick

Description: Grout sealer applicator
Purpose: Applies grout sealer accurately, allowing for more control.



Terrycloth Towel

Description: Absorbent Material
Purpose: Wipe off excess moisture or sealer.



Sponge

Description: Absorbent Material
Purpose: Remove excess sealer.



Airmovers

Description: High volume air mover
Purpose: Dries carpet, upholstery and structure quickly.

HELPFUL HINTS – Remember that grout sealing is different than protecting carpet and upholstery.



In essence sealing grout is like filling a sink: once the grout is filled to capacity, excess sealer will overflow and not absorb into the grout. This will not be a problem if the grout has not previously been sealed. However, you will not generally have to reseal grout every time you clean it. The **Injectimate** and the **Grout Sealing Kit** are great for sealing grout that has been previously sealed as you can control the exact amount of sealer that is applied.

CAUTION –



Any grout sealing is designed to delay penetration, not prevent it. For example, in showers, water would not immediately absorb in to sealed grout, but would eventually absorb.



PROCEDURE

- 1 Pre-test grout to see if previously sealed or not.
- 2 Select appropriate sealer.
- 3 Determine amount of sealer that can be readily absorbed.
- 4 Apply evenly, wiping off any excess that gets on tile as you seal.
- 5 Let it cure properly.

PRODUCTS NEEDED

- Premium Grout & Stone Sealer
- Solvent-based Grout Sealer
- Clear Grout Sealer w/ Color Additives
- Injectimate w/ Grout Sealing Kit
- Groutstick
- Hydro-Stick
- Terrycloth Towel
- Sponge
- Airmover

Other Resources

Bridgepoint Oriental Rug Cleaning

Manual and Course

www.InterlinkSupply.com

To locate your nearest Interlink Supply

Call 1-800-660-5803