



# Maintenance & Cleaning

Villa Lagoon Tile - Cement Tile Care

To increase the service life and maintain an attractive appearance, a proper maintenance and cleaning schedule is recommended for all cement tiles. As with all natural stone, cement tile will patina beautifully with time.

## Routine Cleaning

### DO NOT USE

- Acids of any kind (i.e. Vinegar, Lemon Juice, Muratic)
- Abrasive agents or pads. (i.e. 3M Scotch Brite pads, powdered cleansers)

- In entrances, consider using walk-off mats or small rugs to prevent dirt and grit being tracked in.
- Spills should be cleaned up immediately as a safety precaution, as well as to prevent staining of the floor.
- Frequent or daily sweeping and wet mopping is recommended to remove all dirt and debris on floors. Buildup of dirt and debris can cause friction between the tile surface and shoes. This can result in scratching and dirt being embedded into the face of the tile.

- When wet mopping, we recommend a **pH neutral cleaning product** (i.e. Dawn dish detergent).
  - Be sure to test the cleaning product in an isolated area before applying to the entire floor.
  - Rinse with clean water; do not flood floor, - damp mop only or commercial machine.
  - Adding too much detergent to water could result in a thin layer of cleaner residue on the floor which can cause the floor to look hazy and/or become more slippery when wet.
- Areas that are subject to oil, grease or harsh contaminants should be de-greased and scrubbed on a regular basis.
- Reapplication of a quality penetrating/impregnating sealant may be required periodically as needed.
- Be sure to clean the floor thoroughly before applying the sealant. Apply as directed.
- **NOTE:** A coat of paste wax may be applied on top of the sealant (Indoors Only).
  - Paste wax can help prevent staining and provide a renewable waterproof protective layer.
  - The paste wax will need to be reapplied periodically as needed.
- **Additional Notes for Outdoors:**
  - Areas with freeze/thaw conditions should be completely waterproofed with sealant. If properly sealed water will bead up on the surface. Yearly application may be necessary in harsh or high traffic environments. Monitor sealants performance to determine when a new application is needed.
  - Sweep or blow off floor regularly to keep debris from breaking down and staining tile.

## Stain Removing Tips

Accidents happen and the tiles even after sealing may get stained. Stains should be treated as soon as possible. Soda, wine, salad dressings, food spills, etc. should not be left to sit on the tile as they can eventually penetrate through the sealer and stain the tile.

### TYPES OF STAINS

ORGANIC: Coffee, Tea, Tobacco, Food, Cosmetics, Leaves, Plants, Blood, Wine, Urine

INORGANIC: Rust, Ink, Paraffin, Dye, Iron, Paint, Minerals, Medicine

BIOLOGICAL: Mildew, Mold, Fungus, Algae

OIL-BASED: Kitchen Grease, Oils, Butter, Bacon, Ointments, Tar, Body Oil, Suntan Lotion

### ORGANIC STAINS

#### Clean with Hydrogen Peroxide

Saturate a clean cloth/gauze pad. Place on stain. Place 1-2 inches of dry cloth/pad and small weight. Let set 20 minutes, check, reapply if needed.

### OIL-BASED STAINS

#### Treat with Undiluted PH Neutral Detergent

Apply a PH neutral detergent, such as Dawn, directly to stain. Let set 20 minutes, check and reapply if needed.

### INORGANIC STAINS

#### Create a Paste of Oxi-Clean

Apply to stain. Let set 20 minutes, check, reapply if needed.

### BIOLOGICAL STAINS

#### Use a Solution of Water & Dawn

Wipe off any residue. Clean with soft bristled brush and cleaning solution of Dawn Detergent or Oxi-Clean in water. If stain remains follow above directions for Organic Stains.