

# GROUTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR BUILDERS & TILERS

## TILE GROUT HAZE AND RESIDUE

This has become a cleaning issue of tiles in modern times. Factors contributing to this is the evolving polymer modification of cementitious grouts. “Grout haze” is what remains after your tiles have been grouted and is what makes dirt and other substances stick to the surface of the tiles. The heavily modified polymers are made to adhere to the 0.5% porcelain and allow flexibility in joints. When the grout is not cleaned off the surface properly anything dropped on the surface will stick to the “grout Haze” (polymer). The polymer acts like a “glue”.

Glazed tiles are NOT porous. To clean the mud or other substances on surface you MUST clean grout haze first. Be warned when using same coloured grout the tile may appear to be cleaned but is not the haze (glue) remains on the surface just harder to see We advise the following procedures in the cleaning process.

We have summarised the following procedure for efficient and complete post-grouting cleaning.

1. Vacuum or sweep excess mud and dirt off the tiles before grouting.
2. We recommend grouting 3-4m<sup>2</sup> at once and do not let grout sit on the surface for more than 15 minutes (Otherwise refer to product instructions).
3. After the grout is applied, use clean water to seal the joints and remove all excess grout.
4. Change to clean water for a final wipe and make sure the sponges are always clean.
5. Water should be changed regularly to keep clean, as well as the sponges, especially when applying smaller tiles which require more grout in general.

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## TILE AND GROUT HAZE RESIDUE

6. Once the surface is dry, buff with a microfibre cloth.
7. If the grout haze is stubborn, apply tile and grout cleaners with white scourer pads.
  - Please note, the cleaners should be left on the surface to soak for at least 5 minutes (or follow product instructions). Melamine sponges (Magic Sponge) soaked in water are recommended for wiping-off, as well as for spot cleaning.
  - Do not use acid products to clean hazing as they don't work and may cause permanent damage to the tile glaze.
8. Rinse the surface with clean water and mop-off water and residues.
  - Never leave any residue on cleaned tiles.
9. Cover the cleaned tile area to keep the surface away from muds, paints, glues, chemicals and other products used on job sites.

### Please Note:

The above is to improve the understanding of the new revolutionary products and to deter problems.

Please be aware that it is not the retailer or the wholesaler's duty to clean the tiles.

Please ensure the right procedure is followed in order to have a smooth-running project.

For more information on care and maintenance, visit our website [www.dwtiles.com.au](http://www.dwtiles.com.au)

**DISCLAIMER:** Please note that tiles are sold in clean new condition. it is the responsibility of the Contractor/Tiler to keep them clean or to clean once finished the job. it is not the responsibility of the wholesaler.