



ARTISAN ECO CEMENT TILE INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

When your Artisan Eco Encaustic Cement tiles are installed following these guidelines, your project will result in a beautiful, durable, easy to maintain surface which will age naturally and look great for many years.

These instructions are provided as a helpful guide to installing your Artisan Eco Encaustic Cement tiles. The seller will not be held responsible for improper installation or specific jobsite conditions.

Please ensure you pass this copy to your Tiler / Installer to ensure trouble free installation and correct sealing of the tiles.

- 1) Inspect your order carefully. Throughout the installation process and handling of the tiles, be careful not to damage the finished surface or corners of the tiles.
- 2) Do not allow the boxes to get wet! Store the material in a dry area. Moisture or dampness can cause the tiles to get stained or cause colour fading. Also moisture can cause effervescence (which is a white powdery effect on the surface of the tile from moisture coming through from the bottom of the tile).
- 3) An Artisan Eco Encaustic Cement tile is a product of natural materials and features colour and tonal variations, so please ensure the tiles are blended. This means opening and selecting from 3-4 boxes when tiling to ensure a natural blend is achieved. This means pulling randomly from the open boxes during installation.
- 4) Artisan Eco Encaustic Cement tiles are a cement-based product and may have residue on the surface. This will be removed during the cleaning before the sealing and grouting. It is recommended to wipe the back of the tiles with a damp sponge prior to installation to remove any cement dust residue and enable good adhesion.
- 5) Install over flat, level and stable cured concrete surface or suitable stable substrate such as Virlaboard or Tile and Slate underlay.
- 6) Use a high quality adhesive – namely Davco SMP Evo. Follow adhesive manufacturer's installation instructions and ensure adhesive has 100% coverage and 12mm notch trowel is used. Do not install during excessively hot weather or full direct sun. Do not beat with a mallet or rubber hammer to set tiles, level your tiles using hand pressure. Remove excess adhesive from the surface with a damp cloth or sponge while it is fresh. Tiles should be cut using a sharp diamond blade in conjunction with water to avoid chipping of edges.
- 7) Sealing of the Artisan Eco Encaustic Cement tiles is required. Therefore, after cleaning and before Grouting, apply a coat of Aquamix Sealers Choice Gold or similar quality sealer suitable for Cement Tiles. Apply 2 coats if required, Tiler will know if tile still has absorption. Wipe excess sealer off before it dries, and allow the sealer to cure according to the manufacturer's instructions. Use only PH Neutral Cleaners to clean tiles.... Do not use any acids or alkalines to clean tiles.

8) Use Davco Elite Grout following the Davco Data Sheet. Recommended grout joint width is a tight joint of 2mm – 3mm. Joints should be full and free of all voids and pits. Grout should be applied in small areas and immediately cleaned. Do not spread the entire floor with grout like a porcelain or ceramic tile. Once grout has been applied and starts to dry, remove excess grout immediately. Grout that sits too long can be difficult to remove from the tile. Do not affix duct tape or acid tape directly onto cement tiles surface. Tape can discolour or stain your cement tiles.

Typically, Artisan Eco Encaustic Cement tiles are grouted with a light coloured grout such as Davco #102 Silver Stone. If you decide to use other coloured grout we recommend that it be a colour that is the same, or lighter than, the lightest colour used in the pattern.

Note: We do NOT recommend using pigmented or dark colour grouts, as they can become embedded in the surface of the tile. If you decide to use dark colour or pigmented grouts, Take special care as although they can be used, they can stain lighter colours on the tile and be very difficult to remove after installation, especially as you are not permitted to use acidic or alkaline cleaning products on Artisan Eco Encaustic Cement tiles.

9) After installation, wash floor with a neutral detergent. Any extra residue or mortar should be removed immediately. Do not allow water or other liquids to spot, pond or ring on the surface of smooth tiles (ie: Do not leave spillages, drips or wet buckets, cups, footmarks, etc. on the surface at any time). For hard to remove residue, a single disc floor machine with a white pad may be used.

10) Seal the clean floor, including grout, a second time with the Aquamix Sealers Choice Gold or similar quality sealer suitable for Cement Tiles.

11) Cover the tile immediately after completion with a protective covering to prevent damage during the remainder of works by other trades.

12) For ongoing maintenance, clean regularly with Aquamix concentrated Stone and Tile cleaner or other neutral detergent and buff tiles with a white pad. Extremely heavy foot traffic may require additional maintenance.

13) If you have any stains that develop and you need to remove, use only Aquamix Poultice Stain Remover.

IMPORTANT

The feature of this range is the handmade and natural look. Over time a natural patina will occur as the floor is maintained and wears. Water spotting will be eliminated through an ongoing maintenance routine.

If you have any questions, contact us before cutting or installing your Artisan Eco Encaustic Cement tiles.

