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NATURAL STONE LAYING PROCEDURE AND MAINTENANCE

All natural stone is porous to varying degrees. Staining can occur unless correct and careful procedures are followed in the initial laying and cleaning periods.

Prevention is better than the cure

Your stone product has been carefully packed. Ensure your tiler or whoever unpacks the tiles, gives them the same consideration all the way through the laying process.

Your tiler should seriously consider whether to pre-seal the stone tiles before laying them. Europica recommend using Hydrorep for outside porous stone or Fila MP 90 for internal stone Marble and Polished Porcelain. Both will inhibit staining. Exterior stains will eventually be affected by the sun, although this will happen over a long period of time. Interior staining will only be removed by applications of either Fila detergents or Fila PS 87 stain remover.

Laying Procedure for Stone Tiles.

Only quality modified mortar adhesive such as Technokolla Techno-one, Techno-one plus and Technostone or similar should be used for fixing. Clean work practices or pre-sealing as above will determine cleaning ease after grouting with suitable quality grouts such as Ultracolor plus.

Care should be given to accommodate structural and thermal expansion through the use of control or expansion joints. It is important that Euretane sealers or neutral cure Silicone sealers only are used for this important element.

Once grouting has been finished and preferably within 36 hours, final cleaning by your tiler should involve Fila Deterdek in solution to remove building site and laying residues.

Important

Do not use Deterdek on highly polished marble or acid sensitive products. This product does not give off fumes.

Sealing Stone

Once your floor has dried, about 48 hours later, apply the first coat of primary sealer.

Interior

Tiles should have an even coat of MP90 followed a day later by another coat. After this, consideration can be given to any of the wax finishes produced by Fila for ongoing maintenance.

Exterior

Two coats of Fila Hydrorep is an effective water sealant that can be further supplemented with one or two coats of MP90. We do not normally recommend waxes to outside tiles.

Cleaning

Wash regularly (weekly) with Fila detergent stone cleaner and water. Clean twice yearly to remove any ingrained residues with Fila PS/87 degreasing cleaner and wax remover.

Do not use any cleaners on natural stone that contain chemicals including window cleaners, these can damage the stone.

Provided Natural stone is treated with the same care afforded to fine wood finishes, most problems will be avoided. If you have any problems with stain removal or are uncertain about exactly what to do, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Provided the above considerations are remembered a natural stone surface will last indefinitely.