



Concrete tile installation instructions

Concrete tiles should ideally be installed in 3 stages.

- 1 – Laying the tiles (gluing them to the subfloor)
- 2 – Oil treatment to make the tiles water and stain resistant
- 3 – Grouting the tiles

Ideally there should be 7 days between the laying of the tiles and application of the oil treatment, so that the tiles can dry out completely.

During those 7 days the tiles need to be protected with a fabric sheet.

Laying concrete tiles

To cut the tiles always use a water saw. The top layer of the concrete tile consists of marble and granite. Take time to complete this process to prevent damage and breakage. Glue to a bone-dry subfloor. Use glues and grouts which are suitable for natural stone, such as 'KIESEL' products.

Treating

It's advisable to wait for a week after installation before treating the tiles. During this time leave the floor covered with fabric sheets to protect the tiles until the floor has been fully treated. Wait until the floor is completely dry. You can test this by leaving a plastic bag on the floor overnight and if there's no condensation in the morning, the tiles are dry. The tiles need to be impregnated by a suitable product as per the instructions on the bottle. The first coat should be applied using a small amount of sealant really working it into the surface of the tiles, using a clean and dry soft brush or cloth. The application of the treatment needs to be repeated 4 to 8 times, until the tiles are fully saturated.

You will know when they are saturated when a drop of water forms a bead on the surface. Once treated, the tiles should be left to dry for at least 12 hours. Do not walk on the tiles. It is advisable to finish with a scrub machine, using a soft pad to scrub the floor after the last layer of oil.

This can be done when the floor is still damp with oil. This way the oil will impregnate even deeper into the tiles and will be more easy to clean.

Once the tiles are installed and treated, they only require an annual top-up layer of oil, which can be applied with a mop. AKEMI and LITHOFIN are good brands for cleaning, treating and aftercare of the tiles. It's advisable to continue using the same brand throughout.

**Note: The oil treatment is a very important part of the installation. Keep impregnating the tiles until they are fully saturated!
Concrete tiles are porous by nature and this first treatment will make the difference when it comes to stain prevention and beautiful aging of the tiles.**



Grouting

It's advisable not to use dark grouts as they may leave stains on the tiles during installation. It's essential to work with clean water and tools and to keep the tiles clean (or wipe them clean straight away) during the work. The best grouting method is point grouting as spread grouting is likely to soak into the tiles.

General advice

Concrete tiles can easily be placed on top of under floor heating. Make sure to use flexible glue and grout. Prevent great temperature fluctuations during laying and during the weeks after. Follow the general instructions for under floor heating. The tiles are not resistant to acid such as vinegar, red wine, tea and chlorine, remove such liquids immediately. Concrete tiles can be used outdoors, indoors on the floor and on the wall.

When tiles are placed outdoors in direct sunlight, discolouration may occur. Regular treatment with oil minimalises this. We strongly discourage using concrete tiles in a walk-in shower because of scale, which cannot be removed from concrete tiles.

General maintenance

For general maintenance you can occasionally scrub the floor with a soft soap, which gives the tiles a beautiful shine. Rinse with clean water. Alternatively, you can clean the tiles by mopping the floor.

General note

Concrete tiles take a few months to become really hard and they will become stronger and more beautiful over time. They are a handmade product and will always have small colour variations and imperfections.