



## ***Cleaning & Maintenance Recommendation for Porcelain/Ceramic Tiles***

### ***After Care Installation***

Initial cleaning immediately after floor installation is essential as the tiles are subjected to contamination from various installation products and some factories often have protective waxes or sealers present. It is important to remove all mortar, sand, grout residue and present sealers before any further routine maintenance.

- Tiles can be cleaned free from debris initially by sweeping with a broom, dust mop or vacuum.
- ***Aquamix Cement Grout Haze Remover or similar*** is a safe and effective concentrated cleaner that is added to the grout cleanup water for removal of cementitious grout haze and latex additive film from tile during the grout cleanup process. It may also be used full-strength to remove light grout residue within the first 10 days after grouting where this was not removed completely during the initial clean-up. Apply directly onto the tiled surface and agitate with a white nylon scrub pad or brush.
- ***Aquamix Nanosclub or similar*** is a mild abrasive cream cleaner designed to work where other cleaners won't. It utilizes micro-sized particles to penetrate into small surface pores where it can effectively work to remove surface stains and residues. Effective for cleaning all stone and tile surfaces. Also removes factory-applied waxes, coating sealers, light grout residue (including epoxy), rubber and pencil.

### ***Routine Maintenance***

Maintenance and cleaning of all European Ceramic's tiles will vary depending on the surface texture and traffic volume. Generally, the following will apply:

- Sweep or vacuum to remove loose contaminants.
- Use damp mop or "Micro Mop" and clean water only.
- Regular use of ***Aqua Mix Concentrated Tile & Stone Cleaner or similar*** will clean and maintain your surface in one operation without leaving streaks, and in most cases will enhance the natural colour of the tile. A super-concentrated cleaner formulated for everyday use. This neutral cleaner, when used regularly, prevents soap scum buildup and hard water deposits all while leaving a room smelling clean and fresh.

### ***Periodic Heavy Duty Clean***

If heavy traffic is present or significant contaminants, then apply the following as required:

- Sweep or vacuum to remove loose contaminants.
- Clean with ***AquaMix Heavy Duty Tile & Grout Cleaner or similar***, a concentrated, high-alkaline cleaner and degreaser. This cleaner will effectively remove grease, soap scum and other organic materials from areas that have been neglected or subjected to heavy use. It also removes synthetic and acrylic waxes and floor finishes.

**City Design Studio:** 8 George Street Parnell Auckland Tel: 09 303 3226

**Head Office:** 7A Cowley Place Albany Auckland Tel: 09 451 9803

**Postal Address:** Po Box 36270 Northcote Auckland City 0748

A division of European Ceramic Tiles Ltd [euroceramics.co.nz](http://euroceramics.co.nz) email: [info@euroceramics.co.nz](mailto:info@euroceramics.co.nz)

## *General Care*

Note: There are five steps that are critical and should always be remembered for the successful maintenance of all ceramic & porcelain tiles:

- All spills should be cleaned up as quickly as possible.
- Use only the recommended dilution of cleaner and follow all instructions.
- Allow proper dwelling of solution to act on contaminant. Generally, 5-15 minutes is sufficient, however the longer you leave the product the better it will perform.
- Scrub with white nylon pads as these are the softest.
- Rinse thoroughly with clean, clear water to remove the dirty solution, contaminant and any chemical residue.

Rinsing is a critical step in the maintenance procedure. Use a wet vacuum, dry mop or towel if necessary. If any dirty solution is not removed and is allowed to dry on the surface, a coating will form which may be difficult to remove and will attract dirt. Please also note that most everyday cleaners able to be purchased from supermarkets are not recommended for use on European Ceramic's tiles.

Please remember that these recommendations are intended as a general guideline only. Read all product directions before use and always test a small area first.

## *Microtech*

If you have purchased a porcelain tile with a Microtech finish, please refer to our specific guide on Microtech care recommendations.

## *Black/Dark tile selections*

Black or darker toned tiles can offer a great foundation, assist with enhancing lighter tiles and visually offers a dramatic & sophisticated look. Whilst beautiful, these tiles may be more difficult to keep clean and will require more frequent maintenance.

A black/dark tiled bathroom or kitchen may appear to hide debris and dirt. However, in bathrooms hard water that deposits minerals and other impurities in the water may show water spots and other residues to a greater extent than lighter colours, and dirt may still appear. Correct installation and cleaning method is required and on-going maintenance on a regular basis.

For further assistance please contact European Ceramics or follow the guidelines of your tile & stone professional installer.



**City Design Studio:** 8 George Street Parnell Auckland Tel: 09 303 3226

**Head Office:** 7A Cowley Place Albany Auckland Tel: 09 451 9803

**Postal Address:** Po Box 36270 Northcote Auckland City 0748

A division of European Ceramic Tiles Ltd [euroceramics.co.nz](http://euroceramics.co.nz) email: [info@euroceramics.co.nz](mailto:info@euroceramics.co.nz)