

QuicTile™ by daltile®

Grout

INSTALLATION GUIDE

PREPARATION

Follow the QuicTile™ by Daltile® INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR LOCKING PORCELAIN TILE prior to grouting.

1. Walk over the tile and make sure all tiles are completely locked together. Check for gaps and uniformity of gap joints. Thoroughly mix grout with margin trowel and follow the instructions on the packaging before use. Do not add water.
2. The application of a grout release (for tile) can be helpful to facilitate cleaning of the grout from the tile surface, especially for porous or matte-finished surfaces (including unglazed porcelain, matte-finished glazed tile, and matte glass).
3. Move to APPLY section below.

For Traditional Tile Installations:

1. Refer to setting materials manufacturer technical data sheet for cure time of mortar or adhesive used and ensure that the floor is ready for grout. Note: When waterproofing, ensure waterproofing products are installed over top of self-leveling cements and mud beds (not underneath). Wait at least 24 hours after setting tile in a traditional format before grouting with QuicTile™ by Daltile® Grout. Always follow tile manufacturer's instructions before grouting.
2. Remove all debris, including spacers, water, adhesive, as well as contaminants that may inhibit proper bond of the grout to the joint, from the tile joints. For best results, the surface of tile should be at room temperature. Extreme temperatures and humidity will impact the workability and cure time of the grout (70°F/21°C to 75°F/24°C is ideal).
3. The application of a water-based sealer (for natural stone) or grout release (for tile) can be helpful to facilitate cleaning of the grout from the tile surface, especially for porous or matte-finished surfaces (including unglazed porcelain, matte-finished glazed tile, and matte glass). Some natural stones may require the application of the sealer to the sides of the stone that are exposed to the grout joint. Textured surfaces of certain tile types allow the grout to settle into the textured surfaces during application making it more difficult to easily clean. For glass, metal, marble, stone and other soft tiles, prepare a mock-up and test the grout to ensure compatibility and that the grout may be installed without scratching the tile.
4. Move to APPLY section below.

For Re-grouting Applications:

Follow steps in Traditional Tile Installations.

1. Before re-grouting existing grout joints, completely remove any old grout and surface contaminants. Rinse any residual material out of grout joints, then allow joints to completely dry before re-grouting.
2. Move to APPLY section below.

APPLY

Lightly dampen a sponge with clean water and apply to the top of the tile in a 2 to 10 square foot area (an arm's length). Wet tile enough to dampen while ensuring water is not pooling in grout joints. TIP: For tile with a matte finish, Add 1 tablespoon of Dawn® dish washing liquid per gallon of water you are using to lightly dampen the tile with before grouting. IMPORTANT: Do not use Dawn® dish washing liquid in water used to clean up grout after application.

Grout small areas at a time. Typically grout a 2 to 10 square foot area (an arm's length) or an area you can comfortably grout in 2 to 3 minutes. It is more a matter of time spent spreading grout than distance covered. Spreading too far without cleaning within two to three minutes will allow the grout to begin to cure on the surface of the tile and create haze issues. Work grout back and forth along the joint holding the float at a 45 degree angle to the face of the tile ensuring grout joints are completely packed. Ensure you have enough product on the surface of the tile while grouting to ensure you can easily move it around and pack the joints.

Then hold the float at a 90 degree angle to the face of the tile and moving the trowel at a 45 degree angle to the line of the grout joint remove the excess grout with the float. This should remove 95% of the grout from the tile surface. TIP: For best results, do not grout a large area and make sure to clean as you go.

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CLEAN UP

We recommend using a sponge with a blue microfiber on one side and two rinse buckets as follows:

1. Double-rinse your sponge before each cleaning by dipping the sponge into the first bucket of water and then the second bucket of water. Squeeze sponge after rinsing in each bucket.
2. Using the yellow side of the sponge, lightly work the sponge in a circular motion to loosen grout residue on the surface of the tile and tool and form the grout joints. Now dip the sponge in the second bucket of water. Using the blue side of the sponge, hold the sponge flat on the surface of the tile and wipe off excess grout residue at a 45 degree angle to the grout joints.
3. Repeat this process once and then move on to the next grouting area. Remember not to spread an area larger than you can clean within 2 to 3 minutes.
4. Change the first bucket of rinse water frequently, approximately every 50 to 100 square feet or when the second bucket of rinse water no longer appears clean or clear. This avoids re-depositing the clear binder back on the surface of the tile.
5. There is no need to change both buckets of rinse water as you simply move the second bucket into the first bucket position and place the fresh bucket of rinse water in the second bucket position. This saves time and water! Check your work as you clean. Repair any low spots with additional grout. DO NOT over wash grout joints. *Installation tip: If working alone, only grout as far as you can reach (arm's length) before cleaning. If working as a team, one person should grout, while the other(s) are cleaning immediately (no more than 2 to 3 minutes) behind the first person.
6. Squeeze as much water out of sponge as possible before placing on tile.
7. Place sponge flat on tile surface and use very light pressure to ensure a full, flush grout joint.

If this process is followed consistently, the only grout residue remaining should be easily removed by moving a dry cotton (white and lint free) or microfiber cloth across the surface of the tile in a circular motion two or three times. After grouting for approximately 1½ hours, inspect the area to see if you notice a film/haze on the surface of the tile. If you notice a film or haze, lightly tap the grout joints with your finger to ensure the joint is firm and the grout does not transfer to your finger tip. When joint is firm, use an alcohol-based clear glass cleaner (for luxury vinyl tile, test first on a separate piece for compatibility) to remove any residual film or haze. Spray alcohol-based clear glass cleaner on a nylon cleaning pad (such as a microfiber towel or nylon cleaning pad) designed for delicate surfaces. Rub the cleaning pad lightly over the haze on the tile being careful not to disturb the grout joints. Excessive haze may require a direct spray on the surface of the tile, more dwell time or repeated cleaning. Do not flood surface with cleaner. Allow cleaner to rest on the tile/stone surface for at least 60 seconds to ensure sufficient penetration. Use a damp sponge and clean water to rinse and remove film and cleaner. Finish by drying the tile surface with a clean towel or cloth. Remove any remaining film/haze before moving to next area to be grouted. This process eliminates the chances of having to go back for secondary haze removal (next day).

REMOVING GROUT HAZE

If additional haze removal is necessary grout haze cleaner may be used. Make sure the grout is sufficiently cured to withstand light finger pressure without losing form. The approximate waiting time before additional cleaning is 3 hours in low humidity/warm temperature (70°F/21°C) environments and 6 hours in high humidity/cool temperature (>50% RH and >70°F/21°C) environments and 6 hours in high humidity/cool temperature (>50% RH and <70°F/21°C) environments. Test an area prior to application to ensure product satisfaction. Spray grout haze cleaner on a nylon cleaning pad designed for delicate surfaces. Rub the cleaning pad lightly over the haze on the tile being careful not to disturb the grout joints. Excessive haze may require direct spray on surface, more dwell time or repeated cleaning. Do not flood surface with cleaner. Allow grout haze cleaner to rest on the tile/stone surface for at least 1 minute to ensure sufficient penetration. Use a damp sponge and clean water to remove film and cleaner. Finish by drying the tile surface with a clean towel or cloth. If the product has remained on the floor an extended period of time prior to cleaning or excessive residual product was not removed by the grout haze remover. Refer to technical data sheet of the haze cleaner for more information.