

TILE & STONE FLOOR MAINTENANCE TIPS

Ceramic Tile & Natural Stone Care: What to do...

Ceramic tile and natural stone requires minimal care; just a few simple steps will keep it looking great and wearing well. Following are some regular care suggestions for your floors:

- For everyday cleaning of tile flooring all you are going to need to do is dry mop or sweep up the collected dirt and dust. Vacuuming with a canister vacuum cleaner (without a beater bar) is another option.
- For more stubborn dirt and grime, it is best to mop your tile floors with a terry cloth mop and Armstrong Once n' Done. Before doing so it is best to either dry sweep or mop the floors.
- For wall tiles and countertops a frequent wipe down with a clean, damp rag will help maintain their cleanliness and luster.
- Seal stone and slate tile with a penetrating or surface coating type sealer.
- Do use walk-off mats at entryways to catch any excess dirt from the outside.
- Do use floor protectors on the feet of furniture that is moved a lot (like chairs).
- Do use sliders or pieces of plywood when moving large items (like the refrigerator).

Ceramic Tile & Natural Stone Care: What NOT to do...

- Do not use any cleaning products that are wax based, contain acid, bleach or ammonia, as these may damage your tile or leave a residue that will collect dirt.
- Do not use harsh cleaning aids like steel wool pads or any scouring pads containing metal.

Note: grout is porous and can change color over time. To prevent that from occurring, you may want to seal the grout. If this is something you want to do, it is best to wait a week after installation to be sure that everything is completely dry.