

# Stone & Tile Care & Maintenance Guide

PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT

**AQUA MIX**  
Smarter Products.  
Professional Results.

## The Global Leader in Stone & Tile Maintenance

- Smart Products for Sealing, Cleaning, Restoring and Problem Solving
- Easy-To-Use Professional Formulas
- Over 25 Years of Product Excellence
- Guaranteed Performance

mosaic   
Products. Design. Solutions.



Aqua Mix low and no VOC (volatile organic compounds) products emit only a low amount of VOC's or none at all, helping to provide better indoor and outdoor air quality compared to similar products. Aqua Mix has offered low and no VOC sealers for many years, and now these sealers are part of Custom Building Products' BuildGreen® program and earn points toward LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification.



Aqua Mix's biodegradable cleaners (Concentrated Stone & Tile Cleaner, Stone Deep Clean, and Grout Deep Clean) are designed to break down quickly and naturally in the environment. These upgraded formulas provide the quality performance and commitment to more environmentally responsible products that Aqua Mix customers have come to expect.

Bringing customers innovative products that work in specialized situations is possible because of our forward-thinking scientific team that introduced formulas containing ingredients with NanoSTG, X2, and Polycure technologies that exceed expectations for product performance.

The beauty of tile lies on more than just the surface. Tile is a timelessly popular surfacing choice thanks to its durability and cleanability. Whether used on floors, walls or countertops, tile needs minimal maintenance to keep it looking great for years. Always follow manufacturer's recommendations for your particular tile or stone installation.

### Routine Cleaning

#### Floors

Simple daily cleaning is all it takes to keep tiled floors in their prime. Here are some quick ways to care for tile floors:

- Sweep, vacuum or dust-mop floors regularly to remove gritty particles.
- Gently remove any stuck-on debris with a putty knife or nylon scouring pad.
- Damp-mop with routine cleaners such as **AquaKleen™**.
- Allow to dry, or if the tile's finish is highly polished, wipe dry to avoid water spots.

Important tips for maintaining tile and stone floors:

- Never use abrasive cleaners. Like tracked-in dirt, they may dull a shiny finish. If not using a professionally suggested product, carefully check the product labels to make sure they do not contain abrasives that may discolor grout or scratch the surface of natural stone tiles.
- Avoid acidic cleaners, as they may harm grout or natural stone surfaces with prolonged exposure.
- Heavily soiled or neglected floors may require the use of a wide selection of products, depending on the problem. Refer to the following pages for the best products to use for your situation.
- Place a mat outside each door and a rug just inside to collect dirt before it gets onto the floor.
- It is recommended to seal light-colored grouts to reduce ongoing maintenance and porosity.
- It is recommended to seal all natural stone to maintain its beauty.
- General household cleaners are not suitable for most tile and stone surfaces.

#### Walls

Tile walls are typically installed in bathrooms and kitchens, where we often use abrasive household cleaners. A basic rule of thumb is to always avoid abrasive cleaners when maintaining tiled walls. Abrasive cleaners may dull a glossy tile's finish, creating a rough surface that will actually attract soap scum and grime.

Important tips for maintaining tile walls:

- In the bathroom, clean the wall surface with a sponge and a non-abrasive routine cleaner.
- Hard water stains can be removed easily with **Phosphoric Acid Substitute**.
- In the kitchen, a regular and thorough wiping with a routine cleaner such as **AquaKleen™** will keep tile backsplashes and walls spotless.

#### Countertops

Tile's durable beauty makes it an excellent surface choice for countertops and will survive years of use with style. As with other surfaces, simply avoid abrasive cleansers and clean up spills immediately. To remove a dried spill, use a sponge, hot water and a routine or stain specific cleaner. Most stains can be removed with a nylon-bristle brush or nylon-scouring pad. Also, as food may come in contact with your countertop, make sure the cleaner you use does not leave a harmful residue.

#### Deep Cleaning

For high traffic areas or when tile has been neglected for a long time, intensive cleaning may be required. Glazed wall tile should be cleaned with a non-metallic pad, warm water and a scouring powder. Care should be exercised to not use cleaners that contain colored dyes or bleach, as they may alter the appearance of the grout color. In common areas, a heavy duty cleaner such as Heavy Duty Tile & Grout Cleaner will provide excellent results.

#### DO

- Blot up spills immediately.
- Dust mop floors using an untreated dust mop.
- Use door mats and walk-off mats wherever possible. This will help keep dirt and grit off the floor.
- Damp mop floors regularly using a neutral cleaner formulated to clean tile or stone.
- Keep planter containers up off the surfaces of tile or stone. This can be achieved by using container stands that allow air circulation under the containers.
- Remove felt from the bottom of knickknacks. The dye in the felt may eventually cause staining. Felt can be replaced with clear plastic self-adhesive tape to protect from scratching.
- Always use pH-neutral cleaners as acid-based cleaners may damage both tile and grout.
- Use a cleaner specifically made for your particular tile or stone.

#### DON'T

- Do not use vinegar or cleaners that contain acids such as tile, tub, toilet and grout cleaners.
- Do not use powder cleansers, soft cream cleansers, mildew/mold removers or disinfectants.
- Never mix bleach or ammonia with any other cleaning fluid.
- Do not use abrasive nylon scrub pads or harsh cleaning agents. These can scratch or damage the surface of the tile or stone.
- Do not use furniture polish. This will help minimize staining and etching on furniture, counters and vanities.
- Do not use cork and wood container protectors. These can cause severe stains.

# Penetrating Sealers



## Sealer's Choice® Gold

- Premium water-based sealer, no sheen, natural look, for natural stone, tile and grout
- Maximum stain protection
- Protects in less than 4 hours
- Great for use in food preparation areas
- May be used as a pre-grouting sealer



Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
030881	C030881	1 Pt. (473 ml)	Bottle
030882-4	C030882-4	1 Qt. (946 ml)	Bottle
030883	C030883	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle
030884	C030884	5 Gal. (19 L)	Pail
030885*	n/a	55 Gal. (210 L)	Drum



## Ultra-Solv®

- Premium solvent-based sealer, no sheen, natural look
- Maximum stain protection
- Great for use in food preparation areas
- May be used as pre-grouting sealer



Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
100340-4	n/a	1 Qt. (946 ml)	Bottle
100341	n/a	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle
100342*	n/a	5 Gal. (19 L)	Pail
100520*	n/a	55 Gal. (210 L)	Drum



## SameDay™ Grout Sealer

- No sheen, natural look, water-based
- Easy to use aerosol sealer with 360° nozzle
- Can be applied 2 hours after grouting



Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
100557	C100557	15 Oz. (444 ml)	Aerosol



## Penetrating Sealer

- Economical, no sheen, natural look
- Water-based formula
- May be used as pre-grouting sealer



Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
020372-4	C020372-4	1 Qt. (946 ml)	Bottle
020373	C020373	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle
020374	C020374	5 Gal. (19 L)	Pail
020375*	n/a	55 Gal. (210 L)	Drum



## Pro-Solv®

- Economical, no sheen, natural look
- Solvent-based formula
- Resists stains on porous stone and tile
- May be used as pre-grouting sealer

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
100057	n/a	1 Pt. (473 ml)	Bottle
100058-4	C100058-4	1 Qt. (946 ml)	Bottle
100059	C100059	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle
100060*	C100060	5 Gal. (19 L)	Pail
100061*	n/a	55 Gal. (210 L)	Drum



## Grout Sealer

- Water-based, resists water, oil and acid-based contaminants
- Simplifies maintenance



Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
020721	C020721	1 Pt. (473 ml)	Bottle
n/a	C020728	8 Oz. (240 ml)	Bottle
020720-4	n/a	24 oz. (720 ml)	Spray
020723	C020723	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle
020724*	n/a	5 Gal. (19 L)	Pail
020725*	n/a	55 Gal. (210 L)	Drum

\*Indicates a special order item.

# Enhancing and Penetrating Sealers



## Enrich'N'Seal™

- Premium penetrating sealer, no sheen, enhanced-look
- Formulated to darken, enrich and highlight unsealed, natural stone
- Uses our exclusive Polycure Technology™
- For interior and exterior applications

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
100250	C100250	1 Pt. (473 ml)	Bottle
100251-4	C100251-4	1 Qt. (946 ml)	Bottle
100252	C100252	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle
100253*	n/a	5 Gal. (19 L)	Pail
100254*	n/a	55 Gal. (210 L)	Drum



## Stone Enhancer

- Economical, enhanced-look
- Penetrating sealer darkens and highlights character of unsealed natural stone
- Rejuvenates color and improves appearance of worn, weathered stone
- May also be used as a pre-grouting sealer

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
030141	C030141	1 Pt. (473 ml)	Bottle
030142-4	C030142-4	1 Qt. (946 ml)	Bottle
030143	C030143	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle
030144*	n/a	5 Gal. (19 L)	Pail
030145*	n/a	55 Gal. (210 L)	Drum

# Topical / Finishing Sealers



## High-Gloss Sealer

- Provides a stain resistant surface seal and a high-gloss finish
- Water-based formula
- May be used as a pre-grouting sealer

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
100726-4	C100726-4	1 Qt. (946 ml)	Bottle
100727	C100727	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle
100900*	n/a	5 Gal. (19 L)	Pail



## Seal & Finish Low Sheen

- Provides a stain resistant surface seal and low sheen finish
- Water-based formula
- May also be used as a pre-grouting sealer

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
020552-4	C020552-4	1 Qt. (946 ml)	Bottle
020553	C020553	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle
020554*	C020554*	5 Gal. (19 L)	Pail



## Floor Shine & Hardener

- Clear durable floor finish that resists surface abuse
- For interior use only
- For use on sealed surfaces

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
040282-4	C040282-4	1 Qt. (946 ml)	Bottle
040283	C040283	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle



## Grout Clean-Up & Sealer Towels

- Microfiber towels for quick clean-up after applying grout or sealer
- Will not scratch stone surfaces
- Reusable and absorbent
- Contains 6, 18" x 18" towels

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
GTCT6	n/a	18" x 18" (45 x 45 cm)	Bag



# Everyday Cleaners



### Stone Clean & Shine

- Spray-and-buff cleaner designed to enhance the natural beauty of stone
- For countertops and backsplashes

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
030151-4	n/a	24 Oz. (710 ml)	Spray



### Brilliance®

- Polishing cream and cleaner that nourishes and adds luster to polished stone countertops and walls

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
100291	n/a	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle



### AquaShield™

- Ready-to-use, cleaner and resealer that shields as it cleans
- Non-acidic, non-abrasive formula won't damage stone, grout or tile

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
010507-4	C010507-4	24 Oz. (710 ml)	Spray



### Concentrated Stone & Tile Cleaner

- Super-concentrated, neutral pH formula
- Safe for everyday use
- Prevents scum build up and hard water deposits
- Ensures the longevity of any sealer applied

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
010332-4	C010332-4	1 Qt. (946 ml)	Bottle
010333	C010333	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle



### Grout Deep Clean



- Powerful, non-acidic cleaner removes grease, stains and soap scum from grout joints
- Restores original color of dirty, stained grout

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
010530-4	C010530-4	24 Oz. (710 ml)	Spray



### Stone Deep Clean



- Concentrated, high alkaline, heavy-duty cleaner wax stripper and degreaser
- Cleans highly neglected, heavy use stone surfaces

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
030192-4	C030192-4	1 Qt. (946 ml)	Bottle
030193	C030193	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle



### Heavy-Duty Tile & Grout Cleaner

- Concentrated high-alkaline formula
- Deep cleans heavy use or highly neglected areas
- Fast, effective wax and floor-finish remover
- Non-acidic formula

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
010382-4	C010382-4	1 Qt. (946 ml)	Bottle
010383	C010383	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle
010384*	C010384	5 Gal. (19 L)	Pail



### 1 & 2 Deep Clean

- Concentrated, high-alkaline 2 part (1 part powder, 1 part liquid) industrial strength cleaner
- Removes dirt, grease and soap scum
- Ideal for commercial applications

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
010120 (set)	n/a	8 Lb. (3.6 kg)	Powder/Liquid Drums

### Helpful tip:

Using everyday "household cleaners" that contain harsh chemicals can damage stone and grout installations over time. Non-acidic, neutral cleaners for everyday use are recommended to ensure long-lasting beauty.



\*Indicates a special order item.



### NanoScrub® Cleaner

- Mild, abrasive cream cleaner
- Formulated with NanoSTG (nano-sized particles) that penetrate small surface pores
- Great for cleaning all stone, tile and grout surfaces
- Non-toxic, non-flammable and non-acidic

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
100978-4	C100978-4	1 Qt. (946 ml)	Bottle
100979	C100979	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle



### Grout Release

- Temporary, water soluble, pre-grout coating to protect masonry and stone against grout and mortar staining

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
010772-4	C010772-4	1 Qt. (946 ml)	Bottle
010773	C010773	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle
010774	n/a	5 Gal. (19 L)	Pail
010775*	n/a	55 Gal. (210 L)	Drum



### Poulitice Stain Remover

- Non-acidic stain remover
- Removes deep-set oil and grease stains without scrubbing

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
010861	C010861	3/4 Lb. (.34 kg)	Jar
010864	n/a	6 Lb. (2.7 kg)	Jar
010865*	n/a	40 Lb. (18 kg)	Pail



### Eff-Ex® Efflorescence Remover

- Contains EX-2™ Technology, which removes and inhibits efflorescence
- Non-acidic

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
100472	C100472	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle
100474*	n/a	55 Gal. (210 L)	Drum



### Grout Haze Clean-Up

- Concentrated cleaner removes cementitious grout haze and latex additive film from tile during grout clean-up process
- Also use full strength to remove light grout residue within 10 days of first grouting

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
010461	C010461	1 Pt. (473 ml)	Bottle
100062	C100062	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle
100901*	n/a	5 Gal. (19 L)	Pail



### Sulfamic Acid Crystals

- Removes cured grout and mortar haze, rust and mineral deposits including efflorescence

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
050231	C050231	1 Lb. (.45 kg)	Jar
050233	n/a	4 Lb. (1.8 kg)	Jar
050237*	n/a	50 Lb. (22.5 kg)	Pail



### Ex-Treme®

- Removes discoloration from air pollution, carbon build-up or rust stains
- Non-flammable, heavy-viscosity acidic cleaner

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
100991	C100991*	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle
100992*	n/a	5 Gal. (19 L)	Pail



### Sealer & Coating Remover

- Fast, powerful, multi-purpose, stripper
- Removes most sealers, epoxy grout haze, urethane coatings, synthetic finishes, adhesives and paints
- Dissolves deep set stains and grease build-up

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
010262-4	C010262-4	1 Qt. (946 ml)	Bottle
010263	C010263	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle
010264*	n/a	5 Gal. (19 L)	Pail



### Phosphoric Acid Substitute

- Premixed acidic treatment removes cementitious grout haze, mineral deposits, rust stains, mortar film and efflorescence
- Etches concrete
- No VOCs, No phosphates

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
050162-4	C050162-4	1 Qt. (946 ml)	Bottle
050163	C050163	1 Gal. (3.8 L)	Bottle
050164*	n/a	5 Gal. (19 L)	Pail

### Helpful tip:

Add Aqua Mix Grout Haze Clean-Up to last bucket of clean water used in grout clean-up. This will facilitate removal of remaining cement-based grout residue on surface.



\*Indicates a special order item.





**Grout Colorant**

- Easy-to-use waterborne epoxy that re-colors, seals and rejuvenates existing grout joints
- Simplifies ongoing grout cleaning
- Also available in all Custom Building Products' grout colors.

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Color	Size	Package
063001	C063001	White	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063002	C063002*	Antique White	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063003	C063003	Linen White	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063004	C063004*	Navajo	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063005	C063005*	Buff	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063006	C063006*	Sand	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063007	C063007*	Beige	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063008	C063008	Wheat	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063009	C063009*	Cinnamon	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063010	C063010	Cocoa	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063011	C063011	Light Gray	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063014	C063014	Black	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063015	C063015*	Bright White	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063016	C063016	Canvas	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063017	C063017*	Smoke	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063021	C063021*	Silver	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063022	C063022	Natural Gray	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063023	C063023*	Pewter	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063024	C063024	Charcoal Gray	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle
063025	C063025	Pure White	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle

**\*Additional sizes and hundreds of colors are available through special order.**

Sample colors shown may vary from actual colors. Final installed shade can differ based on tile type, porosity, job site conditions and finishing techniques. Test a small, inconspicuous area first to ensure desired results.

 BRIGHT WHITE	 SMOKE
 PURE WHITE	 WHEAT
 WHITE	 COCOA
 ANTIQUÉ WHITE	 CINNAMON
 LINEN WHITE	 SILVER
 BUFF	 LIGHT GRAY
 NAVAJO	 NATURAL GRAY
 CANVAS	 PEWTER
 SAND	 CHARCOAL GRAY
 BEIGE	 BLACK

\*Indicates a special order item.



**Grout Colorant Pre-Treat Cleaner**

- Removes dirt, soil, soap scum and hard water deposits from grout joints
- Prepares grout joints for a superior bond

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
010678	C010678	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle



**Aqua Stain**

- Concentrated translucent stain designed to change the color and enhance the natural texture of porous adobe clay tile

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Color	Size	Package
065911	n/a	Piso Blanco	1 Pt. (473 ml)	Bottle
065921	n/a	Spanish Oak	1 Pt. (473 ml)	Bottle
065931	n/a	Terra Cotta	1 Pt. (473 ml)	Bottle
065941	n/a	Adobe Red	1 Pt. (473 ml)	Bottle



**Grout Colorant Kit**

Contains the materials you need to change the color of your grout:

- Grout Colorant Pre-Treat
- Grout Colorant
- Application Brush
- White Nylon Pad

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
See Current Price List for Details			



**KnockDown®**

- Honing powder that removes light surface scratches, moderate acid etching and wear patterns, producing an even, flat, honed finish
- For marble, travertine and limestone

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
100287	n/a	2 Lb. (907 g)	Jar
100288*	n/a	6 Lb. (2.7 kg)	Jar
100289*	n/a	30 Lb. (13.5 kg)	Pail



**Renue®**

- Spot re-polishing cream that restores shine to dull, etched or lightly scratched, calcium based, polished natural stone

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
100293	n/a	8 Oz. (237 ml)	Bottle



**Reviver®**

- A user-friendly, ready-mixed paste
- For polish restoration and maintenance of worn, calcium-based, polished stone

Item Code US	Item Code Canada	Size	Package
100530*	n/a	10 Lb. (4.5 kg)	Tub

## Solutions

Desired Effect	Recommended Product	Result
Natural Look and Stain Protection	Sealer's Choice Gold	Provides maximum stain protection with a 4-hour cure time while maintaining a natural look. Utilizes safe, non-toxic water-based technology.
Enhanced Look and Stain Protection	Enrich'N'Seal	Provides maximum stain protection while enhancing the beauty of the surface.

Problem	Recommended Product	Result
Epoxy Grout Haze	Sealer & Coating Remover	Effectively removes the epoxy grout haze.
Cement Grout Haze	Grout Haze Clean-Up	Safely and effectively removes the cement grout haze immediately after grouting.
Grout Staining of Porous Stone and Masonry	Pre-seal stone with Sealer's Choice Gold Prior to Grouting	Safely and effectively removes the cement grout haze immediately after grouting.
Excess Sealer Residue	NanoScrub	Safely and effectively removes the excess sealer residue from the surface.
Removal of Waxes and Floor Finishes	Heavy-Duty Tile & Grout Cleaner or NanoScrub or Sealer & Coating Remover	Removes existing wax build-up and finishes, allowing you to work with an untreated surface.
Enrich'N'Seal and Stone Enhancer Residue on Tile and Stone Surface	NanoScrub or Sealer & Coating Remover	Safely removes waxy build-up from excess enhancing sealers without damage to surface.
Efflorescence and White Mineral Stains	Eff-Ex	Removes white mineral stains and restores the natural color of grout.
Grout Haze on Marble	NanoScrub	Safely removes grout haze from marble without damaging surface.
Removal of Old Sealers	Sealer & Coating Remover	Removes existing wax build-up or finishes, allowing to work with untreated surface.
Removal of Adhesive/Mastic	Sealer & Coating Remover	Safely removes adhesive or mastic from stone and tile surface.
Removal of Pencil Marks/Metallic Stains	NanoScrub	Removes marks and stains safely without damaging the surface
Removal of Deep Set Stains	Poultice Stain Remover	Helps pull deep stains from under the surface.
Faded or Inconsistent Grout Coloring	Grout Colorant	Re-colors and rejuvenates while providing a premium seal and reduction in maintenance.

**Note:** Review label and application information for all recommended products to ensure approved use on specific types of stone, tile and other surface materials.

TILE + STONE DESIGN CENTERS

Alexandria, VA | Chantilly, VA | Fairfax, VA | Richmond, VA | Virginia Beach, VA

North Bethesda, MD | Owings Mills, MD | Greensboro, NC | Raleigh, NC