

Kengate Terrazzo Standard Cleaning Recommendations

Terrazzo Tiles and Pre-cast Treads & Risers

Builders Clean:

The grouting process can leave an invisible film of cement residue which, acting as a key to certain types of dirt trafficked over the surface, could eventually have a detrimental effect on the cleanability and quality of finish of the products. The builders clean should be carried out in a similar fashion to the following routine maintenance procedures.

Routine Clean:

A typical routine clean would consist of washing down of the terrazzo floors and pre-cast staircases with fresh, clean water and a neutral (PH7) detergent. All surfaces should be rinsed down thoroughly to prevent gradual build up of any detergent. This operation is usually recommended to be carried out at least once a week but can be carried out more frequently depending on the extent of traffic the floors and staircases are exposed to and the amount of dirt brought in underfoot.

Periodic Deep Clean:

It is advisable that after a certain amount of time a periodic deep clean of the floors and staircases be carried out. This should be a more thorough and intensive cleaning procedure than the routine clean. A typical periodic clean would consist of the floors and stairs being thoroughly scrubbed by hand or via the use of scrubber/dryer machines using a good quality, neutral (PH7) detergent and rinsed down with fresh, clean water.

Detergents:

All detergents used in the cleaning processes should be neutral (PH7), no detergents or cleaning agents with soap, soda or other caustic contents be used on the floors and stairs. It is important to note that waxes and polishes used on adjoining surfaces can be carried underfoot onto the terrazzo, possibly rendering it slippery. Care should be taken when selecting such products to ensure this condition is avoided.

Sealing:

It is often the case and a client's requirement that newly installed terrazzo floors and pre-cast staircases be treated with a sealer/hardener. This should be applied directly after the installation and before the builders clean is carried out. The appropriate product to use in this instance is **Lapidolith** (supplied by Conren Ltd). This product is used to harden, dustproof and improve the chemical resistance and wear of newly installed or existing terrazzo floors and staircases.

However, whilst this product will improve the resistance and integrity of the floors and staircases it must be emphasised that spills, stains and dirt etc. should be cleaned up immediately. It is also important to maintain the frequency of routine and periodic deep cleaning to ensure that the quality of finish remains intact.

Newly Installed Floors:

Newly installed floors & staircases will benefit from increased frequency of cleaning for an initial period of approximately 3 months from the date of installation, as this will aid in removing the efflorescence caused by cement-based products. It is important to note after time, use and proper cleaning of the newly installed floors and staircases, there will be a visible enhancement in the aesthetics of the terrazzo finish.