

# Reclaimed Encaustic Tiles

## Installation Guide/Sealing/Aftercare

**The following directions are intended for professional tradesmen. Please consult a professional in all cases.**

- When cutting the tiles use a diamond cutter or angle grinder or other tools suitable for encaustic cement tiles
- Tiles can weigh up to 3kg each in larger formats. The majority of 20 x 20 x 2cm tiles are 1.8kg
- Tiles can vary on format depending on the product chosen.
- Tiles can be used in all settings indoors and outdoors and on floors or walls

When working with our reclaimed encaustic tiles sealing is recommended. They are a natural stone product that is considered micro porous and the sealing process fills the pores to saturation to help protect them against staining. That said they already have an aged patina and will have been treated in the past so they are more robust to work with and if you want the age to develop more then sealing is not required. In most cases we would recommend sealing.

- On the following page we will describe the laying and sealing process. Please download the other PDF “Cleaning and Sealing Solutions for Tile and Stone Surfaces” (created by Ecoprotec) for a more detailed guide

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1. Make sure the area where the tiles are to be laid is void of dust and moisture.
2. Apply your adhesive to the floor with a notched trowel and lay you tile. We recommend a 1-2mm spacer for a thin grout line so as not to interrupt the pattern on the tile but this is a matter of taste and you can apply a thicker grout line if desired. We recommend BAL Single Part Flexible or you can use another adhesive suitable for natural stone/cement tiles.
3. If needed clean dust and building debris from the tile using *“Stone and Tile Cleaner by Ecoprotec”* (this is a neutral pH cleaner).
4. Allow the adhesive to fully dry – once the adhesive and tiles are fully dry then you can apply your first coat of sealant (*“Natural Stone Sealer by Ecoprotec”* in most cases). Allow the first coat to dry overnight so you have a base coat.
5. The day after the first base coat of sealant has been applied you can continue to apply coats in 2 hour intervals. Continue to seal the tile until the point of saturation; this means when there is an almost even layer of sealant on top the tile which will not be absorbed by the tile - this signifies the tile has been fully impregnated. At this point wipe off any excess and allow it to dry naturally.
6. Leave at least 2 hours before then grouting. *“BAL Micromax 2 Range”* is a recommended grout but there are other options on the market.
7. Once grouted the excess grout can be wiped off with a damp (but not wet) sponge.  
(In cases where the tiles have not been sealed properly you can use *“Ecoprotec Cement, Grout and Salt Residue Remover”*)
8. Once the tiles are dry one more coat of *“Natural Stone Sealer by Ecoprotec”* can be applied.

**EXTRA NOTES ON NEXT PAGE**

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### Extra Notes:

- When using the tile in exterior settings use “Paving & Stone Patio Sealer by Ecoprotec”
- For extra protection in heavy traffic or commercial spaces “Satin Finish Surface Wax by Ecoprotec” can be used (this will give a light sheen to the finish). FOR USE IN INTERIORS ONLY
- For Aftercare use “*Natural Stone and Porcelain Cleaner*” or “*Multi Purpose Cleaner*” by Ecoprotec
- The reason for sealing before grouting is the pigments within the grout can penetrate and stain the tiles if not sealed properly.
- If using the tiles for a splash back where there are greases and oils the tiles should be sealed until the point of saturation before adhering to the wall - splash backs with exposure to water or in shower enclosures should be sealed too but water is not damaging when the tile is sealed properly.

For more info please contact Ecoprotec or Maitland & Poate