

# terrazzo

Terrazzo is an agglomerate tile made up of stone chips (marble and other stone) set in a cementitious base. Tiles are cut and then highly polished. Terrazzo tiles, due to their make up, are sensitive to acids and highly porous. They are used extensively in shopping malls, airports and institutions where they are often used in major walkways and large open areas. If sealed with a high performance surface sealer they are very cost effective to maintain.

## CHEMICAL COMPATIBILITIES

**Acids** - Terrazzo is effected by acid. Acid cleaners will cause immediate dulling of polished terrazzo surfaces and should therefore be avoided.

**Alaklis** - Terrazzo can safely be cleaned with alkaline cleaners.

## CLEANING

### Grout Smear

Grout smear is normally removed by the installer of the stone. Any residual grout or cement films should be removed with T&G Cleaner Pro using a white (non scratch) buffing or scourer pad.

### General Grime and Oils

Soil build-ups, fats and stubborn oily spots are effectively removed with T&G Cleaner Pro. If the onyx is coated with an acrylic sealer/polish then Proneutro should be used.

### Mould & Mildew

Mould & mildew on Terrazzo is effectively removed with Chlorosan. Many stains caused by food spills and plant matter can also be removed in the same way. Sealing Terrazzo with a sealer will dramatically reduce future mould and mildew growth.

### Lime Scale & Mineral Deposits

Lime scale and mineral deposits are most effectively removed using Stone Gel Pro and a white (non scratch) buffing or scourer pad. Soap scum is also removed using this method.

## MAINTENANCE

### Commercial & Institutions

Use Proneutro for easy and effective results in the maintenance cleaning of tiled areas in homes, hospitals and care facilities, offices, institutions etc. Proneutro must also be used as a maintenance cleaner if the terrazzo is coated with and acrylic polymer sealer/polish.

## PROTECTION

Terrazzo is a porous stone and needs to be sealed with either a penetrating sealer or a topical/surface sealer, depending on the area of use.

### Pre Grout Sealing

Pre-sealing is required with onyx. If it is unusually porous, apply one coat of an Actichem penetrating sealer prior to grouting. This will simplify grout smear clean-up.

### Penetrating Sealer

The use of a penetrating sealer is necessary to protect terrazzo from damage caused by acidic food spills and oily soils. A penetrating sealer does not protect the terrazzo surface from abrasion caused by foot traffic. So in some flooring applications a topical surface sealer is recommended.

### Topical/Surface Sealers (flooring)

Polished terrazzo becomes quickly dulled by abrasive foot traffic as the highly honed surface gets scratched. To protect this highly polished floor surface it is recommended that the floor is protected with an acrylic polymer polish. This surface sealer will protect the floor from abrasive foot traffic and acts as a sacrificial coating which protects the inherent beauty of the floor. The floor can then be maintained and buffed using standard hard floor techniques.

### Restoration

When a polished terrazzo surface has been severely worn and damaged by constant use, it may require re-grinding