



DesignColor™ Grout

1. PRODUCT NAME

TEC® Skill Set™ DesignColor™ Grout

2. MANUFACTURER

H.B. Fuller Construction Products Inc.
1105 South Frontenac Street
Aurora, IL 60504-6451 U.S.A.
800-832-9002 Customer Support
800-952-2368 Fax
tecskillset.com



3. DESCRIPTION

TEC® Skill Set™ DesignColor™ Grout is a polymer enhanced, sanded Portland cement grout for grouting joints 1/16" to 1/2" wide. Just mix with water. For interior/exterior use.*

*For exterior applications it is required to use Grout Boost® in place of water as directed on Grout Boost® label. Refer to Grout Boost® packaging for product capabilities, instructions and limitations. The use of Grout Boost® requires a minimum of 3 days to cure, prior to getting wet.

Key Benefits and Features

- For use on floors and walls (covers sanded and unsanded)
- Specially designed to mix with DesignColor™ Grout Color Mixes; 32 interchangeable and unique color mixes
- For interior and exterior use
- Durable and wear resistant

Packaging

- (1) 12.5 lbs. plastic bag – DesignColor™ Grout Base
- (2) Color Mixes Containers

Approximate Coverage per Pound				
Tile Size	Joint Width			
	1/8"	1/4"	3/8"	1/2"
1" x 1" x 1/4"	2.04 sq. ft.			
2" x 2" x 1/4"	3.83 sq. ft.			
4" x 4" x 1/2"	3.64 sq. ft.	1.88 sq. ft.	1.30 sq. ft.	1.01 sq. ft.
4" x 8" x 1/2"	4.86 sq. ft.	2.48 sq. ft.	1.69 sq. ft.	1.30 sq. ft.
6" x 6" x 1/2"	5.46 sq. ft.	2.73 sq. ft.	1.92 sq. ft.	1.44 sq. ft.
8" x 8" x 5/16"	11.66 sq. ft.	5.83 sq. ft.	3.89 sq. ft.	2.91 sq. ft.
8" x 8" x 1/2"	7.29 sq. ft.	3.64 sq. ft.	2.43 sq. ft.	1.82 sq. ft.
10" x 10" x 5/16"	14.57 sq. ft.	7.29 sq. ft.	4.86 sq. ft.	3.64 sq. ft.
12" x 12" x 5/16"	17.49 sq. ft.	8.74 sq. ft.	5.83 sq. ft.	4.37 sq. ft.
16" x 16" x 5/16"	21.86 sq. ft.	10.93 sq. ft.	7.29 sq. ft.	5.46 sq. ft.
18" x 18" x 5/16"	24.98 sq. ft.	12.49 sq. ft.	8.33 sq. ft.	6.25 sq. ft.
24" x 24" x 5/16"	34.97 sq. ft.	17.49 sq. ft.	11.66 sq. ft.	8.74 sq. ft.

Storage

Store in a cool, dry area away from direct sunlight. Do not store open containers.

Shelf Life

Maximum of 12 months from date of manufacture in unopened package.

Limitations

Do not use in temperatures below 50°F (10°C). Although DesignColor™ Grout chemically controls the curing process to help ensure color consistency, color variation can occur in any Portland cement product due to job conditions and cleaning methods. Efflorescence (a whitish powder or surface crust) can occur in any Portland cement product. DesignColor™ Grout is made with Portland cement and for this reason, H.B. Fuller Construction Products Inc. cannot guarantee that efflorescence will not occur. To remove efflorescence, allow grout to cure a minimum of 10 days, then use a mild acid cleaner or an efflorescence remover for non-acid sensitive tile and stone. Follow industry accepted acid or non-acid cleaning procedures. **Acid cleaning of unglazed tile, marble or natural stone is not recommended.** For further information, contact Technical Support if needed.

Cautions

FIRST AID MEASURES: In all cases, seek medical attention if symptoms develop or persist. EYES: Flush with water for 20 minutes. SKIN: Wash with soap and water. IF VAPORS INHALED: Remove to fresh air. IF SWALLOWED: Do not induce vomiting. WARNING! This product contains chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects or reproductive harm. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN. For Medical Emergency Information, call 1-888-853-1758.

This Product Data Sheet has been prepared in good faith on the basis of information available at the time of publication. It is intended to provide users with information about and guidelines for the proper use and application of the covered TEC® Skill Set™ brand product(s) under normal environmental and working conditions. Because each project is different, H.B. Fuller Construction Products Inc. cannot be responsible for the consequences of variations in such conditions, or for unforeseen conditions.

4. TECHNICAL DATA

Applicable Standard

Mixed with water and tested in accordance with ANSI A118.6 Specifications for Ceramic Tile Grouts, Commercial Portland Cement.

TEC Skill Set DesignColor™ Grout		
Description	ANSI Requirement	Typical Results
28 Day Compressive Strength	≥3000 psi	3100-3500 psi
28 Day Tensile Strength	≥300 psi	300-400 psi
28 Day Flexural Strength	≥500 psi	700-900 psi
28 Day Linear Shrinkage	< 0.20% shrinkage	.10-.15% shrinkage
Water Absorption	< 10% absorption	7.0-9.0% absorption



DesignColor™ Grout

Physical Properties

Description	
Physical State	Dry Powder
Color	Base – White; Cups - Colors
Pot Life	1 to 2 hour
Initial Cure [at 72°F (22°C)]	24 hours
Final Cure	21 days
Foot Traffic Rating (ASTM C627)	Residential to Extra Heavy Commercial

5. Installation Instructions

Surface Preparation

Proper preparation of the tile and joint surfaces is important and will help promote a quality installation. The joints between the tiles should be free from foreign materials, and be at least 2/3 of the thickness of the tile in depth. High ridges of adhesive or mortar should be raked out. Rubber or plastic tile spacers, if used, should be removed prior to grouting. Tiles should be held firmly in place according to manufacturer's instructions before grouting.

When DesignColor™ Grout is mixed with water and used under dry or hot conditions, the tile should be dampened with a wet sponge prior to grouting. Avoid any accumulation of water in joints.

Due to rough surface texture or high porosity, some tiles require sealing prior to grouting. Consult the tile manufacturer's/fabricator's literature for advice regarding this point. HBF-CP recommends the use of a tile pre-sealer for protecting your tile or stone from grout staining during installation.

Notes: Certain tile surfaces, including polished marble, glass, or metal tile can be scratched, stained or damaged when grouted with sanded/colored grout. Follow tile manufacturer / fabricator recommendations or test a small area prior to use to determine suitability. Use of TEC® Skill Set Unsanded Grout may be appropriate for many tiles not suitable for use with sanded grout.

For industrial and commercial installations where chemical resistance is required, use an epoxy grout in accordance with ANSI A118.3 recommendations.

Mixing – With Water

For best results, maintain all tiling materials, substrates, room and adhesives at 50°-70°F (10°-21°C) for 24 hours before and 48 hours after installation. Add water to clean mixing container as specified in the chart below:

DesignColor™ Grout	Water
12.5 lbs.	1.25 – 1.5 qts.

Stir in contents from 2 color mix jars using a paint stick or like tool. Stir for 10 seconds. Add Grout Base to color mixed water. Mix with drill on low speed (300 rpm). Mix well for a minimum of 2 minutes.

Avoid breathing dust and contact with eyes and skin. Allow mixture to "slake" (sit in the container) for 10 minutes. Slaking allows the water, Portland cement and other ingredients to react properly. Remix for 1-2 minutes before using. The working time (pot life) when mixed this way is approximately 1-2 hours. If grout stiffens up during use, re-mix for 1 minute to return to normal consistency. Do not add additional water.

Mixing – with Grout Boost®

For exterior or other applications subjected to freeze/thaw conditions or other ANSI A118.7 applications, use Grout Boost® in place of water where increased flexibility is desired or high water resistance is required.

Application

Fully pack the joints between the tiles by spreading DesignColor™ Grout with a clean, hard rubber float. Work only a small area at one time [5-10 sq. ft.]. Apply in a diagonal direction across the joint lines to prevent the grout from being dragged out of the joints. Go over each area several times from all directions to make sure that the grout is fully packed in. Remove any excess grout from the surface of the tile by holding the float at a 90° angle to the surface and moving it diagonally across the joints. Repeat the entire process until all joints are grouted.

Clean Up

Allow the grout to firm up in the joints, 15-30 minutes for grout mixed with water. Lightly touch grout with your finger after 15-30 minutes. Grout should be firm, not soft. If no residue transfers to your finger, grout is ready to be cleaned. Wet a grout sponge in a pail containing cool, clean water and wring out all excess liquid. Move the dampened sponge across the tiles diagonally to smooth the grout down to the proper height for the joint. Continue this procedure, repeatedly rinsing the sponge in clean water (changing out the dirty rinse water with clean water as needed) and wringing out excess liquid. Do not allow excess cleaning water to remain on the surface of the grout joint. Allow the grout to dry an additional hour before removing any remaining grout residue with a dampened terrycloth towel. For removing any remaining grout residue, contact HBF-CP technical support.

Protection

Protect the finished installation from traffic or impact for at least 24 hours; from water immersion or freezing for at least 72 hours. The use of Grout Boost® requires a minimum of 3 days to cure, prior to getting wet. No sealer required if mixed with Grout Boost®. If grout has not been mixed with Grout Boost®, sealing is recommended. Consult sealer directions for proper application.



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6. WARRANTY

For details about our limited warranties, see your sales associate or tecskillset.com.

7. TECHNICAL SERVICES

Technical Assistance

Information is available by calling the Technical Service Helpline.

Toll Free: 800-832-9023

Fax: 630-952-1235

Technical and Safety Literature

To acquire technical and safety literature, please visit our website at tecskillset.com.