

2-1/2 to 1

Professional Saltillo Tile Grout



DESCRIPTION

2-1/2 to 1™ is a grouting compound for interior or exterior floors of terracotta tile, such as Brazilian and Spanish tile, where grout joints range from 3/8" to 3/4" (10 to 19 mm).

INDUSTRY STANDARDS AND APPROVALS

- ANSI: Meets or exceeds ANSI A118.6 requirements

WHERE TO USE

- This grout is designed to fill large grout joints that are usually associated with absorbent terracotta tile, such as Mexican, Brazilian and Spanish tiles. 2-1/2 to 1 can be used in joint widths from 3/8" to 3/4" (10 to 19 mm) in both interior and exterior conditions.

LIMITATIONS

- Do not use for joints narrower than 3/8" (10 mm).
- Because 2-1/2 to 1 is a basic grouting compound, it should not be used on vitreous, semivitreous or impervious tile or stone.
- Due to the high porosity of Saltillos, pre-seal or use a grout release before grouting.
- Do not use for projects subject to freeze/thaw environments.
- The recommended temperature range for the application surface is 50°F to 95°F (10°F to 35°C).

Consult MAPEI's Technical Services Department for installation recommendations regarding substrates and conditions not listed.

SURFACE PREPARATION

See the “Surface preparation requirements” reference guide in the Tile & Stone Installation Systems section of MAPEI’s Website.

MIXING

Before product use, take appropriate safety precautions. Refer to the Safety Data Sheet for details.

1. Before mixing, dry-blend the entire contents of the bag to avoid color variation in the finished joint, which may arise from pigment settling during shipment. If two or more bags are to be used, pre-blend the contents of all bags together before mixing.
2. Pour about 4.5 to 5 U.S. qts. (4.26 to 4.73 L) of clean water into a mixing container. Gradually add a full bag of 2-1/2 to 1 powder while slowly mixing.
3. Using a low-speed mixer (about 300 rpm), mix thoroughly to a homogenous and smooth consistency.
4. Allow material to sit (“slake”) for about 10 minutes.
5. Remix without adding more liquid or powder.
6. Mix only as much material as can be used in 2 hours.

PRODUCT APPLICATION

1. Applying a grout release on the face of certain types of tile may be beneficial. Some porous tiles may require pre-sealing to avoid staining. In addition, some tiles may be scratched, dulled, stained or damaged when grouted with sanded and/or pigmented grouts. In all cases, to determine the compatibility between the grout and the surface material, consult with the tile/stone manufacturer or their literature. Also, test the grout on a separate sample area before grouting.
2. Force the grout into the joints with a rigid rubber float.
3. Ensure that all joints are well-compacted as well as free of voids and gaps.
4. While the grout is still fresh, remove excess grout from the tile surface by moving the float diagonally to the joints.
5. The grout surface should be reasonably flush with the tile edge.
6. Using a damp sponge, shape the joints by lightly working the joint in a circular motion. Ensure that the sponge has only a minimal amount of water, because excessive water during cleanup can discolor the grout.
7. Allow the grout joints to firm up for about 15 minutes. Firm-up time will vary according to the temperature and humidity.
8. Wipe the tile surface with a clean, damp sponge. Again, ensure that the sponge contains only a minimal amount of water. Change the rinse water frequently to reduce the amount of grout haze on the surface.
9. Leave the tile or stone surface as clean as possible, with perhaps only a slight haze remaining. One to two hours afterward, re-buff the surfaces of the tile/stone and grout with a clean, dry scouring pad or cloth to remove any remaining residue.

EXPANSION AND CONTROL JOINTS

- Provide for expansion and control joints where specified per TCNA Detail EJ-171.
- Do not cover or bridge any expansion joint with mortar or grouting material.

- Cut tiles on both sides along the edges of expansion joints.
- Protect tilework with metal strips along both edges of structural building expansion joints.
- Grout should not be used in lieu of joint sealant.

CLEANING

- Clean hands and tools with water while the grout is fresh.
- Acid cleaning of grouted surfaces is not recommended.
- Efflorescence (a whitish powder or surface crust) can occur in any Portland-cement product. 2-1/2 to 1 is made with Portland cement and, for this reason, MAPEI cannot guarantee that efflorescence will not occur. If it does, industry-accepted cleaning procedures should be followed.

PROTECTION

- Floors: Protect floors from general foot traffic for at least 16 to 24 hours after grouting. Prohibit heavy commercial traffic and equipment for 7 days.
- Walls: Protect from impact, vibration and hammering on adjacent and opposite walls for at least 7 days after installation.
- Because temperature and humidity (during and after tile installation) affect the final curing time of all Portland-cement materials, allow for extended periods of curing and protection when jobsite temperatures drop below 60°F (16°C) and/or when relative humidity is higher than 70%.

MAINTENANCE

- MAPEI grouts are produced to the highest quality of standards. To maintain a clean tile surface, use a neutral-pH cleaner for the floor maintenance, followed by a clean-water rinse.
- Do not use harsh chemicals to maintain the tile surface. Before proceeding with cleaning, consult the cleaner's manufacturer for compatibility, use and application instructions. Remove or rinse fatty acid residue from the grout surface to avoid potential grout deterioration caused by prolonged exposure.

Shelf Life and Product Characteristics

before mixing

Shelf life	1 year when stored in original, unopened packaging at 73°F (23°C)
Physical state	Powder
Color	Gray

Protect containers from freezing in transit and storage. Provide for heated storage on site and deliver all materials at least 24 hours before work begins.

Application Properties

at 73°F (23°C) and 50% relative humidity

Pot life	About 1 hour
Firm-up time (before first cleanup)	15 minutes
Initial set (before final cleanup)	1 hour
Final set (before light traffic and final haze wash)	16 to 24 hours
Cleanability	With water while fresh

Packaging



Bag: 50 lbs. (22.7 kg)

Approximate Coverage*



- A tile that is 12" x 12" x 3/4" (30 cm x 30 cm x 19 mm), with a 3/8" (10 mm) wide grout joint, will require about 1 lb. per sq. ft. (0.21 kg per m²).
- A tile that is 12" x 12" x 3/4" (30 cm x 30 cm x 19 mm), with a 3/4" (19 mm) wide grout joint, will require about 2 lbs. per sq. ft. (0.41 kg per m²).

** Coverage shown is for estimating purposes only. Actual jobsite coverage may vary according to tile size, grout joint depth or grout joint width.*

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Refer to the SDS for specific data related to health and safety as well as product handling.

For information on MAPEI's commitment to sustainability and transparency, as well as how MAPEI products may contribute to green building standards and certification systems, contact sustainability_USA@mapei.com (USA).

LEGAL NOTICE

The contents of this Technical Data Sheet ("TDS") may be copied into another project-related document, but the resulting document shall not supplement nor replace requirements per the TDS in effect at the time of the MAPEI product installation. For the most up-to-date TDS and warranty information, please visit our website at www.mapei.com. **ANY ALTERATIONS TO THE WORDING OR REQUIREMENTS CONTAINED IN OR DERIVED FROM THIS TDS SHALL VOID ALL RELATED MAPEI WARRANTIES.**

Before using, the user must determine the suitability of our products for the intended use, and the user alone assumes all risks and liability. **ANY CLAIM SHALL BE DEEMED WAIVED UNLESS MADE IN WRITING TO US WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS FROM DATE IT WAS, OR REASONABLY SHOULD HAVE BEEN, DISCOVERED.**

CONTACT INFORMATION

MAPEI Headquarters of North America

1144 East Newport Center Drive
Deerfield Beach, Florida 33442
1-888-US-MAPEI (1-888-876-2734) / (954) 246-8888

Technical Services

U.S. and Puerto Rico:

Flooring: 1-800-992-6273

Concrete and heavy construction: 1-888-365-0614

Canada:

1-800-361-9309

Customer Service

1-800-42-MAPEI (1-800-426-2734)

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For the most current product data and BEST-BACKEDSM warranty information,
visit www.mapei.com.
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