



Basic Tile Care Cleaning Metal Tile

There are various types of metal tiles on the market today, some tiles are made from metal, some contain metal glazes, while others have actual metal particles mixed in with polymers right into the body of the tile itself. Due to the presence of real metal and metal coatings careful attention must be paid when cleaning these unique surfaces.

Stainless steel cleaners for appliances tend to work well on stainless steel tiles as they are typically made from similar grades of steel. However, it is important to note that not all metal tiles are made from stainless steel and as such a pH neutral cleaner or water with a mild soap solution can be used.

It is not recommended that any abrasive cleaners or scouring pads be used to clean metal as it may scratch the surface and cause the tiles to oxidize. It is also important to keep the tiles dry and away from heat as much as possible. Be sure to follow grout manufacturer's instructions on cleaning and sealing grout properly. Grout cleaners containing bleach or ammonia may be harmful to the metal if not applied properly. The following instructions explain how to clean metal tile surfaces.

Cleaning Post Install-

Cleaning is a necessary step at the end of each job. The inappropriate or late removal of the residues may leave streaks that are difficult to remove at a later time. These streaks can form into a cement film on the metal that may scratch the surface if removed too late.

To remove cement film, grout haze, or installation related debris:

1. Using a clean sponge or terry cloth towel, wash the metal with a grout haze remover and apply the solution gently to the surface. Be sure to rinse the applicator frequently as not to scratch the metal with any debris that may stick to it.
2. Follow manufacturer's instructions closely regarding application and clean up.
3. Rinse metal thoroughly with water to ensure that the tile is free from detergents or residues and dry immediately. If needed, the operation can be repeated.

Standard Cleaning of Metal Products:

For metal tiles, use the following instructions for general cleaning:

1. Wipe loose dirt or grease from the surface. An untreated paper towel or cloth is recommended.
2. Wash the surface with a mild detergent, degreaser, or cleaning solution (do not use abrasive cleaners or abrasive applicators).
3. Rinse the tile thoroughly with clean water if a detergent is used.
4. Drying with a clean cloth or paper towel is recommended to prevent water spots.