



Sealing with Deep Seal

1. Thin coats of sealer need to be applied with four to six hour intervals until the floor no longer allows the sealer to penetrate. The sealer must be applied using a sheepskin applicator.
2. When sealing with Deep Seal it is very important that the sealer is applied evenly. All excess Deep Seal on the applicator must be squeezed off before the sealer is applied to the floor, i.e. the applicator must not be dripping. Brush strokes must go in the same direction, and must overlap.
3. Six to twelve hours curing time must pass before traffic is allowed, and the floor must not be wet for at least 48 hours after sealing.

Sealing with Top Seal

1. Two coats of Top Seal must be applied, with two to four hour intervals between applications.
2. The Top Seal should be over-sealed with either Easy Seal or Maxi Shine, depending on the finish required.

GENERAL TIPS (Do's & Don't's)

If spillage occurs, then clean up as soon as possible. If staining occurs, then contact *Tile & Floor Care* on 011 822-6901.

DO NOT apply in direct sunlight or on hot tiles as the sealer dries too quickly and will not have a chance to penetrate and adhere to the tile.

DO NOT pre-seal the tiles.

DO NOT rub in circles.

DO NOT allow water on to the tiles for 48 hours after sealing.

DO test if the tile is dry by covering a small area with plastic and weighing down the edges. If the tile sweats beneath the plastic then it is still damp.

DO apply the sealer following the grout lines – first north to south and then east to west.

This information is supplied by *Tile & Floor Care*. For further information please phone 011 822-6901.





Cleaning, Sealing and Maintaining YOUR African Earth Tiles with Tile & Floor Care Products

The African Earth range of tiles includes both pre-treated and untreated clay tiles. Because pre-treated and untreated tiles need differing cleaning and sealing procedures, it is important that you are sure of which tiles you have before laying.

Remember Always

1. If in doubt phone *Tile & Floor Care* for **free** advice on 011 450-1774.
2. The African Earth tile is very low in porosity and will only accept a small amount of sealer. **Special care must be taken not to over-apply the sealer.**
3. Understand that you have purchased a natural product and that it needs to be sealed AND maintained. Proper maintenance prolongs the life span of all types of tiles.

Cleaning after Laying the Tile

During grouting make sure that all excess grout is removed from the surface with clean water. Attempting to clean the grout off the surface with dirty water and/or dirty cloth or sponge does not clean the surface. After the grout has dried use **Grout Off** diluted to the correct solution to remove any residues from the surface of the tile. Any grout residues will impair the finish after sealing and will result in a very expensive repair.

Two types of cleaners are needed to prepare the floor for sealing. The first to be used is **Grout Off** (for removal of grout and cement residues). Follow the directions on the label. The second is **Easy Clean** to remove any grease and oil type stains and to neutralize the surface before sealing. It is vital to neutralize the floor before sealing. Follow the directions on the labels. INSPECT the floor after grouting and cleaning and before sealing.

Choosing a Sealer

Do not seal your floor if there are any grout or chemical residues on the floor.



Pre-Treated African Earth Tiles

Pre-treated African Earth tiles can only be sealed using *Tile & Floor Care Invisible Sealer*. Two coats of seal must be put down, following the instructions on the bottle.

Untreated African Earth Tiles

Un-treated African Earth tiles can be sealed with one of two types of sealers; namely **Top Seal** and **Deep Seal**. The sealers give different finishes to the tile and protect the tile in a different manner. It is imperative to check the features of the sealers before choosing.

Top Seal

Top Seal, as the name suggests, protects the tile from the top. Part of the sealer penetrates in order to bond with the substrate, but the sealer is designed to form a protective layer on the surface thereby giving the sealer a sheen finish. **Top Seal** is an acrylic. The sealing and maintenance procedure follows.

Deep Seal

Deep Seal penetrates into the tile and protects from within. **Deep Seal** is a urethane and will result in a matt finish and colour enhancement. The sealing and maintenance procedure follows.

Name	Top Seal	Deep Seal
Type	Acrylic	Urethane
Use	Interior & Exterior	Interior & Exterior
Base	Water	Solvent
Finish	Sheen	Matt
Colour Enhancement	Minimal colour change	Considerable colour change
Coverage	Depends on porosity +- 10 to 15 m ²	Depends on porosity +- 7 to 12 m ²
Maintenance	Interior – Maxi Shine, for a gloss finish; Exterior – Easy Seal, for a sheen finish; Daily Cleaning – Quick Clean	Daily Cleaning – Quick Clean
Wash & Seal	Same day providing the tile has dried sufficiently	48 hours between washing & sealing