

Removing Residues of Grouting Materials

1. Cement based grouting

Cement based grouting materials represent the standard and are very commonly used. On normal surface residues, acid based cleaners achieve very good results. The Lithofin cement residue removers are concentrates that can be diluted with water and that can be rinsed off entirely. Please note: after grouting, there are always residues on the surface or in the pores. Even when these films are not visible, they must be removed because they make the surface more difficult to maintain.

a) on ceramics



Lithofin KF Cement Residue Remover is ideal for all interior ceramic surfaces (including porcelain tiles). The strength of the product guarantees a fast reaction that leaves the surface clean and free of any residues. Outdoors use Lithofin CEMENT-AWAY.

b) on natural stone



On acid resistant stone, such as granite and gneiss, use Lithofin MN Builders' Clean. Additional benefit: Lithofin MN Builders' Clean removes rust discolouration and prevents the forming of new rust in ferrous stones.

Please note: acid sensitive stones, such as marble and limestone (but also sodalites, gabbros, etc.) especially with polished or honed surfaces, cannot be cleaned with acidic

products. In this case, generously apply Lithofin MN Power-Clean and allow it to work for approx. 15 minutes. Then use a soft white pad to rub off the residues without applying any pressure.

2. Highly refined flex joints

The so-called flex joint grouting material contains a high percentage of synthetics. These synthetic particles can form fairly stubborn surface films. Use Lithofin KF Cement Residue Remover or Lithofin MN Builders' Clean diluted with water 1:4. Scrub vigorously and rinse off the surface. Should a slight film remain, generously apply Lithofin KF Intensive Cleaner undiluted (diluted with water 1:3 on natural stone) and allow to work for 20-30 minutes. Brush occasionally but do not allow the solution to dry. Then remove the solution with a wet-and-dry vacuum. Immediately rinse at least twice with plenty of water.

3. Epoxy resins

Once fully cured, this grouting material is extremely hard wearing and acid resistant. It is therefore very important to work carefully and to wash off the surface after grouting.

Slight surface films can be removed as follows:

a) within 24 hours: apply Lithofin KF Intensive Cleaner undiluted. Allow to work for approx. 30 min. Scrub, then rinse well with water.

b) after 24 hours: generously apply Lithofin Resin-EX, allow to work for approx. 20 to 60 minutes, brush then remove from the surface. On more stubborn residues, repeat procedure with longer working times - several hours if necessary. Wash off the surface with diluted Lithofin KF Intensive Cleaner.



Important: do not apply Lithofin Resin-EX to acid sensitive surfaces.

4. Drainage-capable pavement jointing mortars

On so-called pavement jointing mortars, that are designed to allow water to seep through and which are based on epoxy resins, apply Lithofin FUGEX.

a) Directions for Use on One-component Joint Mortar:

Wet the surface with water. Dilute product approx. 1:20 with water. Apply generously and evenly with a scrubbing brush. At 20°C surface temperature allow to work for approx. 20 Minutes. Brush occasionally during drying time. Rinse with plenty of clear water while brushing.

b) Directions for Use on Two-component Joint Mortar:

Apply undiluted product to the dry surface Distribute evenly with a scrubbing brush. Brush occasionally. At 20°C surface temperature allow to work for approx. 60 Minutes (very stubborn residues up to 2 hours). Rinse with plenty of clear water while brushing.

5. Silicone joints



Residues of elastic silicone joints on ceramics and natural stone can be removed with Lithofin WAX-OFF. Apply generously and allow to work for several hours. The residues will swell up and can then be mechanically removed with a spatula, a razor blade or a hard pad. In case of discolouration around the edges of the tile, caused by unsuitable silicones, the joint must be cut out. Then apply Lithofin OIL-EX to joint and tile and cover with a piece of foil. After one day, remove the foil and remove the remaining white powder with a brush or vacuum cleaner. Allow to dry for several days and repeat procedure, if necessary. Install new joint after discolouration has been completely removed.

If you require advice please call our **Technical Support Line at (01962) 732126**

△ This information should be considered to be informal and non-binding. The products must be used according to local conditions and materials. Instructions must be read carefully and followed closely. Always test the product in an inconspicuous area. (GB11.19sz/11.19ggs)

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