

Installation and maintenance of hydraulic tile

Before proceeding with the placement of the hydraulic floor, it is very important that the personnel in charge read carefully the ubducatuibs described below for a correct floor installation.

Hydraulic bed placement procedure

1. Prior to placing the hydraulic tiles, it is recommended to apply a hydro-oleophobic (FOB XTREME or MP90 ECO XTREME¹) to protect them. This will facilitate their cleaning in case they get dirty during the construction process.
2. The installation of hydraulic tiles is simple and quick. To ensure perfect execution, the floor surface should be isolated and leveled beforehand, allowing it to dry (do not place tiles on fresh cement fillings). Additionally, make sure the base on which the hydraulic mosaic will be placed is completely dry. Otherwise, the moisture from the construction can evaporate, causing efflorescence stains on the tiles.
3. It is advisable to leave a small gap between the edge of the floor and the walls, just enough for the baseboard to cover it. This helps prevent potential tile breakage due to structural movements in the building.
4. Once the mosaic pattern has been planned, apply a thick-toothed trowel with tile adhesive to both the floor and the tile (double bonding) to improve adhesion and prevent voids that could lead to tile detachment in the future.
5. Install the hydraulic tiles by leveling them manually, one by one, without using a hammer or other tools.
6. Maintain a minimum gap of 1 to 2 mm between tiles, ensuring their alignment to achieve a proper pattern finish.
7. After completing the installation of the hydraulic tiles and allowing the tile adhesive to dry, clean the surface with plenty of water to remove the fine layer of colored dust covering the tiles.

Filling of hydraulic floor joints

1. Prior to grouting the joints of the hydraulic tiles, and if they were not treated before installation, it is necessary to apply a hydro-oleophobic product (FOB-XTREME or MP90 ECO XTREME¹ by FILA). This prevents grout residues from deeply adhering to the pigmented layer of the hydraulic floor, as they can be difficult to remove later on. Ensure that the hydraulic tiles are clean and dry before applying FOB-XTREME or MP90 ECO XTREME¹.
2. Never use tinted grout cement for filling the joints. These colored pigments can leave irreversible stains on the hydraulic tiles.
3. Use a grout float to fill the space between the tiles without spreading the grout above the surface of the tiles. Immediately clean the excess grout with a damp cloth. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for proper grouting.
4. Do not use any acid or corrosive product to remove excess cement or to clean cement marks from joints.



1 - MP90 ECO XTREME: It is an alternative to FOX XTREME, both treatments should not be used on the same tile.

Hydraulic tile maintenance.

Final construction cleaning

Once the hydraulic mosaic has been installed and cleaned with water and liquid green soap or neutral soap (never with acidic products, bleach, or ammonia), it is necessary to wait for the floor to dry completely to prevent stains from appearing when applying the sealer "FOB-XTREME/MP90 ECO XTREME" (if this product was not previously applied). The sealer closes the pores and prevents moisture from escaping. The tiles need to breathe, and all the moisture from the construction needs to evaporate before the treatment.

The evaporation of water from the construction through the cement tiles may leave whitish calcification deposits on the surface in the form of white stains. These stains disappear with a water wash of the mosaic before applying the FOB-XTREME sealer.

If there are any remaining cement, paint, or other residues after the construction, they can be removed by gently rubbing with a soft ScotchBrite scouring pad or by applying the FILAPS87 degreasing detergent diluted in water according to the manufacturer's instructions.

Treatments

For the treatment of hydraulic tiles, Demosaica recommends the application of the following treatments by FILA:

1. It is advisable to apply the treatment before placing the tiles. Follow the guidelines provided by the manufacturer FILA.
2. If it was not possible to treat the tiles prior to their installation, it is recommended to apply the product before grouting or filling the joints. This prevents grout residues from deeply adhering to the pigmented layer of the hydraulic tiles, as they can be difficult to remove later on.
3. After the final construction cleaning and once the moisture has completely evaporated, if the tiles have not been previously treated with the product, they should be treated with the hydro-oleophobic sealer FOB-XTREME. This sealer prevents the penetration of organic substances without altering the appearance of the material. Apply a thin layer of the product using a brush, spreading it evenly over the floor and avoiding excessive application.



Maintenance

1. Clean with neutral soap (green, Marseille, etc...) and water. Recommended FILACLEANER.
2. Do not use strong, acid or alkaline cleaners.
3. To remove more stubborn stains, a gentle ScotchBrite scouring pad can be used with the diluted FILAPS87 detergent by FILA, following the recommended dilution ratio.

