

INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDANCE ABOUT OUR PRODUCT

Primarily, we appreciate your trust in us and we hope that your chosen Torra encaustic tiles meets your expectations. You can contact us with any queries. We are here to serve you.

Paving the base

- In the case of not having any floor structure, and in order to prevent further leakage, insulation must be made with plastic material or conventional insulating concrete floor.
- Prepare a concrete floor, perfectly levelled and wait for it to dry completely before placing the tiles.
- After having paved the base, it is important to check that there are no cracks, as this may later affect the tiles which we have to place.

Placing the tiles

- Place the hydraulic tile over the well-aligned, clean and dry surface. A damp base will cause the build-up of lime scale on the surface of the tile.
- Apply flexible adhesive cement (preferably white) to the floor, make the mix soft to prevent the tiles from moving and spread with a short-teethed palette. Apply the adhesive cement in the same way to the underside of the tile (double gluing). Place the tiles, and align them carefully, trying to avoid any unevenness, as afterwards it will not be possible to even the tiles out.
- Does not use a rubber hammer as it could mark the tiles and cause micro-cracks.
- After placing the tiles, wait 72 hours before walking on them.
- You must leave a space of 1 to 2 mm between tiles, using "plastic crossheads" to achieve the indicated space.
- The appropriate expansion joints should be left in the surface (consult your technical department)

ATTENTION: It is recommended to cover the material with a layer of breathable protection such as Geotextile or something similar once installed to protect it from those who continue to work on the site. Avoid cardboard as it could stain the tiles or plastic so that the tiles do not steam.

Waterproofing treatment

➤ *When the surface is completely dry, it is convenient to apply a waterproofing treatment with our product Torra Sealer. This waterproofing reduces the permeability of the tiles, protecting them from stains and minimizing the absorption of water, coffee or oils, as well as other liquids which may stain the tile.*

- Before applying slurry on the pavement, it is advisable to give a first layer of waterproofing TORRA SEALER on the clean and dry surface. It is important to leave 72 hours after cleaning the mosaic to make sure that the water we have used for cleaning will be completely evaporated and so the waterproofing that we apply will be able to penetrate properly into the entire pore of the tile.
It is also important to note that the remains of moisture have disappeared completely, because of the material used in its placement.
Apply a thin layer of sealant with the help of an applicator and in a horizontal and vertical direction. (Do not apply it in excess since the debris of non-absorbed product would leave bright spots on the hydraulic tile).
- After 24 hours of applying the waterproofing, you must apply the appropriate grout to the encaustic tiles (see section below: Applying the grout). When the surface is completely clean of any remnants of grout or dirt, which may stain the face of the tile, we will apply the second coat of waterproofing product to it.

- Torra Sealer will help to protect the hydraulic tiles from possible stains, we want to make it so that said waterproofing will prevent, for example because of an accidental spillage, liquid entering into the tile, as long as the spilled liquid is removed as soon as possible.
- Torre Sealer is a waterproofing, not a product designed specifically for hydraulic mosaics.
- For a glossier, brighter or more crystalized finish to our hydraulic tiles consult our technical department where we will be able to recommend a professional for these types of jobs.
- **ATTENTION:** *Torra Sealer is a neutral product and does not alter the tone of the material. It is recommended to test it on a spare tile before applying the treatment fully to the surface.*

Applying the grout

- Once the tiles are placed we will fill in the spaces between them with plastic and flexible grout (always use light colours as dark colours may stain the tiles), the mix must be made fairly liquid with a rubber trowel until all of the spaces are filled in, repeat the process until the spaces are completely filled with the material. The excess material should be immediately cleaned with a wet cloth and sponge. Acids should not be used to get rid of the excess cement nor should they be used to clean the tiles as they may damage them. To clean the remains of the work, cement, etc.; you can use our product *Torra Floor Cleaner*.
- Once the process of placing the tiles is completely finished, in some cases and during a certain period, you may notice the emergence of some white marks (efflorescence) produced by the solidification of soluble salts containing water. This is quite common in this type of material. The marks will start to disappear with the daily use of the tiles and as you clean the surface with mild soap and water.

Finished Material and Maintenance

- For cleaning, only use mild soap and water.
- Do not use strong detergents, acids or alkaline detergents. This may irreversibly damage the tiles. For the optimum conservation of your hydraulic tile, we recommend that you clean the floors once a month with our product *Torre Wax Tile Plus*.

➤ *For a floor with a brighter finish or one with an aged appearance we recommend our Torre Wax Tile special wax*

It is very important to store the Hydraulic Mosaic in a dry and dark place, as moisture or contact with water may stain the tiles, this being an irreversible problem.

IMPORTANT:

- *Claims about the product cannot be made once placed. The installation of the product constitutes the agreement to it.*
- *Neither changes nor refunds of the material will be allowed.*
- *The encaustic tiles cannot be lowered in any way.*