



**CERAMIC TILE INSTITUTE OF AMERICA, INC.**  
12061 Jefferson Blvd., Culver City, CA 90230-6219

## **CTI FIELD REPORT 68-5-22 (R-85)**

### **SUBJECT: CLEANING UNGLAZED QUARRY TILE AND PAVER TILE FLOORS**

This refers to Tile qualifying under ANSI A137.1 Standard Specifications for Ceramic Tile.

Such tile is acid proof. The jointing material (grout) that is filled in between the tiles may be either acid proof or not. Regardless, when properly cured, it is hard enough to be cleaned as outlined below:

Cleaning of Tile is often inadequate because of the cleaning materials and methods used. We often refer to it as cleaning over the top of dirt.

The following do's and don'ts should result in clean, film-free Tile.

1. DO NOT use acid or cleaning materials with acid in them to clean the floors.
2. DO use just a trial area to see how good a job is being done.
3. DO wet the tile floor with clean water.
4. DO use an electrically powered scrubbing machine to clean the floor if the floors are large. Scrub brushes used by hand are adequate for small floors.
5. Use a good neutral commercial cleaner - such as Super Shine All, manufactured by Hillyards, or Miracle Cleaner by Aqua Mix Products Company. Sprinkle scouring compound, in addition to the cleaner, on the floor ahead of the neutral cleaning. If necessary, a 60 grit silica sand can be added in small amounts to help cut through the coating on the tile.
6. Rinse the floor to remove cleaning slurry. Rinsing and pick up of mop water with a wet vacuum is preferred.
7. Floors that are polished dry with old toweling will have more shine.
8. As a rule, this will do no damage and will leave a clean, undamaged tile and joint unless the joints are exceptionally soft because they were not properly cured.
9. For Glazed Quarry Tile and Pavor Tile use the same procedure without the scouring powder and DO NOT use the sand.

3/7/75 (Revised)  
10/29/76 (Revised)  
8/30/78 (Revised)  
3/3/81 (Revised)  
11/24/82 (Revised)  
7/30/85 (Revised)