

CARE GUIDE

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR YOUR TILES



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At Inspire Living, we believe that proper care and maintenance are key to keeping your tiles looking beautiful and lasting for years. This guide will walk you through the essentials of caring for your tiled surfaces, with a special focus on maintaining grout and silicone, which are essential for the integrity of your installation.

1. Cleaning Your Tiles

- **Daily Cleaning** - To keep your tiles looking their best, regularly sweep or vacuum the surface to remove dust and debris. This prevents dirt from scratching the surface of the tiles.
- **Wet Cleaning** - Use a damp mop with a mild, non-abrasive cleaner. Avoid harsh chemicals or bleach, as they can damage the finish of your tiles. Always dry the floor after cleaning to prevent water spots or residue buildup.
- **Spot Cleaning** - For stubborn stains, a gentle tile cleaner can be applied directly to the stain. Speak to your local tile supplier as to what product is best and to understand the correct application.

2. Grout Maintenance

- **Regular Cleaning** - Grout, the material between your tiles, can become dirty over time. To maintain it, use a grout cleaner or a mixture of baking soda and water. Apply the solution and gently scrub with a soft brush to remove dirt and stains.
- **Sealing Grout** - Grout is porous and can absorb stains or moisture, leading to discolouration. Contact us if you would like grout sealer installed. We recommend re-sealing it every 1-2 years depending on the wear. This protective layer helps to repel dirt and liquids.
- **Repairing Grout** - Over time, grout may begin to crack or degrade. If you notice any cracks or gaps, it's important to repair or replace the grout promptly. Leaving damaged grout can lead to water infiltration, which could damage the tiles and the underlying surfaces.

3. Silicone Sealant Maintenance

- **Inspecting Silicone** - Silicone sealant is used around edges, corners, and joints in areas like bathrooms and kitchens. It helps to prevent water from seeping behind tiles, which can cause damage over time. Inspect the silicone regularly for any signs of deterioration, such as cracking, discolouration, or mould buildup.
- **Cleaning Silicone** - To clean silicone, use a mild soap solution and a soft cloth. Avoid abrasive materials that could damage the sealant.
- **Replacing Silicone** - Over time, silicone sealant can lose its flexibility or degrade. If you notice that it's cracked, mouldy, or is starting to peel away, it's time to replace it. Silicone should typically be replaced every 3-5 years, but this can vary depending on the conditions in your space (e.g., high humidity areas may need more frequent replacement).
- **Reapplying Silicone** - Old silicone needs replacing, please reach out to us for next steps to get this completed.

4. Additional Tips for Long-lasting Tile Care

- **Avoid Harsh Scrubbing** - Using abrasive cleaning tools can damage the surface of your tiles, especially on delicate finishes. Always opt for soft sponges or microfiber cloths.
- **Protect from Heavy Impacts** - Although tiles are durable, they can crack under heavy impact. Be careful with dropping heavy objects on your tiled surfaces.
- **Keep Humidity in Check** - In high-humidity areas like bathrooms, use exhaust fans or dehumidifiers to prevent excess moisture, which can weaken grout and silicone over time.