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# NEED A BOOST?



## INSIDE TILE INC



Heated floor systems can't be installed below built-ins, cabinets or walls, but rugs, hampers, scales and waste cans are OK when your finished floor is stone or ceramic. The area under the rug or other objects will get warmer, HOWEVER, beware of rubber backed rugs on top of heated floor systems. They may melt or cause more damage.



Tile Inc. will be closed on Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup> 2009 in observance of the Easter Holiday. We will reopen Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup>.

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Even though today's grouts are far more superior to the grouts from back in the day, grout tends to be a problematic aspect in a ceramic tile installation. Homeowners do not want their grout to stain or show dirt. Aside from following manufacturer's recommendation for grout maintenance, properly sealing grout can help extend customer satisfaction with their grout performance.

Do you seal the grout or not? The primary purpose of sealing grout is to provide greater stain resistance. A properly selected sealer should provide reasonable stain resistance, keeping and staining agents on or near the grout surface.

Tile Inc. now carries a product that seals grout at the time of grout installation. It is called Grout Boost®. Grout Boost® stain resistant grout additive mixes with cement-based grout in place of water when mixing up grout to provide resistance to water and oil-based grout stains. The product never needs sealing once properly installed by the manufacturer's recommendation. The additive will not affect the color of your grout. It comes in two formulas: sanded and unsanded. Grout Boost® can be used on interior or exterior applications.

Grout Boost® was independently tested by CTL Group, project No. 409560. Testing was conducted on TEC Accucolor Grout, TEC Accucolor grout with Grout Boost® additive and a name brand hybrid epoxy grout meeting ANSI 118.3. Testing was performed on untreated material according to the instructions provided by TEC. 7 day old grout was tested for 30 minutes after application of staining media to include: catsup, yellow mustard, soy sauce, hot black coffee, Coke, red cough syrup, red wine, Worcestershire sauce and Wesson oil. After 30 minutes, excess media was removed with warm running tap water followed by a forceful warm water scrub using a soft scrubbing pad. Scrubbing continue at each media until no change in the stain could be observed. Stains were assessed after 24 hours.

Extent of staining is reported on a scale of 0 to 5 with 0 being NO STAIN and 5 being HEAVY STAIN. Results are in the table below.

PANEL POSITION	Stain Media	Accucolor #1	Accucolor #2	Accucolor w/ Grout Boost #1	Accucolor w/ Grout Boost #2	Name Brand expoy Grout #1	Name Brand expoy Grout #2
1	Catsup	1	1	0	0	0	1
2	Yellow Mustard	2	2	0	0	2	2
3	Soy Sauce	3	3	0	0	1	1
4	Hot Black Coffee	4	4	0	0	2	1
5	Coke	4	4	0	0	1	1
6	Red Cough Syrup	2	2	0	0	3	3
7	Red wine	5	5	0	0	2	1
8	Worcestershire sauce	4	4	0	0	2	2
9	Wesson oil	1	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL		26	26	0	0	13	12
AVERAGE		2.89	2.89	0.00	0.00	1.44	1.33

For more information on the Grout Boost® product line, check out [www.groutboost.com](http://www.groutboost.com) or contact Tile Inc. with your questions.