



STONETECH[®] Sealing, Maintenance, and Care

Belgian Reproduction

Thin Brick Tile, Saltillo & Terra Cotta

MCI 118

NOTE: For all recommended products: read the entire product label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area with a 24-hour cure time to determine ease of application and desired results. Avoid skin and eye contact. Always wear appropriate safety equipment during product use.

NEW INSTALLATION PRE-GROUT TREATMENT

Grouting cleanup is often easier when the stone is sealed prior to grouting. Saltillo, terra cotta and clay brick can be porous and are susceptible to grout staining and may benefit from sealing prior to grouting.

A simple water test can be performed to identify if the stone is porous. If the saltillo, terra cotta or clay brick darkens after applying water to its surface and waiting for 5 minutes, then the tile is absorbent and applying a sealer prior to grouting may aid in clean up after grouting. For most stones that darken when a single application of sealer is generally sufficient as a pre-grouting treatment.

For a pre-grout sealer for saltillo, terra cotta or clay brick:

STONETECH[®] Grout Release

Grout Release Application

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area to determine ease of application and desired results. Make sure surface is clean, dry and free of loose debris. Surface temperature should be between 50-80°F (10 – 26°C). Avoid skin and eye contact. Wear protective eyewear, gloves, long sleeves, and long pants while handling product. Ensure work area is well-ventilated during application and until surface is dry. Keep children and pets out of the area until surface use resumes.

1. Mask off surfaces not intended to be treated.
2. Apply an even coat of STONETECH[®] Grout Release with a paint pad, paintbrush, paint roller or low-pressure sprayer.
3. Allow STONETECH Grout Release to completely penetrate the surface for 5-15 minutes.
4. Wipe up all remaining grout release from the surface. Do not allow excess liquid to pool or dry on surface. Do not over apply.
5. Allow for a minimum of 4 hours cure time prior to grouting.

6. After grouting, remove excess grout. Do not allow grout to completely dry prior to removal.
7. Clean equipment with water.
8. Once grout is fully cured seal installation with an appropriate STONETECH sealer. Follow grout manufacturer's directions for cure time.

Refer to DS [213.5](#) for more information.

SEALING AND PROTECTING:

All saltillo, terra cotta or clay bricks are susceptible to staining from both oil and water-based materials and sealing will help protect the stone's appearance. The cement grouts used in saltillo, terra cotta or clay brick tile installations will also be more stain resistant with the application of a penetrating sealer.

For interior and exterior natural look protection from water- and oil-based staining:

STONETECH® Impregnator Pro® Sealer

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area with a 24-hour cure time to determine ease of application and desired results. Allow new grout installations to cure for a minimum of 72 hours prior to applying sealer. Make sure surface is clean, dry and free of waxes and coatings. Surface temperature should be between 50°F and 80°F (10°C and 27°C). Keep children and pets out of the area until surface use resumes or treated surface is dry.

1. Ensure area is well-ventilated during application and until the surface is dry. Use a respirator if unsure that area is well-ventilated. A NIOSH-approved respirator with a combination HEPA/organic vapor cartridge is recommended. Follow respirator manufacturer's instructions for use. Ensure cap is closed and sealed and shake well before use.
2. Mask off surfaces not intended to be treated.
3. Liberally apply an even coat of STONETECH® Impregnator Pro® Sealer using a paint pad, roller, brush or pump-up garden sprayer. DO NOT USE A POWER SPRAYER. See method of application for more information. Do not thin before using.
4. Allow sealer to penetrate surface for 5-7 minutes; denser stone may require more time for sealer to penetrate. During this time, distribute excess sealer over entire area to ensure even penetration. DO NOT ALLOW EXCESS SEALER TO DRY ON SURFACE.
5. Thoroughly wipe dry the entire surface with clean absorbent towels.
6. If excess sealer was not completely wiped off and a residue appears, wipe entire surface with a towel dampened with sealer. Use a white nylon scrubbing pad to loosen residue and follow with white absorbent towel to remove.

7. Full cure is achieved after 24–72 hours. Grouting may begin after 24-hour cure of sealer application. If use of the surface must resume sooner, cover the treated surface with red rosin paper to protect it until full cure is achieved.
8. Rags and equipment that are wet with product may be combustible. Clean up promptly after job is complete. Clean equipment with mineral spirits and allow to dry in a well-ventilated area. Allow rags to dry in a well-ventilated area out of the reach of children and pets. When dry, dispose of in accordance with local waste disposal regulations.

Refer to [DS238-0120](#) for more information.

METHOD OF APPLICATION: DO NOT USE A POWER SPRAYER. Power sprayers increase exposure hazard. Power sprayers also create a significant amount of overspray resulting in wasted product and the need for additional clean-up. A pump-up garden sprayer will reduce the potential for over-exposure to vapors and produce better results.

For a natural look water repellent on exterior surfaces:

STONETECH® Heavy Duty Exterior Sealer

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area with a 24-hour cure time to determine ease of application and desired results. Allow new grout installations to cure for a minimum of 72 hours prior to application. Make sure surface is clean, thoroughly dry and free of waxes and coatings. Surface temperature should be between 50°F - 80°F (10°C - 26°C). Keep children and pets out of the area until surface use resumes.

1. Mask off any surfaces not intended to be treated.
2. Liberally apply an even coat of STONETECH® Heavy Duty Exterior Sealer with a paint pad, paintbrush, paint roller or solvent-resistant, low-pressure sprayer. Do not use power sprayer. Do not thin before using. See method of application.
3. Allow sealer to penetrate the surface for 5–15 minutes; denser material may require more time for sealer to penetrate. During this time, distribute excess sealer over entire area to ensure even penetration. **DO NOT ALLOW EXCESS SEALER TO DRY ON THE SURFACE.**
4. Thoroughly wipe dry the entire surface with a clean dry cloth to completely remove all excess sealer from the surface.
5. A second coat may be needed for porous, absorbent surfaces and should be applied one hour after initial application as directed in steps 2–4.
6. If sealer was not completely wiped off and a residue appears, wipe entire surface with a towel dampened with sealer. Use a white nylon pad to loosen residue and follow with a clean, white absorbent towel to remove.

7. Full cure is achieved in 24–72 hours. Surface use may resume in 4-6 hours.
8. Clean up promptly after job is complete, since rags and equipment that are wet with product may be combustible. Clean equipment with mineral spirits and allow equipment and rags to dry in a well-ventilated area out of reach of children and pets. After rags are dry, dispose of in accordance with local waste disposal regulations.

Refer to [DS 212.5](#) for more information.

For a color enhancing impregnating sealer for interior and exterior surfaces:

STONETECH® Enhancer Pro™ Sealer (Solvent-based)

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area with a 24-hour cure time to determine ease of application and desired results. Allow new grout installations to cure for a minimum of 72 hours prior to application. Make sure surface is clean, free of waxes, coatings, and previous sealers, and is dry for 24-72 hours. Surface temperature should be between 50°F - 80°F (10°C - 26°C). Ensure that the area is well-ventilated during application and until treated surface is dry. Keep children and pets out of the area until treaded surface is dry.

1. Mask off any surfaces not intended to be treated.
2. Liberally apply an even coat of STONETECH Enhancer Pro Sealer using a paint pad, roller, brush, or pump-up garden sprayer. Do not use a power sprayer, towel, or sponge for application. Do not thin before using.
3. Allow Sealer to penetrate surface for 15-20 minutes. Denser material may require more time to penetrate. **DO NOT ALLOW EXCESS SEALER TO DRY ON SURFACE.** Failure to remove excess sealer from surface may result in residue that may need to be mechanically removed.
4. Thoroughly wipe surface with multiple dry cloths to remove all excess sealer.
5. A second coat may be needed for more absorbent surfaces or if darker appearance is required. Sealer should be applied one hour after start of initial application, as directed in steps 2-4.
6. Full cure is achieved after 24-72 hours. Avoid surface traffic for 6-8 hours after application. If surface traffic must resume sooner, cover the floor with red rosin paper to protect it until full cure has been achieved. Red rosin paper is not needed to apply second coat.
7. Clean up promptly after job is complete. Rags and equipment that are wet with product may be flammable. Clean equipment with mineral spirits and allow to dry in a well-ventilated area. Allow rags to dry in a well-ventilated area out of reach of children and pets. When dry, dispose of accordance with local waste disposal regulations.

Refer to [DS 218.5](#) for more information.

REGULAR MAINTENANCE AND CARE

Routine, daily maintenance of saltillo, terra cotta or clay brick surfaces will involve keeping dirt, dust and other soiling from building up. Exterior installations will often require more intensive maintenance and care processes. Spills, food and other potential staining materials need to be cleaned up in a reasonable period of time. Regular sweeping and light damp mopping is advisable. For larger installations these processes remain the same; only the scale will change.

Highly alkaline, acidic, ammonia based, abrasive cleaners, or bleach may damage some stone, tile and/or grout surfaces and may also degrade any applied sealer, adversely affecting stain repellency. The use of a gentle cleaner specifically formulated for stone, tile and grout maintenance is the best assurance of not harming the saltillo, terra cotta, clay brick, grout or degrading any applied sealers.

Removal of cement grout hazes, stripping topical coatings, acrylic finishes or heavy waxes:

STONETECH Epoxy Grout Haze & Coating Stripper

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Test in a small inconspicuous area to determine ease of application and desired results. Be sure all surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Ensure work area is well-ventilated during application and until surface is dry. Keep children and pets out of the area until surface use resumes. Avoid contact with surfaces not intended to be treated. Avoid applying in direct sunlight. Should not be used in extreme temperatures. Recommended application temperature range is between 50°F - 90°F (10 °C - 32 °C).

1. SHAKE WELL BEFORE USING. Do not dilute before applying.
2. Wear rubber gloves and eye protection during handling and application to prevent skin and eye contact.
3. Liberally apply an even coat of STONETECH® Epoxy Grout Haze & Coating Stripper over the required area with a paint brush, mop or paint pad. DO NOT APPLY WITH A SPRAYER. Immediately remove STONETECH Epoxy Grout Haze & Coating Stripper from unintended surfaces with a wet cloth to prevent potential damage to those surfaces.

4. Application time will vary depending on type of coating being removed. Approximate application times are as follows:

Haze / Coating	Surface Type	Age of Haze/Coating		
		24 Hour	7 Days	> 7 Days
Epoxy Grout Haze	Tile	1 – 3 minutes	3 – 5 minutes	10 minutes
Epoxy Grout Haze	Natural Stone & Masonry	1 – 3 minutes	3 – 5 minutes	10 minutes
Coatings *	Tile	1 – 5 minutes		
Coatings *	Natural Stone & Masonry	1 – 5 minutes		10 minutes

5. Do not let STONETECH Epoxy Grout Haze & Coating Stripper dry on the surface. If STONETECH Heavy Duty Epoxy Grout Haze & Coating Stripper starts to dry, add additional product to keep surface wet.
6. Agitate surface with a nylon scrub brush or pad after testing a small area first to make sure that brush or pad will not scratch the surface. Surface can be wet with water to enable easier removal of coating.
7. Wipe up residual STONETECH Epoxy Grout Haze & Coating Stripper Coating Stripper with clean, dry cloth or wet mop. A wet/dry vacuum can be used for larger area.
8. Rinse surface well with clean water.
9. More than one application may be required, repeat steps 3 through 8 when necessary.
10. Surface traffic may begin 2 hours after removal of coating.

Refer to [DS 116.4](#) for more information.

Maintenance Cleaning

Both routine damp mopping and monthly scrub cleanings of saltillo, terra cotta or clay brick surfaces can be accomplished using sponges and brushes, spray mops, and traditional mop and bucket. A wet/dry vacuum is helpful for cleaning big floors. For commercial applications, a swing machine fitted with a brush or pad or an auto-scrubber will help maintain larger installations. STONETECH has two maintenance cleaners suitable for saltillo, terra cotta or clay brick surfaces.

For routine cleaning of saltillo, terra cotta or clay brick using a cleaner and protector:

STONETECH® Revitalizer® Cleaner and Protector (Concentrate)

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Be sure all surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Keep children and pets out of the area during application and drying.

1. Dilute STONETECH Revitalizer Cleaner and Protector (Concentrate) with warm water according to the following mixing chart:

Use	STONETECH® Revitalizer® Cleaner & Protector (Concentrate)	Warm Water
Spray Refill	1 part	1 part
Light Duty	1 part	4 parts

2. Apply diluted solution with a damp mop, towel, sponge or low-pressure sprayer.
3. Rub surface lightly and remove any excess cleaner. No need to rinse.
4. Repeat if necessary, for heavily soiled areas.
5. Let area dry completely before using.

STONETECH® Revitalizer® Cleaner and Protector (Ready-To-Use)

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Be sure all surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Keep children and pets out of the area during application and drying.

1. To refill 24 oz. (709 mL) spray bottle, use a funnel.
2. Spray or pour directly onto soiled area.
3. Wipe clean with a dry towel, lint free cloth or sponge. No need to rinse.
4. Repeat for heavily soiled areas using a non-abrasive scrubbing pad.
5. Wipe clean with a dry towel.

Refer to [DS 212.0](#) for more information.

STONETECH Stone & Tile Cleaner (Concentrate)

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Be sure surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Avoid skin and eye contact with product. Wear protective eyewear and gloves when handling concentrate. Keep children and pets out of the area during application and drying.

1. Dilute STONETECH® Stone & Tile Cleaner (Concentrate) with warm water according to the following mixing chart:

Use	STONETECH® Stone & Tile Cleaner (Concentrate)	Warm Water
Light Duty	1 part	64 parts
Heavy Duty	1 part	32 parts

2. Apply mixed solution with a damp mop, sponge or appropriate professional cleaning equipment.
3. Clean entire area with mop, changing cleaning solution often to ensure that soil is not redeposited. Wipe or rinse cleaned area.
4. Let area dry completely before using.

STONETECH Stone & Tile Cleaner (Ready-To-Use)

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Be sure surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Avoid skin and eye contact with product. Wear protective eyewear and gloves when handling concentrate. Keep children and pets out of the area during application and drying.

1. Spray or pour directly onto soiled area.
2. Wipe clean with a dry towel, lint free cloth or sponge. No need to rinse.
3. Repeat for heavily soiled areas using a non-abrasive scrubbing pad.
4. Wipe clean with a dry towel.

Refer to [DS 211.0](#) for more information.

RESTORATIVE DEEP CLEANING

Stone, tile and grout installations can become heavily soiled over time. Restorative cleaning processes will help return these surfaces to a more acceptable appearance.

The following restorative surface cleaning processes are done in preparation for resealing or for specialized surface cleaning circumstances. These cleaning processes should not damage the surface of the saltillo, terra cotta or clay brick. However, these types of heavy-duty cleaning methods may degrade or strip many sealers from the application.

Depending on the type of soiling or staining, select one of the following options:

For spot or small area deep cleaning:

STONETECH® DeepKlenz™ Cleaner

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Test in a small inconspicuous area to determine required results. Be sure all surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Avoid skin and eye contact with product. Wear protective eyewear, gloves, long sleeves, and long pants while handling concentrate. Ensure work area is well-ventilated during application and until surface is dry. Keep children and pets out of the area during application and drying. Recommended application temperature range is between 40°F - 100°F (4°C - 38°C).

1. Thoroughly wet surface by directly spraying onto soiled area.
2. Allow STONETECH DeepKlenz™ Cleaner to work on the surface for 5-10 minutes. Do NOT allow product to dry on the surface.
3. Lightly scrub with a stiff bristle brush to remove the surface contaminants.
4. Rinse and wipe surface with clean cloth and warm water. Repeat as needed for heavy soiled areas.
5. Reseal cleaned area with an appropriate STONETECH sealer (e.g. STONETECH BulletProof® Sealer).

Refer to [DS 111.2](#) for more information.

For cleaning and removing soap scum:

STONETECH Soap Scum Remover

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area to determine ease of use and desired results. Be sure surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Avoid skin and eye contact. Wear protective eyewear and gloves. Keep children and pets out of the area during application and drying.

1. Spray STONETECH® Soap Scum Remover directly on soiled areas. Avoid applying onto unintended surfaces.
2. Wipe surface with clean, dry cloth or scrub with stiff nylon brush as needed.
3. Rinse area well with clean water.
4. Wipe area dry with clean cloth.
5. Repeat as needed for heavily soiled areas.

Refer to [DS 229.0](#) for more information.

For oil stain removal:

STONETECH Oil Stain Remover

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area to determine that the desired results will be achieved. Make sure surface is clean, dry, and free of waxes and coatings. Ensure that area is well-ventilated and keep children and pets away from the area during application and until surface is clean and dry.

1. Using a plastic or wood spatula, stir thoroughly to mix the paste.
2. Apply a ¼” (6 mm) thick layer of paste to the stain. Ensure that the paste extends at least 1” - 2” (25 – 50mm) beyond the edge of the stain.
3. Do not cover.
4. Allow 48 – 72 hours for STONETECH Oil Stain Remover to dry.
5. Using a plastic spatula, remove the dried STONETECH Oil Stain Remover and discard.
6. Allow solvent to completely dry from the stone.
7. If stain is not completely gone after drying, repeat process.
8. Clean up residue and tools with mineral spirits.

9. Once the surface is dry, reseal the cleaned area with an appropriate STONETECH sealer (e.g. STONETECH BulletProof® Sealer).

Refer to [DS 214.0](#) for more information.

For cleaning and removing mold and mildew:

STONETECH® Mold & Mildew Stain Remover

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area to determine ease of use and desired results. Be sure surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Avoid skin and eye contact. Wear protective eyewear and gloves. Keep children and pets out of the area during application and drying. Do not mix this product with other household cleaners or metals.

1. Spray STONETECH Mold & Mildew Stain Remover directly on soiled areas. Avoid applying onto unintended surfaces.
2. Clean surface with non-abrasive sponge or stiff nylon brush as needed.
3. Rinse area well with clean water.
4. Repeat as needed for heavily soiled areas.

Refer to [DS 219.0](#) for more information.

Removal of efflorescence, mineral deposits, and calcium-based staining:

STONETECH® Restore™ Acidic Cleaner

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area to determine required dilution and results. Be sure all surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Heavy duty dilution may darken some surfaces. **This acid-based cleaner will etch or damage most marble, limestone and travertine surfaces. Will etch or corrode most metal surfaces.** Avoid skin and eye contact. Wear protective eyewear, gloves, long sleeves, and long pants while handling product. Ensure work area is well ventilated during application and until surface is dry. Keep children and pets out of the area during application and drying.

1. Dilute concentrated STONETECH Restore™ Acidic Cleaner with warm water according to the following mixing chart:

Use	STONETECH® Restore™ Acidic Cleaner (Concentrate)	Warm Water	pH
Light Duty	1 part	16 parts	1.4
Medium Duty	1 part	4 parts	1.2
Heavy Duty	1 part	1 part	<1

2. Mask off and protect any metals or other surfaces not intended to be treated. Apply mixed solution with a clean mop, or towel.
3. Agitate with a scrub brush or floor machine as needed.
4. Remove STONETECH Restore Acidic Cleaner using a clean cloth, wet/dry vacuum or damp mop.
5. Rinse area well with clean water and wipe dry.
6. Thoroughly rinse all metal surfaces with clean water. Clean and rinse equipment with water.
7. Reseal cleaned area with an appropriate STONETECH sealer (e.g. STONETECH BulletProof® Sealer).

Refer to [DS 216.0](#) for more information.

For cleaning grease, oil, dirt, dry soil, or to prepare for resealing:

STONETECH® KlenzAll™ Cleaner (Concentrate)

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area to determine ease of use and desired results. Be sure all surfaces to be cleaned are swept or vacuumed to remove loose debris. Avoid skin and eye contact with product. Wear protective eyewear, gloves, long sleeves, and long pants while handling concentrate. Ensure work area is well-ventilated during application and until surface is dry. Keep children and pets out of the area during application and drying.

The following is a restorative surface cleaning process which is done in preparation for resealing or for specialized surface cleaning circumstances. This process should not damage the stone surface; however, this type of heavy-duty cleaning will degrade or strip many sealers from the application.

1. Dilute concentrated STONETECH KlenzAll™ Cleaner with warm water according to the following mixing chart:

Use	STONETECH® KlenzAll™ Cleaner (Concentrate)	Warm Water	pH
Light Duty	1 part	8 parts	10.7
Medium Duty	1 part	4 parts	11
Heavy Duty	1 part	2 parts	11.3

2. Apply mixed solution with a mop, clean cloth or low-pressure sprayer. Avoid applying cleaner on unintended surfaces.
3. Lightly scrub with a scrub brush or floor machine as needed.
4. Remove STONETECH® KlenzAll™ Cleaner using a clean cloth, wet/dry vacuum or damp mop.
5. Rinse area well with clean water. Allow area to dry completely.
6. Some surfaces may require additional cleaning. If so, repeat steps 2 – 5 above.
7. Reseal cleaned area with an appropriate STONETECH sealer (e.g. STONETECH BulletProof® Sealer).

Refer to [DS 215.0](#) for more information.

Maintenance & Care Instructions are subject to change without notice. For latest revision, check our website at <https://laticrete.com>
MCI 118 R 20 February 2020



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