# STONETECH® Maintenance & Care



# Clé Encaustic Cement White/Black Tile MCI 119

**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. Concrete and cement materials 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 concrete or cement material darkens after applying water to its surface and waiting for 5 minutes, then the material is absorbent and applying a sealer prior to grouting may aid in clean up after grouting. For most stones that darken when wet a single application of sealer is generally sufficient as a pre-grouting treatment.

# For a pre-grout sealer for concrete or cement brick or tiles:

# STONETECH®Impregnator Pro®Sealer

# **Pre-Grout Sealer Application**

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 curse 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 <u>DS238-0120</u> 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.

# **SEALING AND PROTECTING:**

Clé Encaustic Cement white/black tile are susceptible to staining from both oil and water-based materials and sealing will help protect the tile's appearance. The cement grouts used in concrete and cement brick installations will also be more stain resistant with the application of a penetrating sealer. Testing of these cement tiles showed that a 3-4 coat minimum application would be necessary for either one of the penetrating sealers listed below. The STONETECH® Impregnator Pro® Sealer is the preferred sealer for these cement tiles with a 3- coat application. Should the preferred sealer not be available the STONETECH BulletProof® Sealer be an acceptable sealer with a 4-coat application.

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

# STONETECH®Impregnator Pro®Sealer

# **Pre-Grout Sealer Application**

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 curse 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 <u>DS238-0120</u> 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 interior and exterior natural look protection from water- and oil-based staining:

#### STONETECH BulletProof®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 and free of waxes and coatings. Sealer may be applied to damp surfaces one hour after standing water has been removed. Surface temperature should be between 50°F - 80°F (10°C - 26°C). Ensure that the area is well-ventilated during application and until the surface is dry. Keep children and pets out of the area until treated surface is dry.

1. 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 BulletProof Sealer using a paint pad, roller, brush or low pressure sprayer.
- 4. Allow sealer to penetrate the surface for 10-15 minutes. During this time, keep the surface wet with sealer, adding more sealer as needed. DO NOT ALLOW SEALER TO COMPLETELY DRY ON THE SURFACE.
- 5. Thoroughly wipe dry the entire surface with clean absorbent towels.
- 6. Additional coats may be needed for porous, absorbent surfaces. It is recommended to install 3-4 coats. The coats should be applied within 30-40 minutes from the initial application as directed in steps 3-5.
- 7. Should a sealer residue appear, rewet the impacted section of the surface with sealer. Agitate the surface with a white nylon scrubbing pad to loosen residue and wipe dry with a clean, absorbent towel.
- 8. A full cure is achieved in 24-72 hours. Use of the treated surface may resume in 6-8 hours. If use of the surface must resume sooner, cover the treated surface with red rosin paper to protect it until full cure has been achieved.
- 9. Clean tools used during application with water.

Refer to DS 282.0 for more information.

# **REGULAR MAINTENANCE AND CARE**

Routine, daily maintenance of concrete and cement 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 concrete, cement bricks, pavers, 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.
  - i. 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 <u>DS 116.4</u> for more information.

# **Maintenance Cleaning**

Both routine damp mopping and monthly scrub cleanings of concrete and cement 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 concrete and cement surfaces.

# For routine cleaning of concrete and cement 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.

# For routine cleaning of concrete and cement brick using a cleaner:

# 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.

#### **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 concrete and cement 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<sup>TM</sup> 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<sup>™</sup> 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 **DS111.2** 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.

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

# STONETECH® KlenzAll<sup>TM</sup> 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<sup>TM</sup> Cleaner with warm water according to the following mixing chart:

Use	STONETECH <sup>®</sup> KlenzAll™ Cleaner (Concentrate)	Warm Water	рН
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<sup>®</sup> 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 <u>DS 215.0</u> for more information.

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



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