



Grout Release Guide

TDS 259

Installing tiles can be challenging, especially when using hard to grout tiles such as textured, absorptive, slip resistant ceramic tiles, natural stone tiles or non-traditional finish tiles such as metallic finished tiles. Checking with your tile manufacturer for grouting tips or recommendation should be your first step in determining the right way to go about it.

The use of a grout release on recommended stones can be a tremendous advantage when installing grout and making sure the grout doesn't stain or to prevent grout from penetrating and bonding into the stone/tile grooves. Grout Release can also prevent the grout from being absorbed into the stone/tile and creating "picture framing". Ceramic tiles and quarry tiles, being non-absorbent, do not benefit from a grout release as the grout release will create a haze on the tile. For such tiles, as well as non-absorptive stones, we would recommend using a penetrating sealer prior to grouting, typically 12 hours before.

The type of grout being used can also make a difference, such as using an epoxy grout on a metallic finish tile can sometimes cause the grout to oxidize, and therefore is not recommended.

Below are LATICRETE's recommendation for grouting tips based on tile and tile finish:

Type of Stone	Type of Grout Recommended	Use of Grout Release Recommended
Natural Stone	PERMACOLOR® Grout PERMACOLOR Select Grout SPECTRALOCK® PRO Premium SPECTRALOCK PRO Premium Translucent Grout	STONETECH® Grout Release
Ceramic Tile (Rough textured, absorptive, abrasive, non-slip, etc...), Quarry Tile, Cracked Tile	PERMACOLOR Grout PERMACOLOR Select Grout SPECTRALOCK Pro Premium	STONETECH Heavy Duty Sealer, or STONETECH Impregnator Pro® Sealer
Metallic coated tile	PERMACOLOR Grout PERMACOLOR Select Grout	Not Necessary
Bricks	PERMACOLOR Grout PERMACOLOR Select Grout SPECTRALOCK Pro Premium MVIS™ Pointing Mortar MVIS Premium Pointing Mortar	STONETECH Grout Release
Pavers	PERMACOLOR Grout PERMACOLOR Select Grout	STONETECH Grout Release

Regular ceramic tile, glass tile, and impervious natural stone tile do not generally require the use of a grout release. Always conduct a test area/mock-up to validate performance and results.

PERMACOLOR Grout ([DS 250.0](#)); PERMACOLOR Select ([DS 281.0](#)); SPECTRALOCK PRO Premium Grout: ([DS 681.0](#)); SPECTRALOCK PRO Premium Translucent Grout ([DS 735.1](#)); STONETECH Grout Release ([DS 213.5](#)); STONETECH Heavy Duty Sealer ([DS 279.0](#)), STONETECH Impregnator Pro Sealer ([DS 238.0](#)).

Technical Data Sheets are subject to change without notice. For latest revision, check our website at <https://laticrete.com>
TDS 259.doc R 6 February 2020

