TECHNICALBULLETIN





Aqua Mix Sealers Six sided sealing

Why Seal all six sides? Moisture present during the curing or hydration of, especially, cement based adhesives can trigger or transport water soluble contaminants in the stone causing staining. Picture framing, pyrite staining (iron sulfide) and even efflorescence are common examples. Sealing all six sides of the stone will reduce the stones immediate surface water absorption greatly lowering the risk of this type of water borne damage happening especially during the cure of the adhesive or mortar bed.

The following Aqua Mix penetrating sealers are suitable to seal all six sides of a porous stone or tile.

- Pro Block
- Penetrating Sealer

Below surface technology: Aqua Mix penetrating sealers cure just below the surface of the stone or tile rather than on top of the surface and hence are not coatings. In doing so they allow an appropriate adhesive to bond to the back of the stone/tile.

Penetrating Sealer/Adhesive interaction: As the sealer reduces the water absorption of the sealed surface to almost zero the sealed stone/tile must be considered as a very dense material when selecting your adhesive. Using an adhesive that is recommended for dense materials, such as granite and porcelain, and ensuring that proper wetting out techniques are used during adhesive application (and full adhesive coverage) are imperative to a successful installation.

Remove excess sealer: Special care should be taken to remove any excess sealer left on the stone/tile surface after application. If excess sealer is allowed to dry on the bonded surface it may compromise the ability of the adhesive to gain a proper bond.

Sealer Cure: Allow the sealers to fully cure (as per their technical data sheets) before installing to achieve the maximum reduction in water absorption.

Note: Consult your adhesive supplier regarding suitable adhesives for use with Aqua Mix Sealers, when the sealer is applied to all six sides of a stone/tile.

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