

Removing Residues of Grouting Materials

1. Cement based grouting

Cement based grouting materials represent the standard and are very commonly used. On normal surface residues, acid based cleaners achieve very good results. The Lithofin cement residue removers are concentrates that can be diluted with water and that can be rinsed off entirely. **Please Note:** after grouting, there are always residues on the surface or in the pores. Even when these films are not visible, they must be removed because they make the surface more difficult to maintain.

a) on ceramics



Lithofin KF Cement Residue Remover is ideal for all interior ceramic surfaces (including porcelain tiles). The strength of the product guarantees a fast reaction that leaves the surface clean and free of any residues. Outdoors use Lithofin CEMENT-AWAY.

b) on natural stone

On acid resistant stone, such as granite and gneiss, use Lithofin MN Builders' Clean.



Additional benefit: Lithofin MN Builders' Clean removes rust discolouration and prevents the forming of new rust in ferrous stones.

Please note: acid sensitive stones, such as marble and limestone (but also sodalites, gabbros, etc.) especially with polished or honed surfaces, cannot be cleaned with acidic products. In this case, generously apply

Lithofin MN Power-Clean and allow it to work for approx. 15 minutes. Then use a soft white pad to rub off the residues without applying any pressure.

2. Highly refined flex joints

The so-called flex joint grouting material contains a high percentage of synthetics. These synthetic particles can form fairly stubborn surface films. Use Lithofin KF Cement Residue Remover or Lithofin MN Builders' Clean diluted with water max. 1:2. Scrub vigorously and rinse off the surface after 5 minutes. Should a slight film remain, generously apply Lithofin KF Intensive Cleaner undiluted (diluted with water 1:3 on natural stone) and allow to work for approx. 15 minutes. Then apply more of the undiluted cement residue remover, brush and allow to work for 10 minutes.

Do not allow the solution to dry. Scrub again, then remove the solution with a wet-and-dry vacuum. Immediately rinse at least twice with plenty of water.

3. Epoxy resins

Once fully cured, this grouting material is extremely hard wearing and acid resistant. It is therefore very important to

work carefully and to wash off the surface after grouting. Slight surface films can be removed as follows:

- within 24 hours:** apply Lithofin KF Intensive Cleaner undiluted and allow to work for approx. 30 minutes. Scrub, then rinse with water.
- after 24 hours:** generously apply Lithofin Resin-EX, allow to work for approx. 20 to 60 minutes, brush then remove from the surface. On more stubborn residues, repeat procedure with longer working times - several hours if necessary. Wash off the surface with diluted Lithofin KF Intensive Cleaner.



Important: do not apply Lithofin Resin-EX to acid sensitive surfaces.

Please note: on so-called pavement jointing mortars that are designed to allow water seeping through, do not exceed a working time of 30 minutes. Then neutralise the product with Lithofin MN Power-Clean diluted 1:10 and rinse with plenty of clear water.

4. Silicone joints

Residues of elastic silicone joints on ceramics and natural stone can be removed with Lithofin WAX-OFF. Apply generously and allow to work for several hours. The



residues will swell up and can then be mechanically removed with a spatula, a razor blade or a hard pad. In case of discolouration around the edges of the tile, caused by unsuitable silicones, the joint must be cut out. Then apply Lithofin OIL-EX to joint and tile and cover with a piece of foil. After one day, remove the foil and remove the remaining

white powder with a brush or vacuum

cleaner. Allow to dry for several days and repeat procedure, if necessary. Install new joint after discolouration has been completely removed.

If you require advice or are in any way unsure about these instructions, please call our Technical Support Line at (01962) 732126.

Δ This information should be considered to be informal and non-binding. The products must be used according to local conditions and materials. Instructions must be read carefully and followed closely. Always test the product in an inconspicuous area. (GB11.15gps)

Your LITHOFIN-Dealer

Distribution in UK and Ireland:

CASDRON Enterprises Ltd. · Alresford, Hampshire SO24 9QF · Phone: +44 (0)1962 732 126 · sales@lithofin.co.uk

Manufactured in Germany by: LITHOFIN AG · 73240 Wendlingen · e-mail: info@lithofin.de

www.lithofin.co.uk