

# Opera Terracotta

Supplemental Installation & Maintenance Guide

tilebar

tilebar.com  
888.541.3840





This document is intended to be used in combination with TileBar's **General Terracotta Installation Guide**. Please review both guides prior to beginning installation. The following steps outline the additional sealing, cleaning, and protection requirements specific to the **Opera Terracotta Collection**, which vary depending on the tile's final application.

### 1. Pre-Sealing Before Grouting

- Apply a grout release or pre-seal. Follow the instructions on packaging for the most up-to-date information. **AquaMix Grout** release is the preferred product.
- Remove any excess with a clean sponge.
- Allow a minimum **24 hours drying time** before proceeding.
- This step helps prevent grout or cement residues from penetrating the porous surface.

### 2. Grouting

- Use a high-quality grout, **Laticrete's Permacolor** is our preferred grout.
- Apply grout **only within the joints** (minimum 2 mm) using a grout bag or applicator. Avoid spreading grout over the tile face.
- Clean excess grout immediately with a **non-abrasive** sponge and water.
- Allow joints to cure fully before moving to the next step (24-48 hours, or per manufacturer's instructions).

### 3. Cleaning Residues

- Once grout has cured, wash the surface with an acid cleaner, **Laticrete's Restore**.
- Follow the packaging instructions.
- Ensure the surface is completely dry before applying final treatments.

#### 4. Protective Treatments

- Use **Laticrete's Bulletproof** for a natural matte finish.
- For enhanced color and a "wet look," apply **Laticrete's Enhance & Seal**.

#### 5. Daily Cleaning & Maintenance

- Use a **neutral pH detergent** designed for natural stone/terracotta, such as **Laticrete's Revitalizer**.
- Use according to instructions.

#### Installer Responsibility

Final treatment selection should be made in consultation with the client, balancing **functional requirements** (traffic, location, exposure) with the **desired aesthetic finish**. Always use non-abrasive tools and conduct small-area tests before full application.

