



Supplemental Installation & Maintenance Guide

Opera Terracotta Tile Collection

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 **AC300 pre-sealer** evenly with a roller across the tile surface prior to grouting.
- 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.

Recommended coats:

1 coat for Terre Ossidate finishes

2 coats for Natural Terracotta finishes

2. Grouting

- Use a high-quality **waterproof and anti-mold grout** (e.g., Mapei or Kerakoll).
- 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 a **specific terracotta acid cleaner** (e.g., DISYCOTT or ACID CLEANER).
- Dilute 1 part cleaner to 2–3 parts water.
- Apply with a non-abrasive tool, let sit for 5–10 minutes, scrub gently, and rinse thoroughly with clean water.
- Ensure the surface is completely dry before applying final treatments.

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4. Protective Treatments (Based on Application)

Indoor – General / Low Traffic

- Apply **HIDRO 150** or **B1-700** for a natural matte finish.
- For enhanced color and a “wet look,” apply **WET LOOK ECO, P147**, or **Color Enhancer Matte Finish**.
- For added protection in kitchens, backsplashes, or higher-traffic interiors, finish with **HIDROFAB MATT** (wax-based, facilitates easier daily cleaning).

Indoor – High Traffic Floors

- Use the same steps as above, but a **final coat of HIDROFAB MATT** is strongly recommended.

Outdoor Applications

- Apply a **breathable protective treatment** such as HIDRO 150, B1-700, or WET LOOK ECO.
- Ensure weather conditions are suitable (tiles can withstand temperatures as low as -5°C / 23°F).

Note: Protective treatments preserve the tile's breathability while enhancing resistance to water, oil, and stains. Select finish type based on client preference (natural matte vs. wet look).

5. Daily Cleaning & Maintenance

- Use a **neutral pH detergent** designed for natural stone/terracotta, such as **NEUGEL** or equivalent.
- Dilute according to instructions (approx. 30–40 g per 5 L of water).
- Sweep or vacuum before washing.
- Apply with a mop or soft cloth. No rinsing required if diluted properly.

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.