



Terra Cortona Installation Guidelines

The Terra Cortona collection is genuine terracotta, crafted using traditional methods that give it its distinctive character and timeless beauty. Because of its unique composition and surface qualities, specific installation recommendations are essential to ensure optimal performance and preserve the material's natural charm. This guide complements our standard terracotta installation instructions with important product-specific guidance tailored to Terra Cortona.

General Installation Notes

- Terra Cortona tiles are consistent in size, shape, and color; therefore, a 1/8" grout joint is recommended.
- For added protection, especially prior to grouting, it is advisable to pre-seal the tiles with **Laticrete Bulletproof** or an equivalent penetrating sealer.
- A mid-grade mortar is suitable and ensures a strong bond.
- A ¼" x ¼" square-notched trowel is recommended for optimal mortar coverage.
- Bulletproof Grout Release is recommended for preserving the tile's natural tone during grouting.

Cleaning Recommendations

- Terra Cortona tiles will have a natural calcium carbonate residue straight out of the box, which may still be visible even after installation.
- To achieve a clean, finished appearance, use a **buffered acid cleaner**. A recommended option is **STONETECH® Restore™** or a comparable buffered acid product.
- To clean:
 1. Apply the cleaner.
 2. Agitate with a stiff-bristled brush
 3. Allow to sit for 3–5 minutes
 4. Rinse thoroughly with clean water

Sealing Guidelines

- For interior use, sealing is highly recommended in areas exposed to moisture (such as bathrooms and showers).
- For fully outdoor installations, sealing is not recommended—the tile is designed to breathe naturally.
- In covered outdoor spaces, sealing is optional and may be used for aesthetic purposes.
- If sealing is desired, test first to ensure the chosen product does not alter the appearance.