



Grouting Marble & Natural Stone with LATAPOXY SP-100 Stainless Grout For Floors and Walls TDS 191

Grouting with epoxy is no longer confined to restaurants or industrial facilities. With new technology and availability, the average homeowner is now demanding a stainless epoxy grouted tile installation.

With the increasing use of marble, limestone, granite and other natural stone, what precautions should be taken with the use of LATAPOXY SP-100 Stainless Grout for Floors and Walls?

1. **All natural stone is not created equally!** Stone varies in porosity. Very porous stones can absorb epoxy resins into the surface of the stone, leaving a darkened look to the entire surface. If the surface is sealed or highly polished, penetration occurs through the edges of the stone, in the grout joint only, and a "picture-framed" effect changes the appearance of the stone.

Grout releases or pre-sealing before grouting may be required!

Always verify compatibility with a test area to confirm the absorption rate of the tile.

2. **All polished surfaces are not the same!** A polished granite resists scratching much more than a polished marble. LATAPOXY SP-100 Stainless Grout for Floors and Walls contains a special non-pigmented aggregate filler powder. If a very soft marble or limestone can be scratched by sand, there exists the possibility of the filler to scratch the surface of the stone. A test area can confirm the acceptable hardness of the polished surface.
3. **Textured, flamed or tumbled stone.** LATAPOXY SP-100 Stainless Grout for Floors and Walls locks tightly in a grout joint. Rough surfaces, ledges, craters, or pits in marble and stone can trap the epoxy. If not removed in the initial cleanup, it is unlikely that removal will be possible after curing. Grout releases or pre-sealing prior to grouting may help to ease removal. Tuck pointing the grout joint or the use of pressurized caulk guns to install the LATAPOXY SP-100 Stainless Grout for Floors and Walls may be the only possible method of installation.
4. **Removal of epoxy grout haze.** If epoxy resins are left to cure on the surface of the stone, care should be taken in choosing the correct remover. Within the first 4 hours after installation, a mild soap and water, used with a white nylon scrub pad may remove it. After 24 hours, products from Dominion Restoration (800) 835-4456 or Aqua Mix (800) 366-6877 may be more effective for cleanup.
5. **Sealing stone after grouting.** LATAPOXY SP-100 Stainless Grout for Floors and Walls does not require sealing. Various types of natural stone do require additional coats or finishes to enhance the surface may be desired. These should only be applied after LATAPOXY SP-100 Stainless Grout for Floors and Walls has fully cured. A 10-day cure time at 70 degrees F. is required.

Technical Data Sheets are subject to change without notice. For latest revision, check our website @ www.laticrete.com

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