

CARE & MAINTENANCE

A porcelain floor asks very little. It never needs sealing, wax or polish. What it needs is grit kept off the glaze and the right cleaner in the bucket. This guide is the whole routine.

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THE ROUTINE

EVERY WEEK

Sweep or vacuum first, then damp-mop with warm water. Add a neutral floor cleaner when the floor needs more than dust removal. Grit is what dulls glaze, and the broom removes it.

SPILLS

Wipe them when you see them, across the grout line rather than along it. On a Class 4 or Class 5 glaze that is the whole job.

EVERY FEW MONTHS

Wash with a neutral cleaner and rinse. Check the grout lines, and re-seal cement grout when water soaks in instead of beading.

DO AND DON'T

DO

Put doormats at every outside door. They catch the sand that scratches.

DON'T

Use oil soaps or wax. They film onto the glaze and hold dirt.

DO

Use a neutral pH cleaner made for tile.

DON'T

Use strong acid or bleach on colored grout. It strips the color.

DO

Put felt pads under furniture legs.

DON'T

DO

Rinse after washing so no cleaner film stays.

DON'T

Drag appliances across the floor. Walk them across a protective board.

Use steel wool or abrasive powder. They scratch the glaze.

GROUT CARE

Most of the routine protects the grout, not the tile. Cement grout is porous, so it takes the stains the glaze sheds. Clean it with an alkaline grout cleaner and a stiff nylon brush. Seal it after installation, and again whenever water soaks in instead of beading. Epoxy grout skips the sealing and costs more upfront.

BY FLOOR TYPE

MATTE PORCELAIN

The standard routine above. Nothing extra.

POLISHED PORCELAIN

The same routine. Buff dry with microfiber to keep the shine streak-free.

TEXTURED AND OUTDOOR TILE

A stiffer brush reaches into the texture. Hose patios instead of mopping.

VINYL AND LAMINATE

Sweep and damp-mop only. No steam, and even less water on laminate.

QUESTIONS, ANSWERED

What is the best cleaner for porcelain tile?

A neutral pH cleaner made for tile, diluted as its label says. Warm water alone handles most weeks.

Can I use a steam mop?

On glazed porcelain, yes. Keep constant steam off the grout lines, and never use it on vinyl or laminate.

Why does my dark floor show streaks?

Streaks are cleaner residue or hard water, not damage. Use less cleaner, rinse, and dry polished floors with microfiber.

How often should grout be sealed?

Test it. Drop water on a joint. If it soaks in instead of beading, seal again. In busy rooms that lands around once a year.

Does porcelain need wax or polish?

Never. The shine is fired into the glaze. Wax builds a film that dulls it, holds dirt, and takes real work to remove.

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