

## COMO ITALIAN TERRAZZO - NOTES FOR OWNERS AND INSTALLERS:

### PINHOLES

Our factory advises that pinholes are an unavoidable part of the production process. In order to fill the pin holes the entire surface of the tile should be grouted with a fine non-sanded grout.

### MOISTURE

Our Terrazzo is completely cured for 1 month in the block stage before cutting into slabs and then tiles. This cutting process further wets the tiles.

When removing tiles from the crate you may notice variation in tone between areas that are dry and areas that are wet. This is normal and especially noticeable with designs that have grey and black backgrounds. This moisture will dissipate soon after laying and the tiles will become more even in tone. This can take some time depending on atmospheric conditions and the location within the house.

After grouting **it is important not to cover the tiles** with boards or core-flute as this will trap moisture within the tile. If time and space allow, the terrazzo can be unpacked and carefully stacked on their edges so that air can flow and the tiles dry prior to installation. Furthermore, allow the tiles to remain uncovered and unsealed on the top surface to dry as long as possible.



As Delivered



Once Dried

### PRE SEALING

Aquamix Problock may be used to seal the **back and edge** of the tiles prior to laying.

This will prevent further moisture from entering the tiles from the adhesive and grout therefore allowing more rapid drying through the top face. Please refer to AQUAMIX'S application instructions and recommendations. Note that we only recommend this sealer for pre-sealing the back of the tile, as it will allow for good adhesion. Other sealers may form a bond break and lead to adhesive failure.

<https://aquamix.com.au/products/sealers/problock-pre-sealer/>

### TOP SURFACE SEALING, CARE AND MAINTENANCE.

For sealing of the Top surface, we recommend Aquamix Sealers Choice Gold. This can be applied over the entire surface including grout after installation, drying and cleaning of any grout haze. Please refer to AQUAMIX'S application instructions and recommendations. Please note that in the event that the tiles are still wet Sealers Choice gold can be applied as it allows for vapour transmission and the tiles will continue to dry.

## **EDGE CHIPPING**

Edge chips may occur when small pieces of the aggregate become dislodged and cannot be totally avoided. Tiles with small chips can be used as cuts or placed in an area rarely seen or even hidden. We also note that chips can occur in transit and we ask for common sense to prevail and to use these tiles as cuts. This is common in the natural stone industry as cuts can constitute 15 to 20% of the install.

## **SIZING & SPECIFICATIONS.**

According to European and Australian Standards on natural stone (and Terrazzo) variation in thickness and size may occur. Please be advise that thickness in **very rare circumstances may vary +/- 2mm**, this occurs at the slab cutting stage and the tiles are not calibrated for thickness. Mostly we have found the thickness varies less than +/- 1mm. Dimensionally (length and width) we find the tiles very accurate and certainly less that +/- 1mm. Note that the tiles are cut to size, honed and micro bevelled through an Italian Tile line in Verona and we have found the quality excellent.

## **ADHESIVE, GROUT, WATERPROOFING AND SILICON.**

Vulcano Terrazzo has been tested by ARDEX, with a report made available on our website. It is important to follow the adhesive and water proofing guidelines as set out in the Ardex report. Failing to water proof effectively may lead to efflorescence where the salts from the screed migrate through the terrazzo and stain the surface. Using the incorrect adhesives may add excess moisture and lead to very slow drying. Terrazzo is moisture sensitive and porous, this needs to be considered when installing.

Should you wish to use alternative adhesives, we would recommend you have the tiles tested with your chosen adhesive.

In all cases, if you are unsure about any aspects of laying Terrazzo or suitability for a specific job, independent professional advise should be sought.