

INSTALLATION AND CARE OF GLAZED LAVA TILES

Lavastone tiles are available both unglazed and glazed, and they are some of the most durable handmade glazed tiles available. Lava tiles are available in all sizes up to 60×60 cm, and can be installed interior and exterior, and on the floor in wet rooms.

Glazed lava tiles are characterized by deep, fine crackle glazes and strong surfaces, and they can be installed on both floors and walls. Unglazed lava tiles are available both with a transparent, natural finish, or in an oiled black-brown finish.

Follow this guide to get the best results when installing, grouting and cleaning your MAROKK lavastone tiles.

UNBOXING:

Inspect the delivered tiles before installation, and let us know as soon as possible if there is anything wrong – all complaints must be made before installation.

To achieve the most beautiful tonal variations in the final installation, mix the tile from different boxes. Deselect, if necessary, any tile with small defects that can be used later for cuts.

INSTALLATION:

Make sure the surface is clean and level before installation. Evenly apply the adhesive to the surface with a 10 mm toothed comb trowel, and make sure to compensate for any variation in the thickness of the tile when installing them.

Note – Unglazed lava tiles should only be installed with a special tile adhesive for natural stone, we recommend PCI.

Cutting the tiles with a wet cutter gives the best result. In the case of bright glazes with a high level of crackle effect, the cutting water must be cleaned quickly after cutting, to avoid discoloration of the fine cracks in the glaze.

Position and adjust the tile by hand only. Do not use a hammer. Hammers and similar tools may damage the tile.

Install the tiles with a narrow joint. With underfloor heating, there must be a minimum 2 mm joint.

Clean the tiles thoroughly with clean water during installation and protect the newly installed tiles before grouting.

GROUTING:

Once the adhesive is dry, thoroughly clean the tile with water and a sponge before grouting. Leave the adhesive to dry for at least 24 hours.

Avoid using grout that is significantly lighter or darker than the tile. It is possible for the grout pigments to permanently stain the fine micro cracks in the glazing.

The closer the color tones are to those of the grout and the tile, the better.

Grout the tiles one small area at a time (approximately 1-2 m²). Clean thoroughly with a wet sponge before the grout hardens.

SEALING OF UNGLAZED "RAW LAVA" TILES:

Raw Lava tiles are sealed twice in total, and thereafter waxed two times. It is important that the tiles are thoroughly sealed, especially in wet zones, in order to let the surface of the tiles become non-absorbent.

Make sure the tiles are completely dry, cleaned and dust-free before sealing them. The tiles are best sealed with a foam-roller or a microfiber cloth.

Apply plenty of sealer, as the tiles are highly absorbent. Continue to saturate the surface of the tiles with the sealer for 10 min.

The tiles must then dry for 5 minutes, and the excess sealer is massaged into the tile. Avoid wet "lakes" that dry up on the tile.

Finish with 2 treatments with Fila Mat wax.

Note – The Fila Mat Wax states on the package that it is not suitable for wet rooms – this does not apply to MAROKK lavastone tiles.

TREATMENT AND SEALING OF UNGLAZED "AGED RAW LAVA" TILES:

The special oil from Stone Treatment is applied with a foam roller or microfiber cloth in many thin layers on the tiles, 4-6 times until the tiles no longer darken when more oil is applied.

After each application of the oil, the surface of the tiles is left wet for 5 min., and thereafter excess oil is massaged into the tile with a clean, good quality microfiber cloth.

The tiles are wiped completely for excess oil after each layer is given, so that the surface appears matte after each oiling.

It is important that the oil is completely wiped off the surface after each oiling, to get the best deep dark-brown and very matte result.

There must be 4-6 hours between each oiling.

MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING:

Never use acid- or alkaline-based detergents, as these can damage the surfaces of the tile. For regular cleaning, use a natural, pH-neutral soap, such as Fila Cleaner, Probat Klinkesæbe, etc.

Remove stains and calcium deposits with "Borup Kemi Rengøring til Marmor og Terrazzo" or other alkaline detergents.

Apply undiluted on the stains or calcium deposits and leave for 2-3 minutes. Then thoroughly rub the spot with a sponge, and finish off with clean water to neutralize the detergent. On unglazed lava we recommend to wet-grind with sandpaper 400.