

Preparation

All Middle Earth natural unglazed tiles (except cobble tiles) are pre-sealed at the factory with an aqueous solution of silicate. After dipping in the solution the tiles develop their water repellent properties by reaction with atmospheric carbon dioxide. The tiles require no further sealing or treatment when they are being installed.

Cleaning after Tile Laying

This operation is of fundamental importance to guarantee effective floor protection and make it easier to care for in the future. The initial cleaning process removes -

- residues left by the laying process
- building-site dirt and surface waste
- any saline efflorescence.

For cleaning use Fila Deterdek, an acid-reaction detergent, that does not generate harmful fumes.

**Fila Deterdek**

*Manufacturers Coverage:
one litre for 20m² -
Dilution 1:5*

- Sweep the floor thoroughly and wet it with water
- Apply Deterdek diluted to suit the level of dirt
- Leave to act for a few minutes
- Use a long handled floor cleaning brush or single-disc professional cleaner with green disc
- Remove the residue with a vacuum drier or a rag
- Rinse thoroughly.

Treatment

Middle Earth terracotta tiles are treated to protect it against water, stains and salt efflorescence. However during the installation the tile adhesive and/or grout may remove some of the water proofing properties. For further protection Middle Earth recommends Fila ES/82. Fila ES/82 creates an in-depth barrier that prevents water absorption without changing its original surface color and appearance as well as protecting against the appearance of efflorescence in tiles that have not been pre-sealed.

**Fila ES/82**

*Manufacturers Coverage:
one litre for 10 + m²*

Product must be used undiluted

- When the floor is perfectly dry (7/15 days after cleaning) apply Fila ES/82 with a large brush or waxing fleece (for large areas a airless pump can be used)
- Ensure there is a even distribution of the sealer including soaking the joints
- Wait for 24 hours before applying another coat

Oily Dirt Protection

For a water and oil-repellent protection that protects the terracotta against oily dirt and waterproofs its surface without changing its original surface color and appearance, use FilaFob. This treatment is especially suitable for outdoor terracotta paving in areas where people eat or cook, or where cars are parked.

Fila ES/82 creates an in-depth barrier that prevents water absorption and the appearance of efflorescence, while FilaFob protects absorbent surfaces against oily dirt.

FILA TREATMENT FOR TERRACOTTA TILES (OUTDOORS)



Fila FOB

*Manufacturers Coverage:
one litre for 20 + per m²*

Products must be used undiluted

- When the floor is perfectly dry (7/15 days after cleaning) apply Fila ES/82 with a large brush or waxing fleece
- Wait for 24 hours
- Apply one coat of FilaFob with a large brush or waxing fleece

Wet Look Finish

For a "Wet Look" tonal finish with effective protection against dirt and penetrating stains apply Fila Tone-Up.



Fila Tone-Up

*Manufacturers Coverage: 3
to 15 litres for 100 m²
depending on absorbency*

- Can be applied a few days after initial cleaning
- Shake Fila Tone-Up before use and apply on a perfectly clean floor
- Where requires apply a second coat four hours after first coat.
- Clean with Fila Floor Detergent

Maintenance

Routine floor care removes dirt, wipes away footprints and reinforces the protective layer in case of wear. It should be carried out regularly and it is essential to use methods and products that will not reduce the protection provided by the initial treatment. **Do not** use strong detergents. Fila Cleaner has certified by the Bologna Ceramic Centre that it has an effective cleaning action that does not damage the surface. It is applied diluted depending on the level of dirt. When highly diluted, it does not need rinsing.



Fila Floor Detergent

*Manufacturers Coverage:
one litre for 1500 m² at
Dilution: 1:200*

- Sweep the paving thoroughly
- Dilute in water depending on the level of dirt and apply to the surface.
- Wring out the rag and rinse it in the detergent solution often
- Rinse thoroughly.

In case of stubborn dirt, use of Fila PS/87

- Apply Fila PS/87 diluted 1:5 over the entire surface, including the grouts.
- Leave to act for a few minutes then clean with a single-disc professional cleaner with green disc or floor cleaning brush. Rinse.