



TEC[®] INCOLOR[™] ADVANCED PERFORMANCE GROUT

INSTALLATION GUIDE



There is an old saying in the tile industry: “A bad grout job can destroy the best installation.” Grout makes up a comparatively small surface area of any tile installation, but its importance far surpasses the space it occupies. A comprehensive selection strategy will help you choose a grout that enhances the design and the longevity of the installation.

Follow this guide to learn more about TEC® InColor™ Advanced Performance Grout, and how it will improve your next tile installation.

CHALLENGE:

You are undertaking a challenging exterior installation in a wet environment. These installations – including swimming pools and fountains – present the typical challenges of exterior environments – frost, heat and more – with an additional dimension: water and chemicals. They require grout that resists water damage, offers chemical resistance and withstands mold and mildew. Finding a grout that can hold up to the variety of challenges presented by these installations without compromising aesthetics can be a challenge.

Interior installations create their own sets of challenges. To avoid costly callbacks in busy commercial spaces, your grout needs to resist common cleaning chemicals, withstand staining and hold up to foot traffic without cracking.

SOLUTION:

Whether your installation is residential or commercial, interior or exterior, both time and quality are of the essence. Your materials should help you work smarter, not harder, to increase your profitability. TEC® InColor™ helps you combine high performance with high profitability. Because it is ready-to-use, you simply stir – saving time on mixing. It also makes wrapping up jobs more efficient. It does not require sealing and is easy to clean up, so you can get in and out of installations quickly and reduce investment in time and materials. Also, you can put the lid back on unused material and use it for the next job or touch up.



TEC® InColor™ can be used in submerged areas, such as swimming pools, showers and fountains. Allow seven days before full water submersion.

TEC® InColor™ offers the chemical resistance required by many interior and exterior installations. It meets ANSI A118.3 for chemical resistance with epoxy to the following common chemicals: acetic acid (3%), acetic acid (10%), ammonia, ammonium chloride, citric acid (3%), citric acid (10%), lactic acid, phosphoric acid (3%), phosphoric acid (10%), sulfamic acid (3%), sulfamic acid (10%), chlorine water (bleach – 5.25-6.5%), hydrochloric acid (3%), hydrochloric acid (10%), potassium hydroxide (3%).

It is also mold and mildew resistant and, therefore, offers consistency in color, even in wet or damp environments. Now available in 32 popular colors, InColor™ is efflorescence free and resistant to most common stains when cleaned immediately.

TEC® InColor™ also provides high compressive, flexural and tensile strength, making it a particularly wise investment for busy commercial spaces. Your customers can rest assured knowing that TEC® InColor™ comes with a limited lifetime warranty* against deterioration, cracking and staining.

IMPLEMENTATION

For best results, use TEC® InColor™ with the complete TEC® system. To select the best products for a swimming pool or other exterior project, consult the TEC® [exterior installation guide](#). To find the right surface preparation products and mortars for a busy commercial space, download [our heavy commercial installation guide](#).

PREPARATION

If you have highly porous tile or natural stone, pre-sealing the tile is recommended – but avoid getting sealers in the grout joints. If you are grouting in a hot, dry environment, dampen the tile surface with a clean sponge prior to grouting.

APPLICATION

Simply open the pail and stir TEC® InColor™ to a creamy consistency with a mixing stick or margin trowel. Grout only as much space as you can without the grout changing consistency – usually 10 square feet or less.

Press the grout diagonally into the grout joints with the grout float at a 45-degree angle, and then remove all excess grout by holding the float at a 90-degree angle and drawing the float diagonally across it. Immediately pat the tile gently with a damp sponge, and then clean the tile and smooth joints with a well-wrung out, damp, clean sponge.

Start cleanup within 15 minutes. TEC® InColor™ wipes off the tile surface easily.

AFTER INSTALLATION

Do not cover TEC® InColor™ during the curing process. Installations typically can be exposed to light foot traffic in 24 hours and to intermittent water exposure within 3 days. Allow 7 days before full water submersion. It will reach maximum hardness and stain resistance after 7 days.

Exterior applications should be protected from rain with tenting for three days.

TEC® InColor™ is resistant to most household cleaners and some chemicals used in commercial cleaners. However, testing of cleaners is recommended and you should not let the cleaner sit on the grout for an extended period of time.

IMPLEMENTATION

TEC® InColor™ proves that you do not have to sacrifice performance for efficiency. Install faster and more profitably with this ready-to-use, advanced performance grout.



TEC® InColor™ is an advanced performance ready to use grout. Open the pail and stir the product with a mixing stick to a creamy consistency. Then, begin grouting.

Visit tecspecialty.com/project-showcase to discover contractor testimonials and high-profile projects featuring TEC® InColor™ Grout.

*For warranty details, see your sales associates or tecspecialty.com.