

todobarro.

cleaning and protection guide

Version 2021.1

Everything you need to know about cleaning and
protecting our terracotta floors



Important Note

These instructions are a general guide for the cleaning and protection of todobarro products. Some projects may require different or more detailed specifications.

It is absolutely necessary to clean and protect terracotta flooring in order to guarantee the finish and longevity of the tilework.

No claims will be accepted regarding imperfections in the material or other consequences stemming from failure to clean and protect according to this guide.

If you have any questions about these processes, please do not hesitate to contact our sales team for personalized advice.



Drying time

Before applying the work and products indicated in this guide, it is essential that the installed tiles are completely dry. For this, we recommend waiting about 25 days since the last time they were wetted.

1. Terracotta floor cleaning process

Geared toward removing verdigris, debris from installation, saltpeter and general dirt.

Application of specialized cleaning products that are used diluted in water and can be applied with professional rotating machinery or with a brush for small surfaces. The dilution percentages are always indicated on the product packaging.

Drying quickly is a must. Use a wet vac to remove all the water after cleaning with a brush or rotating machinery. If the floor does not look properly clean, this process should be repeated.

If necessary, you may have to use an awl or sander to remove any stubborn debris from installation remaining after the previous cleaning. After this, it would be a good idea to unify the surface of the floor using a solution of acid in water with a brush and vacuum cleaner.

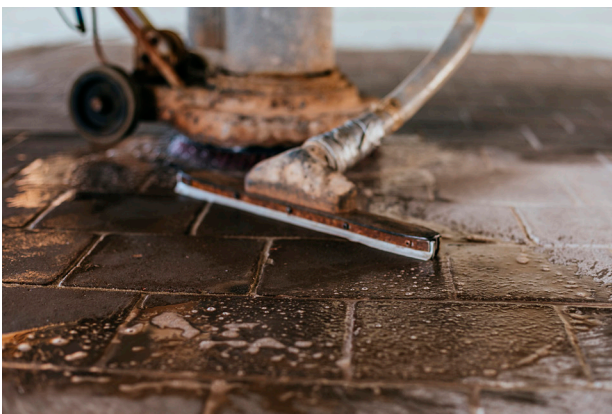
After finishing the cleaning and drying, it is highly recommended not to step on the floor that has been worked on. If it cannot be avoided, be sure to wear thick socks and no shoes to step on the floor. The tiles must be allowed to expel all the accumulated moisture before proceeding to the next step: protecting the terracotta floor.



1.1. Specialized cleaning product (Sanet) and kit material for cleaning the floor.



1.2. We carry out the first step of cleaning with a brush to small surfaces.



1.3. Next, we carry out a quick drying with a liquid vacuum, in case the floor is not clean enough, the process will have to be repeated **small surfaces**.



1.4. Difference between clean area of the floor (upper part of the photograph) and area to be cleaned (lower part of the photograph).



Terracotta floor cleaning process

Two workers carrying out the first step of cleaning the terracotta floor.



1.5. Awl or sander.



1.6. We will use the punch or sander to remove stains that have not been removed in the cleaning.



1.7. Detail of stain removal with the sander.



1.8. Detail of terracotta floor in the process of being cleaned.



Final result of the cleaning process.

2. Terracotta floor protection process

After the appropriate drying period for the terracotta floor (5-10 days), the protection treatment should be applied.

The protection reduces the porosity of the tile, preventing the appearance of saltpeter and moisture, in addition to reducing the risk of household stains.

In this process, products based on a wax emulsion are used. These products should be applied manually without dilution. At this time, we can decide to apply products that give a matte finish or a wet effect to our flooring.

After applying the protective product, the floor must be allowed to dry completely between 4 and 24 hours, depending on weather conditions. The protected surface must not be stepped on during the drying phase under any circumstances, as this will cause permanent marks and footprints to be left on the terracotta floor.

In case of carrying out the protection process in an outdoor area, it is very important to do this work under weather conditions that favor the drying of the tiled surface. We do not recommend applying the exterior treatment during the winter under any circumstances.



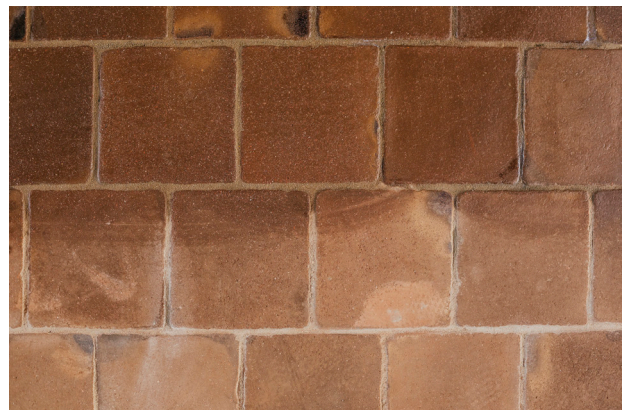
2.1. Specialized product (Cottobello) and material for floor protection treatment



2.2. Applying the product manually.



2.3. Application detail of the protective product.



2.4. Difference between floor with applied protective product and floor with the product not applied.

3. Terracotta floor finishing process (indoors only)

This step increases protection against household stains and is highly recommended for places which are subject to intensive use.

The application of these products is similar to the first step of protection: application by hand and undiluted. In this case, as the floor is already protected, we must generate a thin, disperse layer. To achieve this, we

recommend using a 200 mm broad brush, or any brush with fine hair, to help distribute the material evenly and without accumulations.

The drying time should be between 24 and 48 hours (depending on weather conditions). If the flooring will be subject to intensive use (parties or crowds), we recommend waiting between 3 and 5 days.



3.1. Finishing product (Lucer) and 200mm brush (recommended).



3.2. Application of the product generating a thin and diluted layer.



Final finish of the cleaning process and protection of the floor.

Before cleaning and protecting



After cleaning and protecting



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