

Terrazzo tiles

Installation

External pedestrian application



Excavation

Excavation to minimum of 120mm. (Allow for base rubble, bedding sand and paver)

Base

50mm deep using 10mm rubble or similar.

Bed

Bedding sand 25mm deep using washed concrete sand or similar.

Product

Terrazzo Tiles may be used.

Laying

When laying Terrazzo tiles it is important that they be adequately gapped. 4mm is recommended. This gap is to be maintained to all 4 sides of tile. When cutting Terrazzo tiles ensure that any resulting residue or slurry is washed off immediately with clean water.

Edge restraint

The paved area must be adequately restrained on all sides using a 100 x 100mm concrete edge restraint which includes 50mm galvanised mesh. (See figure 1.)

Grouting & compacting

Use a vibrating machine to compact paved area making at least two passes over paving. Vibrating machine should have a plate size of no less than 500 x 600mm. Placing a mat between machine and pavers will protect the face of pavers. Paved area should be grouted using a suitable dry jointing sand. It is important that this material is applied to manufacturers instructions. Pavers must be thoroughly swept clean of any excess grouting material.

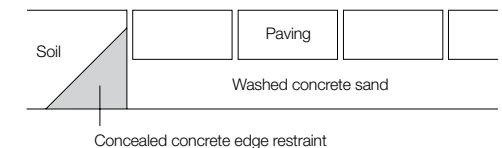
Sealing

Terrazzo tiles can be rendered stain resistant by the use of chemical sealers.

Important notes

- To achieve the best results from your Terrazzo tiles, it is recommended that your project be designed by a qualified engineer with reference to the CMAA's 'Concrete Flag Pavements – Design & Construction Guide'.
- When Used in external application, Terrazzo tiles should be installed by a pavior experienced in the use of large-format pavements.
- Always ensure that finished surface is kept below the damp course level of any building. The amount by which pavement must be kept below will vary from region to region. The local authority should be consulted before commencement of works.
- Pavement must slope away from building.
- The finished job will only be as good as the preparation and base compaction.

Figure 2



Terrazzo tiles

Installation

Internal application with post laying polishing



Floor slab

Concrete slab to receive tiles must be level and true but not smooth. Slab must be clean and is wetted down prior to laying of underbed.

Bed

4:1 sand, cement mixed with water to semi-dry consistency.

Tile

Nominal 36mm (300x300mm or thickness 400 x 400mm).

Bed depth

Minimum 25mm to a maximum 70mm. (40mm nominal is adequate for most uses).

Tile laying

The tiles are placed into position on the bed and beaten into position using a rubber mallet.

Joints

4mm

Grout

Performed at least 24 hours after tiles laid. Grout is a mixture of cement and water, colour oxide may be added to match tiles (grout admixtures may also be used). For grouting, grout is poured over floor flooding tiled area then broomed and squeezed into joints to ensure complete penetration of joints. Grouted tiling should be left for a period of between 3–5 days to cure.

Finishing

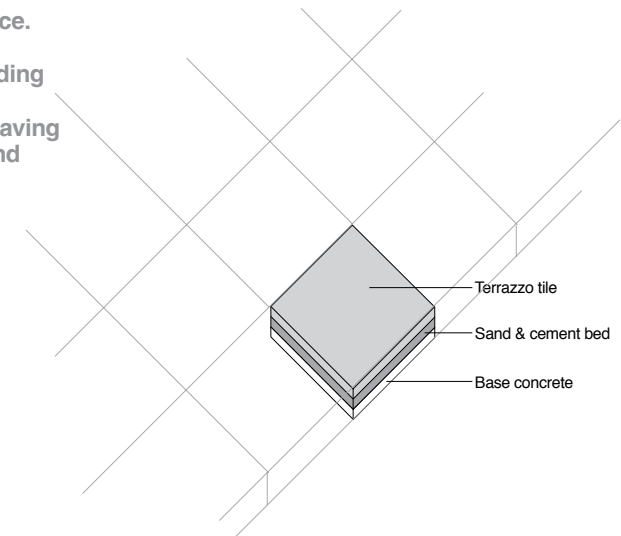
Carried out using a multi-head grinding machine, commencing with first grind using either 16 or 36 grit stones to remove any slight lips from tiles, then the polishing process performed using 60 grit and 120 grit. Tiles then re-grouted to fill any voids or pin holes. Final polish with 220 grit stones usually achieves the required polished surface finish. Floor is then washed thoroughly to remove any residue and protective sealer is applied.

Aftercare

Regular cleaning using clean water and a neutral (pH7) detergent.

Important notes

- It is advisable that accurate measurements are taken when ordering and allowance made for wastage to ensure sufficient quantities for the area to be covered.
- Poor flooring design can have serious consequences on Terrazzo performance. Typical examples include not having sufficiently small bays, not letting dividing strips penetrate at least halfway into levelling and bedding layers and not having dividing strips over structural joints and movement joints in the base concrete.



Terrazzo tiles

Installation

Internal application without post laying polishing



Floor slab

Concrete slab to receive tiles must be level and true but not smooth. Slab must be clean and may be primed using a suitable masonry primer.

Tile

Terrazzo tiles may be adhered adhesive to slab using a suitable adhesive or cement glue. Terrazzo tiles are of a consistent thickness however it is recommended that an adhesive of no less than 5mm in thickness be used.

Tile laying

The tiles are placed into position on the adhesive and beaten into position using a rubber mallet.

Joints

It is recommended that joints be of at least 4mm.

Grout

It is recommended that freshly laid tiles be allowed at least 24 hours to cure prior to grouting.

Terrazzo tiles are porous and care needs to be taken when grouting. Completely fill the joints using an appropriate grout for the application. Dark or contrasting grouts are not recommended. Completely cover the entire surface of the tile with grout to avoid "framing" and ensure that all grout residue is thoroughly removed. Do not allow grout to dry on surface of tile as it will become difficult to remove. A suitable pre-sealer can be applied to tiles prior to grouting to assist with grout removal.

Grouted tiles should be left for at least 24 hours to cure.

Tiles are then cleaned using a neutral detergent. Do not use harsh chemicals, acid or alkaline.

The porous nature of terrazzo tiles leads to a recommendation that a reputable sealing contractor carry out all cleaning and sealing applications.

Whether a sealant is applied and the sealing method engaged depends on the expected conditions the terrazzo tiles will be exposed to as well as the maintenance regime that will be implemented.

Aftercare

Regular cleaning using clean water and a neutral (pH7) detergent.

Important notes

- The standard factory finish of Terrazzo tiles is such that post laying polishing is required only if a high-polish finish is desired.
- It is advisable that accurate measurements are taken when ordering and allowance made for wastage to ensure sufficient quantities for the area to be covered.
- Poor flooring design can have serious consequences on Terrazzo performance. Typical examples include not having sufficiently small bays and not having dividing strips over structural joints and movement joints in the base concrete.