

# PORCELAIN

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## DELUXE

### Care & Maintenance

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*Appropriate cleaning and maintenance will enhance the unique beauty of DuChâteau's Porcelain DeLuxe, which are recognized for their ease of maintenance.*

Following the specific, yet simple guidelines outlined below will ensure a long lasting, beautiful installation.

#### Initial Cleaning

The complete removal of construction dirt and grout haze from DuChâteau's Porcelain DeLuxe materials during the initial cleaning will ensure ease of future, daily maintenance.

If construction dirt has collected on the surface of the tile, it will be necessary to use a heavy-duty cleaner and possibly a scrubber to release the dirt. A wet vacuum can be used to aid in the pickup of the suspended dirt in the cleaning solution. The floor should then be rinsed thoroughly to leave the surface free and clear of any cleaner residue, which if left on the surface could attract dirt or become slippery when wet.

Grout haze or residue, however, will require special products. There are two situations that can occur with grout residue – a cementitious residue, which generally can be seen, or an invisible residue left by additives often used in grouts. It is important that both residues be removed to leave your floor thoroughly cleaned. Either residue will increase soiling and create ongoing maintenance problems.

Acid washing is not recommended, especially with the use of colored grouts. Use of acids can cause discoloration of the grout joints and, in some instances, cause the color pigment to attach itself to the surface of the tile making it more difficult to clean. If tracking and soiling are consistently occurring, it can usually be associated with grout haze or buildup of cleaners. A cleanup of the grout as directed above, or a thorough cleansing and rinsing of the floor to remove cleaner buildup, should eliminate excessive soiling and tracking.

1. Sweep, using a soft, natural bristle broom, or vacuum floor of debris.
2. Using product from a reputable manufacturer of tile cleaner or grout stripper, prepare a cleaning solution as recommended by the manufacturer's instructions. Dispense a generous amount of solution onto the floor by mop or sponge applicator.
3. Allow the solution to sit on the surface a few minutes to increase the suspension of dirt particles and produce a cleaner surface.
4. Using a nylo-grit brush, scrub slowly in an overlapping figure-eight pattern. If the area is very dirty or has grout or sealer film, a 175 rpm rotary scrubber must be used to get the proper results. If the area is only lightly soiled, an auto-scrubber can be used, making several passes before picking up the solution.
5. Have several rinse buckets with clean water available before pick up the scrubbed solution. Use a wet vacuum to pick up the solution and immediately rinse the surface with clean, cold water. Picking up the rinse water and repeat until the surface is completely free of solution.
6. Remove excess water from the floor.

Many general purpose, neutral cleaners are effective for the regular cleaning and maintenance of Porcelain DeLuxe. It is important that the selected cleaner have a non-oil, non-animal fat, non-soap base. Cleaners with these ingredients may cause problems due to residues left behind in the cleaning process, which can trap dirt. For best results, the following maintenance procedures are recommended for the various finishes of DuChâteau' Porcelain DeLuxe products.

#### For moderate soiling:

1. Sweep, using a soft, natural bristle broom or vacuum floor of debris.
2. Saturate the floor with the recommended amount of general purpose, neutral cleaner and agitate the solution. An auto-scrubber may be used.
3. Allow the solution to sit on the surface a minimum of five minutes to increase the suspension of the dirt particles and produce a cleaner surface.
4. Remove the dirty cleaning solution from the floor with either a wet vacuum or mop, and rinse with clean water.
5. Remove excess water from the floor. Buff with dry mop or towel.

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### For heavy soiling:

1. Sweep or vacuum floor of debris.
2. If there are deeply soiled areas or apparent staining on the surface of the tile, first attempt to identify and pre-treat them. Different surface contaminants require different cleaning methods and chemicals.
3. Scrub with a cleaning compound and floor machine equipped with an abrasive pad or stiff, natural bristle brush. For residential and small areas, use a scrub brush.
4. Remove the dirty cleaning solution with a wet vacuum and rinse the floor more than once to thoroughly remove the cleaning agent from the surface.
5. Remove excess water from the floor.

DuChâteau highly recommends the use of low VOC, non-hazardous, and non-polluting products for the cleaning and maintenance of tile and grout products.



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*Unlike any other*

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