



## TILE DOCTOR GUIDE TO: HOW AND WHY TO TREAT SANDSTONE

Sandstone is a naturally occurring sedimentary rock, mostly consisting of small quartz particles cemented together by silica, calcite or iron oxides.

Sandstones have a medium hardness of 4 to 7,5 on the MOHS scale, and have a porosity that varies considerably from 0,5% to 35% with absorption ranging from 0,2% to 9%.

Because sandstone varies in both chemical and physical properties, it should be handled with care from the time of laying, to cleaning, sealing and maintenance.

It is best to lay sandstone in a proper tile adhesive. The stone should be washed with clean water before laying because dust will interfere with the adhesion.

The adhesive is better than mortar because some sandstone has a strong capillary action and can draw salts from a mortar base that may lead to efflorescence or actual stone damage. Also, sandstone laid in mortar may not be sealed until 30 days after laying, whereas if it is laid in adhesive it may be sealed after only ten days.

If sandstone is intended for use in areas such as kitchens or entertainment areas where there is a high risk of staining, particularly with fats, wine and so forth, professional advice should be sought on Genkem's Consumer Care Line 0800 202 655

Genkem Tile Doctor can also provide information on laying and grouting the tiles, cleaning after grouting, sealing and general maintenance of porcelain tiles.

**MANUFACTURERS OF GENKEM \* NOVA \* BOURNE \* SANDTEX \* TILE DOCTOR  
MEMBER OF THE QUALICHEM GROUP**

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