

# Grout Care and Cleaning Tips

Here are some care and cleaning tips to help keep your glamorous, refreshed grout looking gorgeous. But first, it is helpful to understand how grout becomes dirty, dingy, and discolored.

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## How does grout get so dirty?

There are several factors that cause grout to get dirty and dingy. Grout is made of porous material so things like dirt, debris, soap scum, and water get ground into the grout. All this can lead to the growth of bacteria, mold, and mildew, which is why your grout looks stained and discolored. And, even if you seal your grout, that will wear down over time.

## How to Care for Newly Refreshed Grout

1. Do not walk on freshly painted grout lines for 1 - 2 hours.
2. Avoid getting water on freshly painted grout lines for at least 24 hours, 48 hours for showers and tubs.
3. It takes 21 days for the paint to fully cure and bond to the grout. A light wipe is ok, but no scrubbing for at least 3 weeks.

## How to Keep Refreshed Grout Clean

1. Vacuum. Always vacuum before cleaning your tile floor to remove all the dirt and particles that sweeping can't. When you mop, the dirt and particles sweeping leaves behind turn to mud that gets smeared across the floor and into the grout lines.
2. Cleaners. Use a pH neutral cleaner. Alkaline cleaners (bleach, ammonia) can build-up residue, attracting new dirt and making floors harder to clean. Acidic cleaners (vinegar, Pinesol) are not very effective at cleaning organic soil, and can damage, weaken, and even dissolve grout if used over a long period of time. Stick with pH neutral cleaners such as Fabuloso and Bona Stone, Tile, and Laminate Cleaner.
3. Mop. Whatever type of mop you use change it out or replace it regularly. For string and sponge mops, change the water often so you are not spreading dirty water over your floor thinking it is getting clean. For microfiber mops, change the pad regularly.

**Follow these care and cleaning tips to enjoy your glamorous grout!**