

TILE SETTING

The use of Natural Hydraulic Lime mortar for setting tiles greatly reduces the risk of staining and efflorescence. The resistance of these mortars increases with the time. Consequently, these mortars are less aggressive for terracotta and natural stone, than for cement based mortars.

SCOPE

The method described in this document applies to the repair or installation of floor tiles on a setting mortar based on NHL, in new build or restoration.

PRODUCTS

- Natural Hydraulic Lime: Saint-Astier NHL 3.5
Saint-Astier NHL 5
- Sand: the sand gradation should be #200 to # 4 for the base and #200 to #18 or #10 for the grout, depending on the width of the joints.

BACKGROUND

The background should allow for a base 1 ½” to 3” thick, be clean and have enough resistance.

BASE: MIXING RATIO

1 volume of NHL 5 to 2 to 2.5 volumes of sand.

TILE SETTING

Setting tiles can be done two ways:

1. By dusting NHL 5 on the fresh base right before setting each tile.
2. By “gluing”, at least 24 hours after the completion of the slab, with a slurry made of 2.5 volumes of NHL 5 and 1 volume of water.

In all cases, the tiles must be soaked in water 24 hours before installation and wiped off. They should be slightly damp at the time of installation.

GROUTING

It is recommended to wait 3 weeks before grouting the joints.

Mixing ratio: 1 volume of NHL to 1 to 2 volumes of sand #200 to #10.

For narrow joints, use a mixing ratio of 1 volume of NHL to 1 volume of sand #200 to #18 or marble dust.

CLEANING

The cleaning will be executed after initial setting of the grout, preferably with a dry cloth with white wood sawdust. Rubbing should be done on a diagonal pattern.

Avoid the use of the room that has been freshly tiled for 2 weeks.

In the case of lime staining appearing during the curing period, clean with a solution of 10 to 15% hydrochloric acid and rinse immediately with plenty of water.