



Tile Trim Care & Maintenance

Faulty workmanship and/or incorrect maintenance of trim installation can spoil an otherwise faultless installation. During the course of trim installation there are two critical points at which utmost care must be taken to avoid damage to the trim.

CUTTING

Cutting of your tile trim should generally always be done with a hacksaw. A hacksaw blade with between 28-32 teeth per inch will cut best. **Do not use a diamond blade on non-porous metals.** In most cases the speed of the diamond blade is too high and will result in molten metal clogging up the blade – not only shortening the life of the blade, but also resulting in an uneven and unsightly cut.

Specific saw blades are available for cutting aluminium as well as specific stainless steel cut-off blades. Care must be taken at all times when using high speed cutting devices both for personal safety and to prevent potential damage caused by heat or metal binding.

GROUTING & SILICONE

Grouting and caulking of tiling works is an integral part of any installation. Unfortunately however, some tilers/installers are unaware that the incorrect application and washing up can harm tile trims within the installation.

Silicone sealant is the optimal method of sealing against tile trims due to its flexibility, guaranteeing it will not crack with movement. Furthermore, silicone will not etch anodised finishes.

Most grouts, being cement based, are alkaline in nature. Protective film must be left on the trim until after grouting. Alkaline substances left on the tile trims for any period of time will "etch" the trim, irreparably "burning" the surface of the trim.

Therefore, when grouting, the installer must IMMEDIATELY wipe away excess grout from the finished surface using a clean damp cloth and then wiped dry.

PREVENTATIVE CARE & MAINTENANCE

It is essential that all surface finished trims are regularly maintained to preserve the finish for an extended period of time. Regular cleaning will maintain both the quality and appearance of the trim.

Cleaning methods can vary depending on the degree of contamination; however, hand cleaning is always considered the best method. Warm soapy water is usually sufficient, or mineral turpentine can be applied with a soft clean cloth to remove oily deposits. All cleaning should conclude by rinsing with fresh water. Acidic or alkaline cleaning agents must be avoided, and abrasive materials such as nylon scouring pads and sand paper should not be used.