

## Maxim Tile Cleaning and Care Recommendations

The following is a list of cleaning suggestions and recommendations to keep your new tile looking its best.

- ❖ Don't use any harsh chemicals on your new tile. Ammonia and bleach are harsh chemicals. This is probably the biggest single piece of advice I can offer you. The fewer chemicals you put on your stone, tile, or grout the fewer we have to get out and the longer your stone, tile or grout will last.
- ❖ When cleaning try to use water and a no scratch scrub pad. For joints use a nylon bristle brush. If water won't do it step it up to a mild detergent. Don't ever add ammonia or bleach to water at a highly concentrated mixture and clean your floor, shower, etc. You could damage grout, the tile, or your expensive natural stone.
- ❖ Wipe up spills as soon as they happen. If you leave a spill it will go deep into the stone or grout and make it extremely hard to remove.
- ❖ An initial sealing is recommended to keep any spills, dirt, and grime out of your grout/stone. Ceramic and Porcelain tiles don't absorb stains and spills and therefore don't accept or get sealed.
- ❖ After your initial sealing you will want to periodically have your tile/stone cleaned and resealed. Depending on the amount of use your tile/stone receives we suggest you have this done every year to every 2 years. On heavy usage areas such as business foyers or entrances you will want it done every six months.
- ❖ Keep up on maintenance. This one is especially true of showers. If you see cracks developing in the corners they have been there for quite some time and are in need of filling. If not treated they could lead to other much worse problems. These cracks are normal and are caused by the expansion and contraction of your home during the heating and cooling process. Some homes don't really expand or contract much while others move a great deal.
- ❖ Showers and tub surrounds need to dry out to prevent mold and mildew from growing, and when they are being used two, three, or even four or more times a day this is extremely important. Squeegee the walls after showering and leave the door slightly open to allow air to circulate. If you have a window in your bathroom crack it and this will also help.

Maxim Tile offers steam cleaning, sealing, and caulking as an ongoing maintenance plan and look forward to working with you for your future tile and stone needs.