

## DESCRIPTION

TAL STAIN FREE GROUT is specially designed to drastically reduce the staining of highly porous tiles such as sandstone, slate and marble. This overcomes the "picture frame" effect encountered with conventional grouts. TAL STAIN FREE GROUT is available in Light Grey and is suitable for filling wall and floor joints between 3 - 12mm wide.

## Classification According to SANS 52004:2013 / EN12004:2007

TAL STAIN FREEGROUT is classified as a CG1 grout (normal cementitious (CG1) grout).

When mixed with TAL BOND as a **total** water replacement, or when TAL BOND POWDER is incorporated in the mix, TAL STAIN FREE GROUT is classified as a CG2W grout (improved cementitious (CG2), reduced water absorption (W), grout).

## PREPARATION

Never butt joint tiles. Do not grout with neat cement. Grouting must not commence until the adhesive beneath the tiles has set sufficiently. (Refer to the adhesive instructions for curing times.) Unglazed tiles should be sealed with a suitable sealer before grouting to prevent staining. The tiles must be clean, dry and free from dust, and the joints must be raked out and cleaned before grouting.

## MIXING

Add 20kg TAL STAIN FREE GROUT to 6 litres of clean, cool water whilst mixing, and mix well to a creamy, lump-free consistency. Let the mix stand for a few minutes before stirring again. A mechanical mixer is essential for good mixing and uniform dispersion of product.

For optimal performance use a full bag in one mix and ensure that the water temperature is between 20°C - 25°C. Use within 1 hour (pot life).

For all exterior/exposed and "wet" applications, high traffic areas, areas subjected to thermal stresses or temperature changes, or where some flexibility is required, replace the water in the mix with TAL BOND.

**Alternatively**, TAL BOND POWDER may be added to the grout mixing water, at a ratio of 1 x 1kg sachet per 20kg TAL STAIN FREE GROUT. (Note that the colour may become slightly darker with the addition of TAL BOND or TAL BOND POWDER.)

## Note :

- Never add more liquid to a mix which has been left standing for too long, as this will compromise the integrity of the grout.
- Warm weather conditions and/or water temperatures (generally, temperatures above 30°C) may shorten the working time of the mixture.
- Low ambient temperatures and/or water temperatures (generally, temperatures below 15°C) will have detrimental effects on the curing and integrity of the grout, ie full cure may not be achieved.

## APPLICATION

Apply the mix to the surface, 1m<sup>2</sup> at a time, and rub the grout well into the joints using a grout squeegee, making sure that the joints are properly filled.

Wipe off excess grout and smooth the surface of the grout with the squeegee.

Allow the grout to harden sufficiently (approximately 2 - 6 hours, depending on ambient conditions) to prevent accidental removal from the joints. Using a **damp (not wet)** sponge, clean off any grout remaining on the face of the tiles. Rinse the sponge frequently in clean water.

Allow the grout to dry for 24 hours and polish the tiles with a clean, dry cloth. Clean tools before the grout hardens.

## Important Notice:

TAL believes the information on this sheet to be correct – but does not guarantee its accuracy or completeness. Conduct your own tests of this product to determine its suitability for intended use. User assumes all risks and liability during testing and use of this product. In special cases, obtain professional advice. The only obligation of TAL shall be to replace any of this product proved to be defective in material. TAL shall not be liable for any injury, loss or damage, direct or consequential, relating to the use or inability to use this product. Except as expressly provided above, all products sold and samples furnished without any warranty of merchantability or any other warranty, express or implied. TAL reserves the right to change the information on this datasheet. Please contact the TAL Technical Advice Centre on [taltech@norcrossa.com](mailto:taltech@norcrossa.com) or 0860 000 825 to ensure you have the latest version.

**Important :**

- Exterior installations must be protected against inclement weather and too rapid drying by covering with plastic sheeting until the grout has hardened fully.
- Particular care must be taken to clean the grout off the tile face before it hardens completely. **This is especially important when a latex additive such as TAL BOND, or TAL BOND POWDER, has been used.** Greater care may be required when cleaning tiles with a textured surface.
- Due care must be taken when applying the grout to ensure that the face of soft glazed tiles, highly polished tiles or glass tiles do not get scratched.
- A sample of the tiles to be used should be tested beforehand to ensure that no grout is absorbed through the glaze, or into the tile body, causing permanent staining of the tiles.
- It is important to use the stipulated amount of liquid in the TAL Grout mixture. When cleaning, a **damp, not wet**, sponge must be used. Over hydration (too much water) of the mix, or in cleaning, causes colour variations in the grout joints, and also affects the integrity of the grout, resulting in a friable product.

**DRYING TIMES:**

Wait at least 24 hours before subjecting the newly applied grout to wet mopping or other cleaning procedures.

**COVERAGES**

Use the following formula to estimate the grout coverage :

$$\frac{(A + B) \times C \times D \times E}{(A \times B)}$$

(A x B)

A = Tile Length (mm)

B = Tile Width (mm)

C = Tile Thickness (mm)

D = Joint Width (mm)

E = SG of TAL Grout (1.8)

All measurements MUST be in mm, and this will give the grout coverage in kg/m<sup>2</sup>.

Always add 10% for wastage.

**PACKAGING**

TAL STAIN FREE GROUT is available in 20kg bags.

**STORAGE & SHELF LIFE**

When stored in dry internal conditions between 10°C and 30°C and out of direct sunlight the product has a shelf life of 6 months from date of manufacture. Never store directly on a concrete floor.

**WARNING**

**DO NOT INGEST. USE ONLY AS DIRECTED. WEAR PROTECTIVE GLOVES AND GOGGLES. USE A SUITABLE DUST MASK WHEN MIXING. WORK IN A WELL-VENTILATED AREA. DISPOSE OF THIS PRODUCT IN ACCORDANCE WITH LOCAL REGULATIONS. CONTACT TAL FOR FURTHER HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION.**

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**PRODUCT GUARANTEE**

TAL products are manufactured and tested in accordance with TAL procedures, which are maintained in line with Quality Control System Standard ISO 9001 : 2008. TAL products are guaranteed to be free from manufacturing defects and fit for design purposes.

This guarantee is subject to the performance of TAL products when used strictly in accordance with their materials and methods specifications for the particular project, and where good workmanship is followed. However, we have no influence over specific site conditions and therefore, if in doubt, the user must always carry out sufficient tests to satisfy himself/herself that the product is suitable for the intended purpose. In special cases, obtain professional advice.

TAL cannot be held responsible for the standard of workmanship on site, or any problems caused by unsound structures or foundations, cracking of the substrate, deflections of slabs or backgrounds, vibration, creep movement of the structure, etc, or any products which have been adulterated, contaminated or misused in any way. The aforementioned list is not exhaustive.

**NOTE :** we require timeous notification, in writing, of an alleged defect and the opportunity to assess and investigate the problem to our satisfaction prior to any remedial work whatsoever being carried out.

**TAL TECHNICAL ADVICE CENTRE**

For a detailed Materials and Methods Specification contact the TAL Technical Advice Centre on 0860 000 TAL(825), or e-mail [taltech@norcrossa.com](mailto:taltech@norcrossa.com)

Branches : Gauteng (011) 206-9700; Cape (021) 386-1810; Natal (031) 579-2263

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