
FLOOR TILES — LAYING INSTRUCTIONS

SUITABILITY

- Golem floor tiles can be used in **all indoor, outdoor and wet areas**, as well as on top of **floor heating systems**. These floor tiles are **very hard, sturdy and frost-resistant** and therefore **optimal for particularly highly stressed areas**. However, **grease, oil and silicones** can persistently adhere to the rough surface. A **one-time impregnation** with → [Patina-Fala Fleckschutz](#) is useful when the floor should be protected from such stains.

LAYING

- **A stable foundation** is an absolute **prerequisite**. Depending on the subsoil the tiles can be laid in either **thin-, medium- or thick-bed mortar**. Please ask your tiler or architect, which floor construction and laying procedure is suitable for your specific situation on site. Please use **high-quality ready-made mortar suitable for fine stoneware**, such as [ARDEX X 78](#).
- **Cutting floor tiles:** Due to the great hardness of the tiles, you can achieve very clean cuts with sharp edges with a suitable method. We use a **table saw with water supply and diamant blade** NO-ZAR GRES-U 300MM [reference source eg.: → [www.thl-lipfert.de](#)]. As a matter of principle, each tiler should make sample cuts to determine the best method of cutting for himself.

GROUTING

- As in the past, all our floor tiles are made with **sharp edges** in order to be laid with **narrow joints**. The joint width should **not be bigger than 3mm**. **Since there can be size differences of up to 2mm between different types of tiles, you should lay out approx. 1m² dry for testing before laying. The joint dimension chosen as a result serves to compensate for possible deviations.** Thus, you can measure the dimensions of the different tiles and determine the necessary joint dimensions to compensate for the

tolerances. Please use only **high-quality ready-to-use mortar suitable for unglazed ceramic fine-stone tiles** with low water absorption (< 0.3 %) and tight joints (2 mm). We recommend Ardex cementitious joint mortar, eg. [ARDEX G10](#) (only indoor) and [ARDEX G8S FLEX 1-6](#).

- Choose an **inconspicuous joint colour** matching the colour of the tiles. Additionally, you can use Patina-Fala Impregnation also for the joints.
- **Attention!** Many modern joint mortars contain **synthetic additives** for flexibility (flex mortar) and **nano-additives** for lotus effect. Additionally, the colour pigments contain **metal oxides**. This combination can leave stains on the velvety surface of our fine stone tiles, that will be almost impossible to remove, not even with cement residue remover (acidic). We recommend to make a **test grouting** at an inconspicuous place. Thus you can check whether discolouration or stains will occur. It is very important that you **grout in small sections and thoroughly clean in between**. Remains of mortar and cement residue on the tiles need to be thoroughly wiped off immediately after grouting with clean water and micro-fiber cloth or melamine sponge. After curing, the surface can be treated with a cement residue remover.

MORTAR AND GROUT

Ardex Mortar

- suitable for porcelain stoneware
- [ARDEX X 78](#)

Ardex Grout

- cement-based grout
- [ARDEX G10](#) (only for interior use)
- [ARDEX G8S FLEX 1-6](#)

Please pay attention to the manufacturer's processing information.

All the above mentioned products are only recommendations.

IMPREGNATION

- After laying and grouting, **a thorough final cleaning** must be carried out by the tiler. To remove stubborn stains you can use **a cement residue remover** (acid), **soda** (lye) or, additionally, a [melamine sponge \(dirt eraser\)](#).
- **After the final cleaning, the floor tiles must be impregnated with** → ["Fleckschutz" by Patina Fala](#) (stain protection). For full effectiveness **the impregnation should be repeated after 24 hours**. In order to avoid errors and damage please follow the instructions meticulously. **The protective effect will last for approximately 10 years**. For further information on the processing and effect of the impregnation agent, please contact Patina-Fala directly.
- Other notes:
 - Please **do not use wax or oil or film-forming detergents** with luster effects.
 - **Grouting with epoxy resin joint mortars** can lead to permanent stains.
 - **Rust and hot grease** can lead to permanent stains. When putting up washing machine, grill and other furniture, be sure to use the appropriate underlay as protection.
 - **Be careful when using grout mortars SOPRO Brillantfuge / Perlfuge**. These products have in the past frequently led to discolorations difficult to remove.