



Making Dream Surfaces Attainable

Glass Tile Care and Maintenance

➤ Glass Tile Backsplashes

Glass tile is a popular choice for kitchen backsplash areas, not only because it is beautiful, but also because it is easy to care for. The glossy surface of glass tile stands up well to the dirt and grime that can accumulate on kitchen surfaces. To clean these surfaces, a mild cleanser can be used, or a homemade solution of equal parts of vinegar and water is also effective. A soft bristle brush can be used to scrub the tile, but anything more abrasive should be avoided. This consideration is not so much to protect the glass tiles themselves, but to prevent the grout from becoming scratched or gouged. When using a vinegar and water solution, you can safely leave it on for about ten minutes, and then wipe it clean. Rinse well with clean water, then buff and shine dry with a soft towel to avoid the formation of water spots and streaks that can mar the beautiful reflective surface of your glass tiles.

➤ Glass Tile Bathroom Surfaces

Just as with any other type of surface that is used in bathrooms, glass tiles over time will accumulate soap scum and hard water deposits. These types of deposits will cloud the surface of glass tiles, making them less reflective and beautiful. Fortunately, they are easy to clean with a simple solution of equal parts of vinegar and water. This cleaning solution is not only safe for the glass tiles, but also for the grout. You can use a spray bottle to wet the glass tile surfaces with the solution, and then allow it to sit for about fifteen minutes. This will give the vinegar a chance to dissolve the mineral deposits and loosen the soap scum. Then, a soft bristle brush can be used to scrub the tile surfaces and grout. Take care to only use a soft bristle brush, to avoid the chance of scratching or damaging the grout. Then, simply wipe the surface, rinse well with clean water, and dry with a soft clean towel.

➤ Glass Tile Floors

One of the most important things to keep in mind when caring for a glass tile floor is the need to sweep on a regular basis, to avoid the accumulation of dirt and grit. Gritty dirt, when ground into the flooring under foot, can over time abrade the glass tile surfaces with tiny scratches and etches, which can mar its reflective beauty. A simple cleaning technique of sweeping and mopping with a mild cleaning solution can help keep a glass tile floor clean and beautiful for years to come.

Note - The suggestions mentioned above are for general practice. In case of a particular project, it is recommended that a professional installer/fabricator/restorer is consulted. It is also recommend that cleaning solutions are tried in an isolated area to check for desired results. MSI disclaims any liability towards the use of any care & maintenance products.



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➤ Cleanser Consideration

Although as a general rule glass tiles are a very durable material, when in doubt as to what types of cleansers are appropriate, always refer to the manufacturer's recommendations for the types of tiles that you are using.

➤ Caring For Glass Tile Grout

If your home features bathroom or kitchen glass tiles then you are going to want to care for them the best you can. Glass tiles don't require complicated maintenance but they definitely require that you take care of them occasionally. Use these simple tips for easy and effective ways to care for tile grout.

With smaller glass tiles and mosaic tile patterns you may notice eventual problems with the grout. It may lose its whiteness. Start forming mold, or begin to crack. The more area in between the tiles, the more likely this will be a concern. Always be sure to start cleaning with the least acidic solution. If efforts prove ineffective, then work your way up to the stronger cleaners. Scrubbing with vinegar and baking soda in small circles should remove residue. Once you're done rinse it with a sponge of warm water.

Never use bleach when you don't have pure white grout because it will discolor it. Toothbrushes aren't strong enough to clean effectively and metal bristles are too harsh and will wear it. Find a good medium-strength brush or scrubber. Also, always use protective gear like gloves and goggles when working with cleaning solutions and don't mix solutions. Always wipe clean the area before trying another method.

You should notice a considerable difference in the grout once you're done. If there's erosion you may need to re-apply in those spots. Enjoy a new-looking tile display.

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➤ An Easy Way To Clean Your Glass Tiles

Cleaning glass tiles is a very easy thing. One of the biggest benefits of having a glass backsplash or wall or floor design is that they are very easy to maintain. Here are a few easy steps to keep your glass tiles looking just as spectacular as they did when you first set them.

The first thing to note is not to use heavy cleaning chemicals, but rather a mix of either soap and water or vinegar and water. You can put this in a spray bottle or in a bucket and use a sponge to gently coat the tile surface. Make sure you saturate the tiles thoroughly, and get in where the grout is too.

Let this solution sit for several minutes, usually between 5 and fifteen minutes depending on the amount of grime. Once you think it has settled, you can use a soft-bristle brush or sponge to clean the grout. For the tiles, wipe them down and remove any residue from the vinegar or soap.

When you're finished you must dry everything to avoid water streaks and mildew from growing.

This is a quick and easy answer to making the tiles look brand new. If you find any cracks or discoloration, however, you may actually want to replace the specific pieces.

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