

# Problem Solving

## Faded / Inconsistent Grout Color (Recoloring)

**PROTECTING YOUR INVESTMENT:** The timeless beauty and inherent durability of natural stone makes it a favorite surfacing material for designers, architects and homeowners. Because of geological composition, certain stones may require different care and maintenance techniques. To create uniform grout color, seal and ease ongoing maintenance, the following guidelines are recommended:

**Purpose:** To create uniform grout color, seal and ease ongoing maintenance.

**Product Recommendation:** Aqua Mix Grout Colorant.

**Equipment:** Grout Colorant Applicator, Grout Colorant Application Kit or toothbrush, white nylon scrub pad and a water spray bottle.

**Coverage:** Approximately 50 - 300 sq. ft. (5 m<sup>2</sup> – 30 m<sup>2</sup>) per coat per 8-ounce bottle (273 ml).

### Procedure:

- » Always test a small area first to ensure satisfactory results.
- » Existing grout joints must be clean, dry and free of coatings or contaminants that may affect bond. If sealer is present, use Sealer & Coating Remover to remove existing sealer prior to using Grout Colorant.
- » New grout requires a minimum 48-hour cure time prior to using Grout Colorant.
- » Prepare existing grout joints with Grout Colorant Pre-Treat Cleaner, Phosphoric Acid Cleaner or Grout Deep Clean. Heavy-Duty Tile & Grout Cleaner or Stone Deep Clean is recommended for preparing grout joints around acid-sensitive tile or stone.
- » If using Grout Colorant Applicator, pour Grout Colorant into bottle and apply a bead onto grout joint.
- » If using Grout Colorant Application Kit or toothbrush, pour Grout Colorant into a small dish and apply onto grout joint using the applicator brush or a toothbrush.
- » Spread evenly, working Grout Colorant into joint with applicator brush or toothbrush using a back-and-forth motion. Thin, even coats should be applied, limiting the amount of Grout Colorant that gets on the tile.
- » If going from a dark to light grout color, more than 1 application may be necessary with a minimum 2-hour drying time between coats.
- » After Grout Colorant has dried 1 or more hours (never more than 12 hours), lightly mist surface with water and let stand 5 minutes. Remove excess Grout Colorant from surface of tile using water and a white nylon scrub pad.
- » Avoid direct scrubbing on grout joints for 20 days to allow a full cure.

**Considerations:** Grout Colorant not only recolors existing grout, it provides a superior seal and reduces routine maintenance.

This recommendation is intended as a general guideline for recoloring and rejuvenating faded/inconsistent standard and latex-modified, sanded cementitious grout. The requirements may vary depending on the use, porosity and condition of the grout. Keep surface clean and dry to reduce possibility of slip-fall accidents. **READ PRODUCT DIRECTIONS THOROUGHLY PRIOR TO USE. ALWAYS TEST FIRST.**

### Aqua Mix Technical Assistance:

- » Call 877.278.2311 Monday - Friday, 6:00 am to 4:30 pm or Saturday, 7:00 am to 12:00 pm Pacific time.
- » Visit website at [www.aquamix.com](http://www.aquamix.com)
- » E-mail technical questions to [tech@aquamix.net](mailto:tech@aquamix.net)