



SPECTRALOCK® Grout

Troubleshooting Guide

TDS 207

Complaint	Cause(s)	Prevention	Potential Solutions
Grout Haze	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improper cleaning techniques 2. Improper cleaning materials used 3. Rough texture tile or stone 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Follow installation instructions outlined in How-To-Install (D.S. 638.5) 2. Follow installation instructions outlined in How-To-Install (D.S. 638.5) 3. Pre-seal or use a grout release prior to the installation of grout. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If within 24 hours, use soapy water and a nylon scrub pad to remove film. If in excess of 24 hours, use Clorox® Soft-Scrub® non-bleaching formula with a scrub pad or an epoxy film remover. 2. If within 24 hours, use soapy water and a nylon scrub pad to remove film. If in excess of 24 hours, use Soft-Scrub non-bleaching formula with a scrub pad or an epoxy film remover. 3. Contact Pre-sealer, Grout Release or Epoxy Film Remover manufacturer for recommendations for your application.
Inconsistent Grout Color	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grout mixed with contaminated mixer or in dirty container 2. Spacers left in grout joints 3. Setting material exposed 4. Use of different production batches of grout 5. Cleaning with contaminated water or cleaning with products other than those recommended by LATICRETE 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be sure to clean all tools and containers prior to mixing. 2. Remove tile spacers before grouting. 3. Rake excess adhesive mortar out of joints to achieve uniform depth. 4. Check batch # to ensure all grout from same batch # or pre-blend cartons of grout. 5. Follow LATICRETE mixing directions. Use only potable (drinking) water to clean grout. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If within 24 hours, clean cured grout joints with electric dishwashing detergent to remove surface contaminants. If in excess of 24 hours use an epoxy grout film remover. 2. Use an epoxy based grout colorant to color the grout joints. These products can be custom matched to all of LATICRETE Colors. Conduct a small test area to verify results. 3. Use an epoxy based grout colorant to color the grout joints. These products can be custom matched to all of LATICRETE Colors. Conduct a small test area to verify results. 4. Use an epoxy based grout colorant to color the grout joints. These products can be custom matched to all of LATICRETE Colors. Conduct a small test area to verify results. 5. Use an epoxy based grout colorant to color the grout joints. These products can be custom matched to all of LATICRETE Colors. Conduct a small test area to verify results.

<p>Low Grout Joints</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joints not packed full during installation 2. Washed grout out of joints during clean up 3. Use of improper grout float 4. Joints settling as result of voids under tile. 5. Tile set unevenly or out of plane 6. Insufficient quantity of Part C powder used, causing grout mix to slump. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pack joints flush with edge of the tiles 2. Use dampened sponge during clean-up process. Do not use excessive amounts of water. 3. Use hard epoxy grout float 4. Be sure to obtain full coverage on the back of tile ensuring no voids beneath the tile. 5. Be sure tiles are set on an even plane. 6. Follow LATICRETE mixing directions. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SPECTRALOCK® Grout will adhere to itself. For uneven grout joints reapply new grout over existing hardened SPECTRALOCK Grout to fill in voids. 2. SPECTRALOCK Grout will adhere to itself. For uneven grout joints reapply new grout over existing hardened SPECTRALOCK Grout to fill in voids. 3. SPECTRALOCK Grout will adhere to itself. For uneven grout joints reapply new grout over existing hardened SPECTRALOCK Grout to fill in voids. 4. SPECTRALOCK Grout will adhere to itself. For uneven grout joints reapply new grout over existing hardened SPECTRALOCK Grout to fill in voids. 5. SPECTRALOCK Grout will adhere to itself. For uneven grout joints reapply new grout over existing hardened SPECTRALOCK Grout to fill in voids. 6. SPECTRALOCK Grout will adhere to itself. For uneven grout joints reapply new grout over existing hardened SPECTRALOCK Grout to fill in voids.
<p>Pinholes/voids in Grout Joints</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. High speed mixer may entrap air in grout mix 2. Standing water in grout joint prior to spreading grout. 3. Voids or air pockets left under tiles 4. Grout mixed too “soupy”. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use a low-speed mixer (>300 RPM) 2. Use a wet/dry vacuum throughout installation to ensure grout joints are clean and free of standing water or foreign material 3. Be sure to obtain full coverage on the back of tile ensuring no voids 4. Be sure to mix all of Part C with AB liquids. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SPECTRALOCK Grout will adhere to itself. To repair pinholes/voids in grout joints; reapply new grout to fill in voids. 2. SPECTRALOCK Grout will adhere to itself. To repair pinholes/voids in grout joints; reapply new grout to fill in voids. 3. SPECTRALOCK Grout will adhere to itself. To repair pinholes/voids in grout joints; reapply new grout to fill in voids. 4. SPECTRALOCK Grout will adhere to itself. To repair pinholes/voids in grout joints; reapply new grout to fill in voids.
<p>Soft Grout Joints</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improper technique and mixing of grout components. 2. Temperature of substrate too cold. 3. Standing water in grout joints 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Follow LATICRETE mixing directions. Always be sure to mix components in the correct order. 2. Be sure to install on substrates when temperatures are between 40°F – 95°F (4°C – 35°C) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Removal of grout and application of new grout is recommended when material has not cured properly. 2. Heat area to installation recommendations. 3. Removal of grout and application of new grout is recommended when material has not cured properly

		3. Use a wet/dry vacuum throughout installation to ensure grout joints are clean and free of standing water. Use only potable (drinking) water to clean grout.	
Sagging in Vertical Applications in Grout Joints wider than 1/8” (3mm)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not all powder is used in mix. 2. Improper technique and mixing of grout components. 3. Too much moisture on face of tile 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mix must be firm not soupy. Allow grout to slake in accord with How to Install D.S. 638.5 2. Follow LATICRETE mixing directions. 3. Tile face should be wiped clean with damp sponge. Do not saturate tile surface with water 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Spread grout over entire vertical surface. When material starts to stiffen in the joints re-float areas that may be sagging. 2. Spread grout over entire vertical surface. When material starts to stiffen in the joints re-float areas that may be sagging. 3. Spread grout over entire vertical surface. When material starts to stiffen in the joints re-float areas that may be sagging.

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Technical Data Sheets are subject to change without notice. For latest revision, check our website at www.laticrete.com
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