



Design FX[®] Design Inspired Stain Proof^{*} Grout

Updated September 2025

1. PRODUCT NAME

TEC[®] Design FX[®] Design Inspired Stain Proof^{*} Grout
(546)

2. MANUFACTURER

TEC Specialty Products LLC
1105 South Frontenac Street
Aurora, IL 60504-6451 U.S.A.
800.832.9002 Customer Service
800.832.9023 Technical Support
tecspecialty.com

3. DESCRIPTION

Design FX grout is a ready to use grout that accentuates the natural beauty of glass, mosaic and metal tiles in addition to ceramic, porcelain and most natural stone tile. For use in tile joints from 1/16" to 1/2" (1.6-12 mm) on floors and 1/16" to 1/4" (1.6-6 mm) on walls.

Design FX grout is stain proof^{*}, approved for interior use and is rated up to moderate commercial use.

Key Features and Benefits

- Residential up to moderate commercial use
- Stain proof^{*}, no need to seal
- Grout is mold and mildew resistant
- Durable, wear resistant
- Water resistant
- Contributes to LEED[®] project points
- Low VOC

Packaging

1/2 gallon container (1.89 L)

US version

921 Crystal[†]

922 Silver

923 Bronze

Canadian version

921 Crystal[†]

922 Silver

923 Bronze

Product #15035952

Product #15035954

Product #15035958

Product #15035951

Product #15035953

Product #15035957

[†]The appearance of this product can vary as it is reflective of the color of the tile and/or surrounding materials

Storage

Store indoors in a cool, dry location. Keep away from excessive heat. Freeze/thaw stable to -10°F (-23°C). If frozen, slowly bring material back to room temperature and remix.

Shelf Life

Maximum of 18 months from date of manufacture in properly stored, unopened package.

Limitations

- Do not use with polished marble or saltillo tiles.
- Do not use with travertine if the filling of the surface pits with grout is not desired.
- Certain tile surfaces may be stained when grouted. Follow tile manufacturer recommendations or test in an inconspicuous area.
- Some metal tile may scratch as a result of excessive force applied when grouting. Check metal tile surface prior to grouting for pre-existing surface imperfections. Test a small area prior to use to determine suitability.
- Do not grout over existing epoxy grout installations.
- Maintain temperature range of 50°-90°F (10°-32°C) during use and drying.
- Freeze-thaw stable. If frozen, thaw completely and remix before using.
- Do not add water.

- Do not seal grout.
- Do not use with irregularly spaced or shaped tile or stone such as pebble stones.
- Use for grouting intermittent wet conditions such as bathtub surrounds and shower walls. Do not use on shower floors.
- Do not use in steam rooms or saunas. Do not use in swimming pools or submerged applications.
- Installations over waterproofing membranes may require extended drying times.
- Do not use over concrete slabs with high moisture emission rates.
- Not for use in installations subject to residue from enzymatic cleaners.
- Do not use in areas subject to aggressive cleaning techniques such as high pressure washing or steam cleaning.
- Do not use in areas subject to continuous high temperatures (>140°F [60°C]).
- Do not use in exterior applications.
- Steam cleaning not recommended.

Cautions

Read complete cautionary information printed on product container prior to use. For medical emergency information, call 1-888-853-1758.

This Product Data Sheet has been prepared in good faith on the basis of information available at the time of publication. It is intended to provide users with information about and guidelines for the proper use and application of the covered TEC brand product(s) under normal environmental and working conditions. Because each project is different, TEC Specialty Products LLC cannot be responsible for the consequences of variations in such conditions, or for unforeseen conditions.

Coverage

Figures shown in the chart are presented only as guidelines.

Approximate Coverage per 1/2 Gallon (1.89L)					
Tile Size	Joint Width				
	1/16" (1.6 mm)	1/8" (3 mm)	1/4" (6 mm)	3/8" (9 mm)	1/2" (12 mm)
1" x 1" x 1/8" 25 x 25 x 3 mm	51 s.f. 4.7 m ²	25.5 s.f. 2.4 m ²			
1" x 1" x 1/4" 25 x 25 x 6 mm	25.6 s.f. 2.4 m ²	12.8 s.f. 1.2 m ²			
2" x 2" x 1/4" 50 x 50 x 6 mm	51 s.f. 4.7 m ²	25.5 s.f. 2.4 m ²			
3" x 3" x 1/4" 76 x 76 x 6 mm	77 s.f. 7.2 m ²	38.5 s.f. 3.6 m ²			
4" x 4" x 1/8" 100 x 100 x 3 mm	205 s.f. 19.0 m ²	103 s.f. 9.6 m ²			
6" x 6" x 1/4" 150 x 150 x 6 mm	154 s.f. 14.3 m ²	77 s.f. 7.2 m ²	38.5 s.f. 3.6 m ²	25.6 s.f. 2.4 m ²	19.2 s.f. 1.8 m ²
8" x 8" x 3/8" 200 x 200 x 9 mm	137 s.f. 12.7 m ²	68.5 s.f. 6.4 m ²	34.2 s.f. 3.2 m ²	22.8 s.f. 2.1 m ²	17.2 s.f. 1.6 m ²
12" x 12" x 1/4" 300 x 300 x 6 mm	307 s.f. 28.6 m ²	153.5 s.f. 14.3 m ²	78.6 s.f. 7.3 m ²	51.3 s.f. 4.8 m ²	38.4 s.f. 3.5 m ²
16" x 16" x 1/8" 400 x 400 x 3 mm	329 s.f. 30.6 m ²	164.5 s.f. 15.3 m ²	82.2 s.f. 7.7 m ²	54.8 s.f. 5.1 m ²	41.1 s.f. 3.8 m ²
18" x 18" x 1/8" 450 x 450 x 3 mm	370 s.f. 34.4 m ²	185 s.f. 17.2 m ²	92.5 s.f. 8.6 m ²	61.5 s.f. 5.7 m ²	46.2 s.f. 4.3 m ²
20" x 20" x 1/8" 508 x 508 x 3 mm	410 s.f. 38.1 m ²	205 s.f. 19.0 m ²	102.5 s.f. 9.5 m ²	68.4 s.f. 6.4 m ²	51.2 s.f. 4.8 m ²

^{*}Design FX grout is stain proof to most common household, residential stains when cleaned immediately. The prolonged exposure of any stain will increase the likelihood of permanent staining or discoloration of grout surface.

Product Data

Approximate Coverage per 1/2 Gallon (1.89L)					
Tile Size	Joint Width				
	1⁄16" (1.6 mm)	1⁄8" (3 mm)	1⁄4" (6 mm)	3⁄8" (9 mm)	1⁄2" (12 mm)
6" x 24" x 5⁄16" 200 x 609 x 8 mm	197 s.f. 18.3 m²	98.5 s.f. 9.2 m²	49.2 s.f. 4.6 m²	32.8 s.f. 3.0 m²	24.6 s.f. 2.3 m²
12" x 24" x 3⁄8" 300 x 609 x 9 mm	274 s.f. 25.5 m²	137 s.f. 12.7 m²	68.5 s.f. 6.4 m²	45.5 s.f. 4.2 m²	34.2 s.f. 3.2 m²
24" x 24" x 3⁄4" 609 x 609 x 9 mm	410 s.f. 38.1 m²	205 s.f. 19.0 m²	102.5 s.f. 9.5 m²	68.5 s.f. 6.4 m²	51.2 s.f. 4.8 m²

4. TECHNICAL DATA

Applicable Standard

Listed performance characteristics for ANSI A118.6 Modified Specifications for Ceramic Tile Grouts.

Design FX Design Inspired Stain Proof* Grout (546)	
Description	Typical Results (ANSI A118.6 Modified*)
Compressive Strength 28 day cure 28 day cure in grout joint	> 400 psi (2.76 MPa) > 3500 psi (24.13 MPa)
Flexural Strength 28 day cure	> 100 psi (0.69 MPa)
Tensile Strength 28 day	> 100 psi (0.69 MPa)

Greater than: > Greater than or equal to: ≥ Less than: < Less than or equal to: ≤
*Modified ANSI sample size.

Physical Properties

Description	
Physical State	Paste
Color	Available in 3 standard colors: Bronze, Crystal (clear) and Silver
Light Foot Traffic [at 72°F (22°C)]	24 hours
Intermittent Water Exposure	3 days
Final Cure (full stain resistance)	7 days
VOC/Liter of Material	10 g/L
Foot Traffic Rating (ASTM C627)	Residential to moderate commercial
Storage	Store indoors in cool, dry location. Do not store open containers. Freeze/thaw stable to -10°F (-23°C).
Shelf Life	Maximum 18 months from date of manufacture in properly stored, unopened package.

5. INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Surface Preparation

Area must be clean, dry, free of dirt and dust. If you have a highly porous tile or natural stone, pre-sealing the tile is recommended. Grout joint should be free of sealers. The use of a white setting material is recommended when using the Crystal color selection.

Isolate copper and brass surfaces that will come in contact with the grout by applying a coat of TEC® Multipurpose Primer (undiluted). Allow to dry before grouting. Do not coat any metal surfaces that are to remain exposed.

Application

- For best results, grout no more than 10 ft² (0.93 m²) at a time.
- Press grout diagonally into joints holding float at a 45-degree angle. Make sure that joints are completely filled.
- Remove all excess grout off tile by holding float at a 90-degree angle and drawing diagonally across tile.
- Immediately pat tile with damp sponge. Then, using a well wrung damp sponge, clean tile and smooth joints in a circular motion. Rinse sponge frequently.

- Turn sponge over to a clean side and draw diagonally across tiles to remove any remaining film.
- Do not wait longer than 15 minutes before starting grout haze clean-up.
- If a light haze remains after cleaning, do not attempt to remove it with the sponge. Instead, leave the haze on the surface and remove the next day with a white scrub pad and common household ammoniated glass cleaner. Haze will easily come off of most tile surfaces.
- There is no need to seal Design FX grout.

NOTE: If excess water is used in the sponge during clean up, minor cracks or pinholes can develop. If the grout is over-worked, it may appear to shrink down into joint. Should any of these events occur, simply apply a second coat to the affected areas. You must allow your initial application to cure for 24 hours prior to your second application.

Instruction For Use Over Premixed and Cement-Based Grout

To install, existing premixed or cementitious grout must be completely removed from grout joint in order to obtain full Design effect.

Make sure the joint is free of all dust and debris, then apply grout per instructions above.

Set-up Time

Light foot traffic after 24 hours. Allow 3 days to achieve intermittent water exposure, such as shower use. Allow 7 days to achieve final cure which includes hardness and stain resistance.

Clean-up

Clean tools and hands with warm soapy water while grout is still wet.

Maintenance

For routine cleaning of your grout, use a neutral pH cleaner. Follow manufacturer instructions for dilution.

Grout haze might form on some porous and absorptive tile. Grout haze shall not be removed the same day as this will disturb the grout during the initial set-up process.

To remove grout haze the next day, use a white scrub pad and common household ammoniated glass cleaner.

In the event of a stubborn surface stain, the use of an ammoniated or alkaline cleaner along with a white scrub pad is recommended.

6. AVAILABILITY

Availability

TEC premium surface preparation, tile, stone, carpet, wood and resilient floor covering installation products are available nationwide. To locate TEC products in your area, please contact:

Phone: 800-832-9002
Website: tecspecialty.com

7. LIMITED WARRANTY

The product(s) covered by this Product Data Sheet are sold subject to a Limited Warranty and related terms. **TEC Specialty Products LLC disclaims the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose and all incidental and consequential damages arising out of the sale, purchase or use of this product.** For Limited Warranty details visit tecspecialty.com. To obtain a hard copy of the Limited Warranty call TEC Specialty Products at 800-832-9023 or mail a written request to the address in Section 2 of this Product Data Sheet.

8. MAINTENANCE

Not applicable

9. TECHNICAL SERVICES

Technical and safety literature

To acquire technical and safety literature, please visit our website at tecspecialty.com.

10. FILING SYSTEM

Division 9

*Design FX grout is stain proof to most common household, residential stains when cleaned immediately. The prolonged exposure of any stain will increase the likelihood of permanent staining or discoloration of grout surface.

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To learn more, visit TECspecialty.com



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