



Mortar and Grout Cure Times

DATE

November 2025

RECOMMENDATION

When installing tile or stone with TEC® products, use the following guidelines for minimum cure times before placing the installation in service (under normal conditions with proper installation):

Cement-based Mortar and Grout* Cure Times before placing installation in service	
Tile/Stone Installation	Cement Based Mortars (standard set, accelerated and lightweight)
Car Traffic	7 Days
Pools/Submerged	21 Days
Steam Rooms & Saunas	7 Days
Coolers, Freezers, or anywhere exposed to below freezing temperatures**	14 Days
Radiant Heat Floors***	7 Days

*For existing installations only requiring re-grouting or if the mortar cure time has already exceeded the time stated in the chart above, the minimum grout cure time is 3 days for for AccuColor® cement based grouts, and 7 days for Power Grout® or AccuColor EFX® Epoxy Grout and Mortar.

**When installing in Coolers/Freezers, the temperature of the area being tiled should be between 50-70°F (10-21°C) 24 hours before installation.

***For Radiant Heat system installations, turn the heating system off 2 days **before** and keep it off for 7 days **after** installation.

Discussion

Curing time is essential for optimum performance of cement-based and epoxy products. Varying service environments and applications may have an effect on setting mortars and grouting materials' cure times. Observing the recommended in-service cure times can minimize adverse effects related to special applications and provide satisfactory results.

TEC brand tile and stone installation products have recommended cure times that range from 3 hours to 28 days for published in-use performance results. The best results are obtained when all tiling material, substrate and room temperatures are maintained at 50 to 70°F (10 to 21°C) for 24 hours before and 48 hours after installation. Cool temperatures and high humidity can extend cure times.

Questions?

Call the Technical Support Hotline at 1-800-832-9023.

This Technical Bulletin 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.

To learn more, visit TECspecialty.com

