Recipes for Home Repair by Alvin Ubell & Sam Bittman

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How To Regrout Tiles

Grout. in the event you're unfamiliar with the word, is the matrix in the joints between tiles, or between inlaid stones. We refer here only to ceramic tiles, although the procedure is roughly applicable to other regrouting jobs. This is what you will need:

Utensils

Large baking pan Putty knife Large sponge

Ingredients

Scouring powder Clean soft cloth 5-pound bag of dry grout Can of waterproof silicone spray

Approximate Time: Depends On Size Of Job

- 1. Wash down all tile with scouring powder.
- 2. Rinse thoroughly so all soap film is gone.
- 3. With ice pick, scratch out all loose grout from between tiles as shown in Figure 50. It is advisable to work an entire vertical line, top to bottom, then horizontally.
- 4. Using just a minimal amount of water, rinse away loose debris.
- 5. Mix sufficient quantity of grout in baking pan as directed on the package. Consistency must be smooth.
- 6. Apply grout to sponge with putty knife and squeeze grout into tile joints, rubbing up and down, across, and circularly.
- 7. Rinse sponge in cold water and wring dry before wiping excess grout from tile face.
- 8. Repeat process several times until joints are filled in and a slight haze forms over face of tiles.
- 9. Corner tiles, which are tough to get to, can be grouted with finger, but make sure you remove excess.
- 10. Let dry for a few hours.

- 11. Wipe away with clean dry cloth until all tile is polished and all ioints are smooth and clean.
- 12. Spray all corners and tile joints with waterproof silicone spray. This will extend the longevity and beauty of the tile.

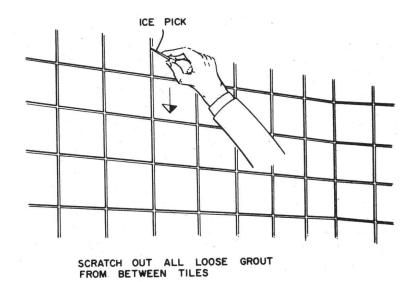


Figure 50. Repairing Tile Grouting