

---

# EPOXY GROUT SANITARY/STAIN RESISTANT MORTAR JOINTS WHEN USED WITH STRUCTURAL GLAZED TILE

## What is EPOXY GROUT?

The most widely used of the chemical & stain-resistant grouts are the EPOXY GROUTS. There are several of these on the market today. The best known meet or exceed the performance requirements as set by ANSI A118.3, "Chemical Resistant, Water Cleanable, Tile-Setting & Grouting Epoxy".

EPOXY GROUTS consist of two-parts, a resin, and a hardener, that are cured by chemical reaction when the two components are mixed. EPOXY SYSTEMS are 100% solids materials. Other parts may need to be added to achieve a non-sagging capability for use on vertical and horizontal surfaces or for coloring of the grout. The EPOXY GROUT will cure by hardening into an extremely dense solid. The EPOXY GROUT produces a permanent, strong non-rigid, non-porous finish that offers a sanitary, stain resistant mortar joint.

## Why is EPOXY GROUT used?

These high-performance, industrial-grade EPOXY GROUTS are suitable where sanitary, stain-resistant and/or chemical-resistant mortar joints are required. EPOXY GROUTS have a high compressive strength giving them a durability that can withstand steam cleaning. Their non-absorptive qualities offer resistance to the strong acidic and corrosive chemicals and cleaners. Along with the Structural Glazed Tile, the EPOXY GROUTS contribute to an overall sanitary wall system that is highly resistant to bacteria attack and is extremely durable in a harsh environment.

## Mortar Joints and the general application & cleaning of the EPOXY GROUT:

Regular masonry mortars can be used with Structural Glazed Tile (SGT) and must meet the compressive strength requirements of the project. AGFT has a lower absorption rate than regular brick or block units, therefore the mortar to be used with the glazed tile units should be stiffer or richer than normal mortar. Standard mortar types used are Type M, S, N, or O mortar. In most cases N or S mortar will be used, however when the highest compressive stresses dictate, Type M mortar may be required. A fine sand normally gives the best results when working with structural tile.

All SGT should be laid plumb and true with full unfurrowed bed joints and full head joints. Most mortar joints for SGT are 1/4" or 3/8" in width. During construction try to avoid wiping the mortar residue onto the glazed surfaces. Once the mortar joints are thumbprint hard, strike them using a wood or plastic jointer. Never use metal tools on the glazed finish. After the initial set (dried enough so they do not smear) clean down the area to remove any clumps of mortar off of the glazed surfaces using a wood tool or stick. Wipe the wall with a coarse rag such as burlap, corduroy or carpet for any residue clean up. Shake the rag repeatedly to clean it out. Cleaning the wall within 30 minutes of laying the tile is the best time for the easiest removal of mortar.

For sanitary or stain-resistant mortar joints pointing with EPOXY GROUT is next. Once the mortar is set, typically when the mortar is thumbprint hard, the joint should be raked out to a depth of 1/4" to 3/8". Then allow for mortar to cure for at least 24 hours. Next wipe down the joints with a damp cloth to remove debris from the joints. Do not leave water standing in the joints. Once the joints are clean and dry you are ready to point with the epoxy grout. Generally you mix the "A" resin before adding the "B" hardener component of the "two-part" epoxy together in a clean pail, using the prescribed amounts and directions as given by the manufacturer for the particular application.

