SALTILLO

Floors, verandahs & courtyards

Handmade terracotta tiles from Saltillo, Mexico, sun-dried and low-fired, with natural variation, paw prints and irregular edges. They are soft and extremely absorbent, so they need generous sealing — usually before and after grouting — to help reduce staining.

FULL GUIDE

Textured finish: This is the normal, rustic surface of saltillo tiles, with a slightly uneven, earthy texture rather than an applied treatment. It tends to be quite porous and absorbent, so sealing helps reduce staining, and suits a Natural Look, Colour Enhanced or High Gloss finish depending on the appearance you prefer.

SOFT, LOW-FIRED CLAY · TEST FIRST

1 CLEAN BEFORE SEALING

The surface must be clean, dry and free of grout haze, dirt, grease and old coatings before sealing.

Haze Away — NEW WORK · GROUT HAZE & SITE FILM

Pre-seal first, then remove grout film with Haze Away. Dilute 1:5 (light) to 1:1 (heavy); neat if older than 10 days. Sponge or mop on, dwell 10 min. DON'T ALLOW PRODUCT TO DRY ON SURFACE – ADD MORE DILUTED PRODUCT TO KEEP WET AND ACTIVE. Scrub, rinse, dry.

XtremeClean+ — EXISTING SURFACES · CLEAN & PREPARE

1:10–1:5, dwell 5–10 min, scrub, rinse twice and let dry 24–48 h before sealing. Organic staining: Active Plus first.

2 SEAL

Sealer options from the Product Selector for saltillo · textured finish. Coverage and coats: table below.

2A PRE-SEAL · before installing, grouting & final sealing

Use where needed before the final-look sealer: 1 coat only. Enhance'N'Seal can also pre-seal the face before grouting. Rates: **Before Installing & Grouting** table (pre-sealing) and **Six-Sided Dip Sealing** table.

Ultra-Block — PRE-SEALING OR SIX-SIDED SEALING

Installation sealer, 1 coat only: pre-seal the face before grouting, or seal all six sides before installing. Helps reduce picture framing and efflorescence. Not under satin / gloss coatings.

Use on: Floors · walls · **1 coat only**

Condense Plus — CONSOLIDATOR & STRENGTHENER · PRE-SEALING & SIX-SIDED SEALING

Consolidator, strengthener and densifier for natural stone. 1 saturating coat, remove all excess after 10–15 min, cure 24 h. Recommended outdoors, around pools & on coping, before the final-look sealer. Not under satin / gloss coatings.

Use on: Floors · walls · benchtops · **1 coat only**

2B FINAL LOOK · choose your look

The sealer that gives the finished look and protection.

Aqua-Seal Gold+ — NATURAL LOOK

Premium natural look penetrating sealer with NanoPlus and RapidPlus technology. Helps provide stain resistance without changing the look; ready in about 4 hours.

Use on: Floors · walls · benchtops · **Min 3 coats**

Enhance'N'Seal — COLOUR ENHANCED

Seals and enhances the colour in one step for a richer, darker look without a sheen. Test first: the colour change is permanent.

Use on: Floors · walls · benchtops · **Min 3 coats**

Satin'N'Seal — SATIN · NEW

NEW soft low-sheen protective film coating. Same surfaces and rates as Gloss'N'Seal.

Use on: Floors · walls · **Min 2 coats**

(Cannot be used if Condense Plus or Ultra-Block are used first)

Gloss'N'Seal — HIGH GLOSS

High gloss 'wet look' protective film coating for textured and porous stone, terracotta and pavers.

Use on: Floors · walls · **Min 2 coats**

(Cannot be used if Condense Plus or Ultra-Block are used first)

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General guide only. Results depend on the surface, its installation, condition and environment. Always read the label, SDS and Technical Bulletin and test in an inconspicuous area first. Coverage is approximate. Sealers help reduce staining and make cleaning easier; they are not a substitute for a compliant membrane, damp-proofing, drainage or surface preparation and do not prevent wear or acid etching. Sealers Plus (an Aqua-Seal brand) · Professional Grade | Made in Australia · Kurnell NSW · Surface Finder · V2.1 · November 2026

3 MAINTAIN

ROUTINE CLEANING · DAILY / WEEKLY

Mop with a **pH neutral, rinse-free** cleaner and a microfibre mop. Satin, gloss or sheen coated: EzyClean+ only; re-coat as wear shows.

EzyClean+
Everyday clean + disinfect. 30–60 mL per 4 L warm water. pH neutral, rinse free and streak free.

Boost Plus
Cleans and tops up your sealer with every clean. 50–100 mL per 4 L warm water. pH neutral, rinse free.

DEEP CLEAN · QUARTERLY

Heavy-traffic areas benefit from a periodic deep clean to remove build-up.

Grout Clean+ (small areas)
Ready-to-use spray, heavy duty stone, tile and grout cleaner for deep cleaning grout joints.

HEAVY DUTY CLEAN · HALF YEARLY OR AS NEEDED

For built-up grime, grease and soap scum. Dilute to the label, scrub, rinse well and allow to dry. Not on satin, gloss or sheen coated areas.

XtremeClean+
Heavy duty cleaner, degreaser and disinfectant for neglected areas, grease and soap scum.

APPROXIMATE COVERAGE · TEXTURED FINISH

DESIRED LOOK	PRODUCT	USE ON	M² PER 1 L PER COAT	COATS
Consolidator & Strengthener	Condense Plus	Floors · walls · benchtops	0.25–0.5	1
Natural Look	Aqua-Seal Gold+	Floors · walls · benchtops	2–4	Min 3
Colour Enhanced	Enhance'N'Seal	Floors · walls · benchtops	2–4	Min 3
Satin NEW	Satin'N'Seal *	Floors · walls	3–5	Min 2
High Gloss	Gloss'N'Seal *	Floors · walls	3–5	Min 2

* **Satin'N'Seal / Gloss'N'Seal:** cannot be used if Condense Plus or Ultra-Block are used first.

Approximate only. Coverage varies with the density, porosity, texture and absorption of the surface, weather, application method and number of coats. m² per 1 L = the min–max coverage from the product labels.

Re-seal when the water drop test says so, not by the calendar: drip water on a busy spot, wait 10 min, wipe. No dark mark = still protected. If the water soaks in and darkens the surface, apply a maintenance coat of the original sealer.
Surface temp 4–32 °C. Surface must be clean, dry and free of other sealers and coatings.

PRO TIPS

- Saltillo is very thirsty: expect high sealer use and test the look first.
- Let tiles dry completely before sealing — trapped moisture shows as whitening.
- Coated (**Gloss'N'Seal** / **Satin'N'Seal**) floors: clean with **EzyClean+** only. **XtremeClean+** is a stripper, so keep it for when you want to strip and recoat. (Cannot be used if Condense Plus or Ultra-Block are used first)

STAIN & PROBLEM GUIDE

PROBLEM	USE (TRY IN THIS ORDER)
Grout haze (heavy)	+ Haze Away + MicroScrub
Efflorescence (white salts)	+ Eff-Ective+ (coming soon) + MicroScrub
Rust & iron stains	Rust Away
Fertiliser	Rust Away
Oil, grease & food	+ Poultice Plus + Poultice Powder + Active Plus
Wine, coffee & tea	+ Active Plus + XtremeClean+
Mould, mildew & algae	Active Plus
Heavy dirt build-up	+ XtremeClean+ + Active Plus
Hard water marks	+ Active Plus + XtremeClean+

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Never pressure wash. High-pressure water can exfoliate and degrade the surface and reduce the sealer's performance. It can also drive water deep into the surface and bring up mineral blooming and efflorescence. Clean with a mop, brush or scrubbing machine and rinse with a low-pressure garden hose instead.

BEFORE INSTALLING & GROUTING

STEP	PRODUCT	M²/L	COATS
Pre-seal top surface before installation or before grouting	Ultra-Block	2–4	1
Pre-seal top surface before installation or before grouting	Condense Plus	2–4	1
Pre-seal top surface before installation or before grouting	Enhance'N'Seal	2–4	1
Pre-grout release coating	Grout Release+	2.5–20	1

Pre-sealing the top surface before installation or grouting makes grout clean-up easier.

TIP: Use Haze Away in the final rinse during the grouting process to make grout clean-up easier and help prevent grout haze.

SIX-SIDED DIP SEALING

Dip sealing coats all six faces of each tile or paver (face, back and edges) before installation. It helps reduce moisture, salts and minerals from the bedding and adhesive moving into the stone, which helps reduce efflorescence, picture framing, tide marks and staining. Recommended for porous natural stone and pavers, especially in wet areas and on mortar beds.

STEP	PRODUCT	M²/L	COATS
Six-sided dip seal (all faces)	Condense Plus	0.25–0.5	1
Six-sided dip seal (all faces)	Ultra-Block	0.25–0.5	1

Six-sided rates are per m² of tile / paver (all faces). **Gloss / satin finish:** skip six-sided sealing. Gloss'N'Seal / Satin'N'Seal cannot be used if Condense Plus or Ultra-Block are used first, on any side.

TIP: Use Haze Away in the final rinse during the grouting process to make grout clean-up easier and help prevent grout haze.

ANTI-SLIP OPTION

On coated (satin / gloss) floors, mix **Grip-It P Powder** into the final coat of **Gloss'N'Seal** or **Satin'N'Seal** to help increase slip resistance. Test on a sample area first to check the result and appearance. Penetrating sealers don't change slip resistance. (Cannot be used if Condense Plus or Ultra-Block are used first)

General note: These recommendations are general guidelines for the sealing options available for this surface and finish. Read the product label, Technical Bulletin and SDS before use. Always test first in an inconspicuous area to confirm the number of coats and the look. All coverage rates and coats are approximate and only a guide: coverage varies with surface density, porosity, texture and absorption, weather, application method and the number of coats. Sealers help reduce staining and make cleaning easier; they do not make a surface water-tight, are not a substitute for a compliant membrane, damp-proofing, drainage or surface preparation, and do not protect against etching by acids or harsh chemicals. Keep floors dry to help reduce slip risk.

PRO TIP · EFFLORESCENCE CONTROL: Add Eff-Shield+ to the gauging water of the screed, tile adhesive or grout. As a cement bed dries, the water moving through it carries salts to the surface, causing efflorescence (white salts), picture framing and dark edges around saltillo. Eff-Shield+ lines the pores right through the mix with a water-repellent layer, helping reduce water absorption and the salts it brings up, while the bed can still breathe and dry out. Locked into the cement, it can't wash out or wear off. No VOC. Cement-based products only: see the label for the dose.

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