

# Roberts Designs

## HOW TO SEAL TERRACOTTA

### RECOMMENDED SEALING FOR TERRACOTTA AND CLAY PAVERS

Terracotta falls into 2 classes: Low porosity (Australian made) and high porosity (Mexican Saltillo's and Spanish terracotta's etc)

Type	Low Porosity	High Porosity
Pre-Seal (only when a penetrating seal is to follow)	Aqua Guard 1 coat (optional)	Aqua Guard 1 coat
Natural Look / No Sheen Repels Oil & Water (Penetrating)	Stone Shield 2 coats	Heritage 2 coats
Natural Look/Sheen Coating Indoor (Penetrating)	All Stone Sealer 2 coats	

*Please note:*

*The number of coats required is dependent on porosity of the substrate being sealed. More coats may be required for more porous substrates.*

### INITIAL CLEANING

- Once new tiles are laid and grouted it is important to remove all grout and cement residues. An initial clean should be done with Tasman Lift Off then a final clean with Tasman Tile Kleen to ensure surfaces are neutralised prior to any sealing work.
- Existing terracotta should be cleaned with Tasman Tile Kleen (for light staining). A concentrated Tile Kleen solution will remove most problem stains. For heavy stains, or efflorescence, first clean with Tasman Lift Off followed by Tile Kleen to ensure surfaces are neutralised prior to any sealing work.
- A special floor washing machine with liquid suction will produce best results.
- After cleaning ensure floors are rinsed thoroughly (2-3 times) with clean warm water.
- Ensure floor is completely dry before sealing.

### PRE-SEALING

- Often tiles will benefit from being sealed prior to grouting (where a penetrating sealer will follow) - this will make it easier to clean off grout residue and will avoid marks from laying.
- High porosity terracotta needs at least one coat of Pre-Seal applied before or after grouting to modify the surface so that the final penetrating sealer will have maximum effect.

### SEALING

- All of the above sealers can be re-sealed without stripping, if the previous sealer is in sound condition.
- Sealers can be applied with a brush or lamb's wool applicator. Ventilate well.
- Do not allow excess Heritage Finish or Stone Shield to dry on the surface.
- Do not use a paint roller to apply sealer.
- Do not allow sealer to come in contact with painted trim.

### MAINTENANCE

- We recommend cleaning with warm water and a small amount of Tasman Tile Kleen.

### ALWAYS TEST

- Because every type of tile/paver is different we recommend that a small test area is done to ensure that the appearance and protection is satisfactory.
- Allow sealers at least 24 hours to cure before testing, depending on weather conditions.