



NATURAL TERRAZZO (*Cement-based Architectural Terrazzo*)

A Cement based **Terrazzo** is a composite material consisting of chips of marble mixed with a cementitious binder to form a solid component this in either slabs or tiles formats which after curing can be further processed to achieve a different surface finishes, from a smooth polish to a textured surface. The possibility to use different stone in colour or sizes, allows to achieve unique looks and patterns.

The history of Terrazzo goes back many thousands of years, usually this being precast and finished off in place, but with latest mechanization of the production process it was possible to achieve this in large blocks, slabs and tiles, making the terrazzo a more popular product choice for its beauty and textural quality. Making it what today is one of the biggest trends in home décor. Striking the perfect balance between timeless style, bold design and fittings that would reflect any heritage or modern design homes. Large format terrazzo tiles add just the right amount of interest in any space.



The Renew Terrazzo Trend

Terrazzo is aesthetically appealing to our market not only due to its long history background, but also because of the benefits that it covers.

Terrazzo is eco-friendly, born from recycling and re-use logic, sustainability is the heart of the product.

Durable and long-lasting, produced through vibro-compaction under vacuum or single pressing, determines its strong characteristics with high resistance to abrasion and low water absorption, making this product ideal to use as flooring in high traffic areas still within a very contained thickness.

Easy to work with – although its hard characteristics, Terrazzo is very easy to work with, safe and fire resistant.

Versatile - With many surface finish possibilities and suitable thicknesses, it is adaptable in many applications, from floors to bench tops or vanities and wall cladding.

Tailored and Colourful design – precious marbles and random setting makes each terrazzo tile a unique piece, allowing bespoke possibilities with a wide choice between colour combination, size, finishes and thicknesses.

The Process

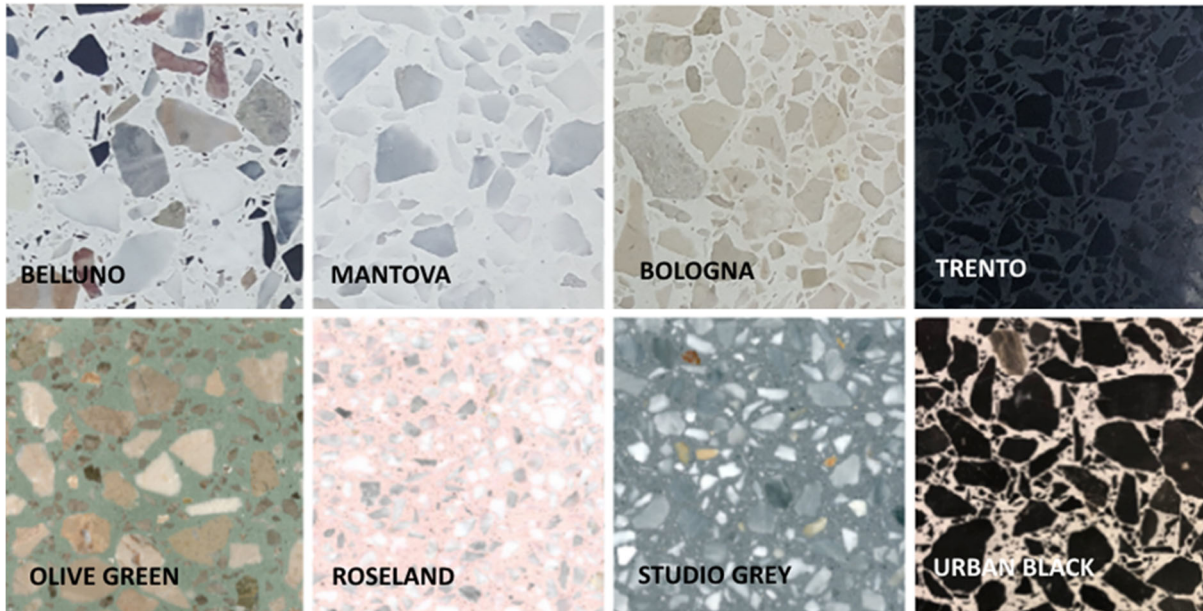
The casting process involves mixing and vibrating under vacuum or pressure to ensure a high-quality homogeneous mix of ranges of various marble aggregates sizes and colours originating from various location in Europe. Aggregates are weighed and batched, allowing homogeneous design. Following casting and a standard curing time of 28 days, the products are then ready for further processing. These can then be transformed into slabs, tiles or into 3D elements, lending to creation of large-format tiles, vanity tops, counters, toilet cubicles and curbs at a lower cost and better quality, when compared to casting into individual moulds. This method is by far the most cost-effective manner of producing stairs and cladding panels.

Slabs and tiles in a 'raw' state will expose the natural textured, but additional mechanical processing allows to achieve a different texture more suitable to specific applications.



Everstone 2022 Colour Selection

The high structured variation in the natural components, gives the Terrazzo a unique characteristic that varies relating to the selected natural stone colours. Everstone is introducing 8 different levels of colours with size options from a full 3000x1200mm slab size in 30mm or 600x600x20mm tiles.



Terrazzo Installation and Storage

Before installing any tile, verify that the received product is correct and defect-free. Installation of the product will confirm full acceptance of the supplied product.

Moisture from rain, heavy washing or moisture in the adhesive during curing time can affect the moisture stability of the Terrazzo tiles due its porosity, material matrix and selected colour. Never leave tiles outdoor, exposed to sun heat or rain. Tiles must be stored in a dry covered location and kept in the original wrapped packing until ready for installation.

Make sure that the substrates is stable and mechanically strong, free from any contaminants such as loose parts, oil, grease or paint. Whether on screed or new concrete, the substrate must be fully cured and free from cracks with a residual humidity of < 2% or < 0.5% for anhydrite screeds. Residual humidity is the difference between the air humidity and that of the substrate cement.

If required, expansion joints should be allowed for every 16m² to 20m², taking into consideration any already existing control joints in the substrate. Allow a minimum of 10mm perimeter gap at walls.

We recommend using a modified concrete white or grey adhesive, for tiling installation please follow the tile adhesive manufacturer's instruction or refer to the '[Everstone Cement Terrazzo Tile Installation Specifications.pdf](#)'

During the curing period, installed tiles may present a darker tile centre with lighter edges. This is due to the natural evaporation of moisture absorbed by the tiles from the adhesive used. Grouting should be delayed to allow most of this moisture to disappear. Allow 4-5 days prior starting the grouting process.

We generally suggest to soak the tiles in clean water for a few seconds before laying, then let the excess water drip off. In this way the tile keeps a perfect balance in terms of humidity between surface and backing, this will also ensure a better grip between tile and base.



When installed at different times, installed tiles from the same production run may present some shade variance caused by the oxidation process of the concrete in the mixture during the setting period. This will stabilize in time, but to limit this, we advise to lay the total quantity of supplied material without long intermediate pauses.

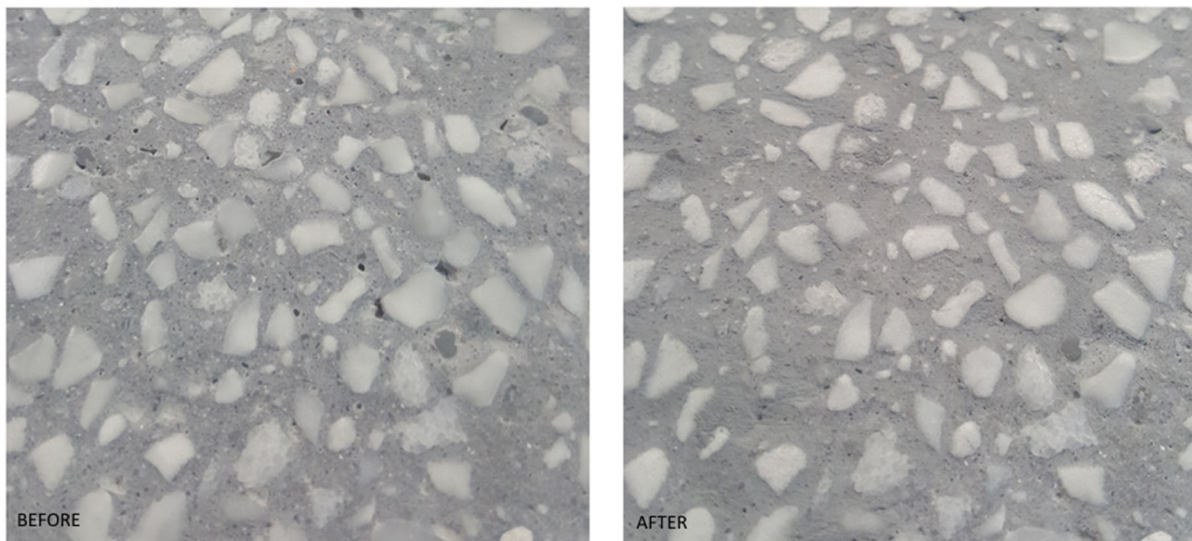
It is important to grout the whole tile surface to assist in concealing any presence of pinholes and to avoid possible 'picture-frame' stains caused by different absorption of the grout in the micro porosity of the tiles. Use colour matching grout only.

After laying, we suggest to always protect the floor with suitable canvas, avoid applying adhesive tape directly on the tiles or use coloured cardboard or magazine pages to avoid contaminating the tiles surface.

As all of above information represent generic indication, it is up to the tiling contractor to check in any specific case the suitability of the methodology adopted.

Presence of Pinholes

Pinholes are small air pockets that form during the mixing and forming of the terrazzo components. Pinholes will naturally begin to appear when the terrazzo surface is further processed to achieve a Brushed, Polished or Honed surface finish. These voids are hard to see from a distance, but their presence exists on any terrazzo surface, these being tiles or slabs. Over time, pinholes can accumulate dirt and grime and only solution is by filling the terrazzo surface during the initial installation grouting stage as advised above.



(Example of extended pin-holes surface being grout patched)

Initial Cleaning and Maintenance

Care must be taken in not staining the tiles during the installation and prior hand-over. Never use acid or alkaline detergents, the surface of the tiles could be affected. Always use dedicated neutral detergents available in the market. Protect the tiles for possible paint spills, do not use paint stripper. Remove any dirt using a cloth, wash with a neutral detergent and rinse with plenty clean water. The initial wash is made using a neutral detergent diluted in 1:10 water (for dirtier surfaces the ratio should be increased) then rinse with a generous amount of water and let it dry. The operation can be made easier by using a brushing machine with soft brush and a wet and dry vacuum cleaner. For stronger cleaning treatment (in potentially high-staining environments) wash with degreasing agent diluted 1:10 with water.

Once floor fully dried, we recommend to seal the tiles surface with a dedicated oil- repellent or water-repellent stain-resistant sealer. Terrazzo floors, similarly to any marble or granite floors, lend themselves to



be re-polished or brushed at discretion over time. As an alternative, it is possible to apply a finishing layer of wax with a brush, rag or proper applicator.

As always, follow the used product manufacturer recommendations and if in doubt, test the products in an inconspicuous area first.

Routine Cleaning

Daily cleaning assist in maintaining an easy to clean floor, spills and stains should be cleaned immediately to avoid damaging marks. Regular sweeping or vacuuming and further mopping the floor using a neutral pH stone & tile cleaner solution followed by rinsing with clean water is preferred method. Always test cleaners in an inconspicuous area to determine suitability.

A periodic 'deep' or 'heavy duty' cleaning is needed to maintain the Terrazzo surfaces in its pristine conditions. Resealing is always recommended after heavy-duty cleaning.

Technical Characteristics and Specification

Any uneven shades of the product are typical of the Terrazzo natural components. Since Terrazzo is made from natural components, the physical and chemical characteristics may vary depending on the colour choice and its stone components.

- Colour resistant
- Rectified tiles
- Can be reworked once installed
- Resistance to fire Class 0
- High resistance to wear, compression and atmospheric agents
- Homogeneous and compact structure
- Options for different surface finishes

RESULTS IN COMPLIANCE WITH EUROPEAN STANDARDS	
	Required Values
Thickness Tolerance	Calibrated Tiles +/-1.0mm
Breaking Strength	No Stress Failure Less Than 4.0MPa
Water Absorption	Not Greater Than 8%
Dimensional Deviation	+/-0.3%
Breaking Load	Not Less Than 2.5KN for tile area $\leq 1100\text{cm}^3$
Resistance to Deep Abrasion	Not to Exceed 25mm
Resistance to Fire	Class 0
Resistance to Freeze	Resisting