

Flawless Grouting Instructions for Brick Veneer

Ignore most grouting instructions, and follow these simple guidelines to maintain the character of your antique brick.

On wood floors, first install 1/4" backer board. Follow directions for that (cut it and screw it to the floor). If your floors are cement, install the brick directly on the floor. Apply tile adhesive with a tiling trowel and set brick pavers.

1. CHOOSING A GROUT COLOR:

We use Laticrete Tri-Poly fortified sanded grout, color 1539 mushroom - from Lowe's - it matches the old grout really well.

2. MIXING THE GROUT

Mix your grout slightly thinner than normal and pour it in a GROUT BAG (it has to be thinner to squeeze out of the bag). If it won't squeeze fairly easily, thin it a little more.

3. START SMALL

Work small areas at a time (2'x2'). Fill the grout spaces full and **as soon as you finish your area have a bucket of water and a grout sponge ready.**

4. PACKING THE GROUT

Squeeze out your sponge - not too dry - and pack the grout into the spaces **WITH** the wet sponge. The brick have old uneven edges so just fill the edges and if some gets on the brick that is fine.

5. CLEAN AS YOU GO

Rinse your sponge and keep packing the grout into the spaces tightly and washing off the surface of the brick at the same time. **Change your water often.**

6. DON'T WORRY ABOUT A SLIGHT HAZE

If you leave some of the haze from the grout on the brick and some of the grout in the holes or cracks on the brick, that is okay...after all, the look you are going for is a very old brick floor.

7. FINISHING UP!

No need to go back and wash down the brick a thousand times to remove the grout as in most tiling applications. Just keep working small areas like this until your floor is complete and you're done!

NOTE: If the brick look too light when dry, you can take a very stiff brush and water and scrub the brick to remove some more of the grout haze which will darken them.

Apply a sealer after 48 hours or when grout is completely dry.