

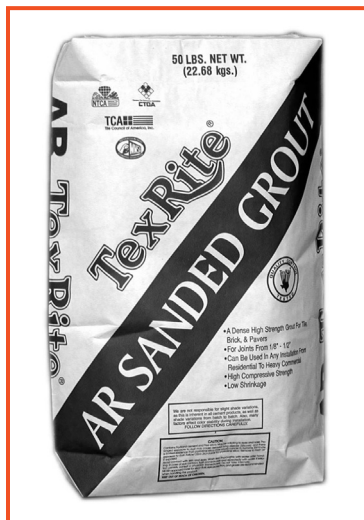


# AR GROUT

For joint widths from 1/8" - 1/2"  
A dense high strength grout

## Product Information

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**AR Grout** is a blend of Portland cement and specially graded silica sand to form a dense matrix free of any voids. In addition, special chemicals have been added to provide for rapid cure, high compressive strength and low shrinkage. **AR Grout** should not be considered as a completely acid resistant grout since Portland cement is not resistant to constant acid attack. AR Grouts are compounded with colorfast pigments and special dispersants to

offer an attractive grout that will enhance the beauty of any tile installation.

### AREA OF USE

AR Grout is used where joint widths will be 1/8"-1/2". It is a specially designed, high performance colored grout to be used with quarry, slate, pavers, brick, and cement tiles for both interior and exterior use. Only the addition of water is required to produce a dense smooth grout. As an alternative to water, Tex-Rite A-Crylic Grout Admix can be used to intensify its bond and flexural strengths for installations subjected to thermal shock. Efflorescence is inherent in all cement-based products and is not considered a manufacturing defect. Grout 1 sq. ft. of tile in an inconspicuous area for color approval before starting job.

### LIMITATIONS

Because of its Portland cement base, **AR Grout** should not be used in areas where high acid resistance is required. In areas of intermittent mild acid exposure, it out-performs conventional sand/cement grout. **AR Grout** is not effected by prolonged water contact but it does not form a waterproof barrier.

### APPLICABLE STANDARDS

AR Grout may be used in installations that must conform to ANSI A108.1, A108.4, A108.5, A108.10. AR Grout conforms to ANSI A118.6-H2.

- **Color**- 17 Standard colors, Special colors upon request (minimum quantities batch lots).
- **Texture**- Powder, consisting of Portland cement, graded silica sand, organic and inorganic chemicals.
- **Packaging**- 50 lbs. Multi-wall bags and 10 lbs. boxes.

### EVALUATE THE INSTALLATION

If proper precautions are taken before a job is started, many problems may be prevented which will assure a satisfactory job. On Portland cement/sand setting beds (mud) a curing period of 72 hours is required to help reduce the problem of efflorescence due to

free calcium. With thin-bed mortar, a period of 48 hours is sufficient. Adhesives cure by evaporation of solvents or excess moisture which will destroy cement mortar or effect grout color; thus, a minimum of 48 hours should be allowed before grouting.

### Sealing of the tile or stone prior to grouting

Some tiles, due to rough surface texture or high porosity require sealing prior to grouting. Consult the tile manufacturer's literature and packing carton for advice regarding suitability for use with sand-cement colored grouts. If in doubt, make a test sample using the tile and grout in question. Care should be exercised when applying a sealer so that the surface and not the tile edges are covered.

### Mixing

Blend with clean water, A-Crylic Grout Admix or ColorCure Admix to desired paste consistency. A-Crylic Grout Admix should always be used on exterior installations. If possible, use the same person to mix the grout the same way each time. The following is a mixing procedure for a 50-lb. bag of AR Grout:

1. To a clean 5-gallon pail, add 1 gallon and 1 pint of clean water (60°-75°F). For significant improvement in color control, resistance to thermal shock, and flexibility, use A-Crylic Grout Admixture in place of water.
2. Add the AR Grout (60°-75°F) slowly to the water or A-Crylic while mixing at a low RPM power mixer (300 RPM). Use a mixing paddle that does not entrap air.
3. Allow grout to slake for 5-10 minutes then remix. You may retemper with water or A-Crylic at this time to adjust mixture to a lump-free, non-flowable, paste, consistency. Do not retemper after this point. If mortar becomes too thick, discard and mix a new batch.

### Application

Open grout joints should be clean and free of all construction debris. Remove any thin-set in excess of 1/3 of the tile thickness. On exterior work and sometimes on interior work it may be necessary to use shades or screens to prevent rapid water evaporation due to sun or wind. Grouting should be done in the coolest part of the day during summer months. During winter months, care should be taken that both grout and mixing liquid are at least 60°F before combining. The tile and substrate shall also be maintained at a minimum 60°F for a minimum of 24 hours.

*Care should be taken to prevent grout from being placed in expansion joints.*

*Grout all areas of the installation with the same procedure.*

1. Dampen the surface of the tile with a wet terry cloth towel. Do not leave standing water in grout joints or on surface of tile.
2. Apply grout with a stiff rubber float. Use force to achieve a full compacted joint by working diagonally across the joints.
3. After filling joints, remove as much excess grout as possible from surface of the tile by holding the float at a 90° angle going diagonally across the face of the tile.
4. Most importantly, allow the grout to firm in the joint before any further cleaning is done. The grout is firm when it can only slightly be indented when pressed hard with your finger.
5. Using a terry cloth towel or sponge placed in clean water and then wrung out removing all excess water, clean the remaining grout from the surface by pulling the flat dampened towel

AR GROUT



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or sponge across the tile. Rinse towel or sponge repeatedly. Change wash water in bucket often. DO NOT LEAVE ANY CLEANING RESIDUE ON SURFACE OF GROUT JOINT. Use the driest possible technique for clean-up. Excess water will weaken the joint, cause variation in the color and may cause shrinkage cracks and pinholes. Clean off the grout with cheesecloth and polish the installation dry. Acid wash is not recommended for clean up. (This includes vinegar).

6. Cleaning is complete when only a light haze remains and the joint surface is smooth and even.
7. The following day, clean off the haze and any excess grout by using a dampened Scotch Brite® pad with clean water and scour the surface of the tile. Final cleaning can be done using a damp towel or cheesecloth.

### Working Time

Approximately 1 hour depending on ambient temperature. Less working time when used with A-Crylic Grout Admixture or ColorCure Admixture.

### Temperature Range for Installation

Do not grout below 60°F or above 90°F ambient temperature. Do not allow mortar to freeze for the first 72 hours.

### Curing

Damp curing is required when mixing with water. Damp curing is not necessary when mixed with A-Crylic Grout Admixture. Uneven curing of sand-cement grouts caused by air conditioning, unit heaters, open windows, etc. can cause color variation or shading. To promote uniform curing and color, always damp cure by covering the tile and grout with a single layer of 40 lb. natural kraft paper. Do not use newspaper or polyethylene film for curing. Control temperature when possible; minimize temperature variation (within 10 degrees) to avoid shading.

### Final Cleaning

After 10 days, the floors may be re-cleaned by scrubbing with a Scotch Brite® pad and a solution of T.S.P. in water (1 cup/5 gallon water). If residual grout is trapped on the surface of the tile, a solution of C-Clean may be used (2 lbs./5 gallons of water). It is important that before the C-Clean solution is placed on the tile that the grout be thoroughly saturated with water first. Acid cleaning can cause discoloration of the grout joint and may effect the glaze on the tile, the degree of which can be determined by doing a small test patch in an inconspicuous area. Note: C-Clean is an acid product.

### Maintenance Cleaning

It is important that all future maintenance programs do not contain any acids in the cleaning chemicals. Cleaning periodically with a solution of TSP or a cleaner specific to these conditions will provide sufficient removal of surface contaminants.

Special Notice: DO NOT ACID CLEAN the following Grout colors; #35 Catalina Jade, #37 Morning Mist, #41 Sea Foam, #86 Ocean Blue, #104 Jasper, #108 Opal, #109 Emerald. For specific cleaning procedures on these colors contact the manufacturer.

### Sealing and Staining

Sealers are used to help prevent staining of grout joints. Consult with the sealer manufacturers for detailed information. A period of at least 14 days and complete satisfaction of grout conditions should be allowed before the grout is sealed.

### MANY VARIABLES AFFECT SHADE OF GROUT

To achieve an approximately uniform finished shade of colored grout, it is necessary to treat all of the grout the same way over the entire installation. This means adhering to the following steps:

- (a) Do not grout the same day the tile is installed. Wait 48 hours.
- (b) Keep the width and depth of all the joints the same prior to grouting.
- (c) Mix all of the grout with the same minimum amount of water and mix it all the same way.
- (d) Plan your day's work so the next day's grouting does not join in the center of conspicuous areas. Different temperatures from one day to the next and differences in humidity from day to day can change the shade of the grout.
- (e) All areas of the installation should be grouted with the exact same procedure. The most consistent color can be obtained by using cheese cloth (or sponge containing a minimum amount of water) to clean off the grout and by polishing the installation dry.
- (f) Damp curing AR Grout by covering the grout for a three day period is recommended.

*Efflorescence is inherent in all cement based products and is not considered a manufacturing defect.*

### Technical Data: AR Grout

Bucket Life (Hours)	2
Initial Set (Hours) ASTM C-266	2
Final Set (Hours) ASTM C-266	4
Compressive Strength (psi) 7 day	>2600
28 day	>3500
Water Absorption (%)	<7
Hardness (Shore D)	>65

**Safety - CAUTION:** May cause eye, skin or lung injury. Contains free silica. Prolonged exposure to dust may cause delayed lung disease (silicosis). Eliminate exposure to dust. Recommend use of a NIOSH approved mask for Silica dust. Contains Portland cement. If any cement or cement mixtures get into eye, flush immediately and repeatedly with water, and consult a physician promptly. Freshly mixed cement, mortar, concrete, or grout may cause skin injury. Avoid contact with skin where possible and wash exposed skin areas promptly with water.

**KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN.**

**Storage Life** - One year if kept in dry sealed bag.

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