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PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR GROUTING IN FLOOR TILES:
KHOLAO® JOINT – Detailed Application Guide

KHOLAO® JOINT is a high-performance joint mortar designed for filling and finishing joints between ceramic, terracotta, clay, or similar masonry units. It provides excellent adhesion, durability, and crack resistance, while allowing slight movement of the units to accommodate thermal and mechanical stresses.

Preparation of Joints

- Ensure all joints are clean, free from dust, grease, or loose particles.
- Remove any old mortar or debris from previous joints.
- For deep joints (>10 mm), remove debris to ensure full adhesion.
- Before application joints should be pre-wet

Mixing the Mortar

- Mix KHOLAO® JOINT with clean water according to manufacturer instructions.
- Mix 6 to 7 litres of water per each 25 kg of KHOLAO® JOINT
- The mortar should have a smooth, workable consistency, not too dry or too fluid.
- Allow the mortar to rest 5 minutes after mixing, then remix lightly before application.

⚠ Respect the resting time recommended by Saint-Astier for KHOLAO® JOINT to allow a uniform distribution of the additives. A final agitation after this resting period will make the material ready for application.

Application Procedure

Using a hard rubber float with a sharp edge, the material should always be applied diagonally to the joint grid. This ensures uniform compaction along the full width and length of the installation joint, while preventing the float's edge from cutting into the joint. Applying the material diagonally also allows for efficient removal of excess material. A final pass over the joint surface with a grout trowel or equivalent tool will give the joint its definitive texture and curvature. This curvature is especially important in hydrothermal or industrial flooring installations, as it facilitates water drainage through the joints during cleaning operations.

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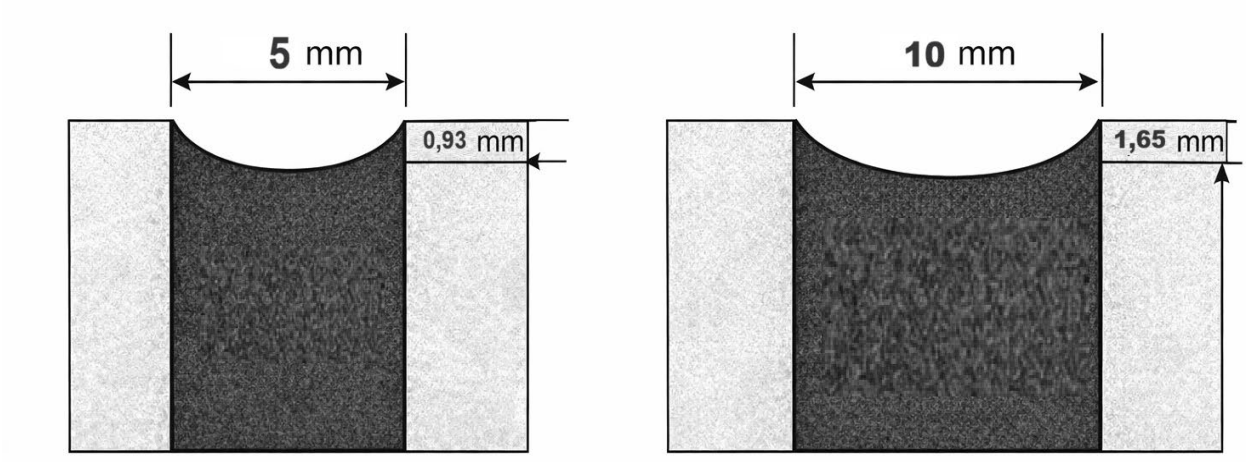
For KHOLAO® JOINT color uniformity after hardening depends on the consistency of the applied mixture, as well as the regularity of moisture and water absorption of the tile edges and joint base. Temperature changes and direct sunlight can also cause slight color variations. Achieving consistent tone requires that the material cures or matures under uniform drying conditions, avoiding differences in moisture across different areas of the surface.

Protection and Curing

- Protect the joints from direct sunlight, rain, frost, and wind during the first 24–48 hours.
- Keep the surface slightly damp for better curing if in hot or dry conditions.
- Avoid mechanical stress (foot traffic, impact) until fully cured.

Finishing Tips

- Wait until the grout has set sufficiently before starting to clean it with a wet sponge.
- Use a light-colored tape along the edges for clean lines if needed.
- Match the color of KHOLAO® JOINT to the masonry or use a contrasting tone for decorative effect.
- Inspect for gaps or cracks after curing and refill if necessary.



Recommendations on Joint Surface maximum curvature for KHOLAO® JOINT

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