

# DYNAMIC COEFFICIENT OF FRICTION (DCOF) STATEMENT



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Dynamic Coefficient of Friction (DCOF) is a measure that can help determine if a tile is suitable for flooring, however it should not be the only consideration.

Below is some information to consider during the specification process:

- Tiles for level interior spaces expected to be walked upon when wet should have a DCOF score of .42 or greater as per ANSI standards
- Wet DCOF values are not provided for exterior applications, interior ramps/inclines or flooring that is contaminated with material other than water. For exterior applications, the suitability of the installed tile depends significantly on drainage of the assembly, physical structure of the tile, expected footwear, intended use, and the variety of contaminants present.
- It's important to consider type of use, traffic expectations, slopes/ramps, expected wear, maintenance, routine cleaning and manufacturers' guidelines prior to making a decision on what is appropriate for a wet floor. Floor mats should be used near entry ways during inclement weather or in areas outside a shower or pool.
- A tile's slip resistance can change over time, this is especially true as floors become dusty or dirty. It is important to maintain a regular cleaning schedule to avoid floors becoming slippery due to contaminants.
- Regular testing is recommended to ensure the DCOF value is still in acceptable limits for the type of environment the tile is installed.
- Textured surfaces tend to be more slip inhibiting than slick or highly polished material.
- Smaller scale or mosaic tiles are better suited to wet flooring applications due to the added friction the grout lines provide
- Depending on how/where a tile is to be used a higher or lower DCOF value may be desired. A design professional should determine a tile's suitability for any given environment.

Per the [TCNA technical bulletin on slip resistance](#), in addition to choosing surfaces providing sufficient traction, providing adequate lighting and designing spaces to allow for suitable drainage will reduce slip/fall accidents. Proper footwear and shoe materials can also greatly improve traction and should be considered in any campaign to reduce slips and falls. For more information check the American National Standard Test Method for Measuring Dynamic Coefficient of Friction of Hard Surface Flooring Materials (ANSI A326.3)