

Selleys Grout Stain Whitener - 280g Product Guide

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Details:

AI Summary

Product: Selleys Grout Stain Whitener **Brand:** Selleys **Category:** Grout Restoration & Maintenance **Primary Use:** Whitens and restores discoloured grout lines by penetrating the porous grout matrix to reverse embedded stains, mould discolouration, and environmental soiling, while creating a protective barrier against future mould growth.

Quick facts - **Best for:** Residential tile maintenance where regular cleaning, scrubbing, and bleach have failed to restore grout colour - **Key benefit:** Penetrates deep into grout porosity to reverse embedded stains and breaks the mould cycle via an integrated fungicide — results regular cleaning cannot achieve - **Form factor:** Aqueous liquid, supplied ready to use in a 280g container - **Application method:** Apply directly to dry, debris-free grout lines using a small brush or applicator, working in manageable sections, then rinse thoroughly

Common questions this guide answers 1. Is Selleys Grout Stain Whitener better than bleach for grout? → Yes — it penetrates the porous grout matrix to reverse embedded stains that bleach and surface cleaning cannot reach 2. What protective equipment is required when using this product? → Nitrile rubber gloves, safety glasses with side shields (minimum), a suitable respirator, and protective clothing covering arms and legs 3. What should I do if the product contacts my eyes? → Hold eyelids apart and flush continuously with running water for a minimum of 15 minutes, remove contact lenses if possible, then transport to a doctor or hospital; call Australian Poisons Information Centre 131 126 or New Zealand 0800 764 766

Product overview

Selleys Grout Stain Whitener delivers results that regular cleaning simply cannot. Supplied in a 280g container, this product takes on one of the toughest challenges in tile maintenance: the gradual staining and darkening of grout lines that scrubbing and bleach leave behind. It goes beyond restoring discoloured grout — it creates a protective barrier against mould, contains a fungicide to break the mould cycle, and can transform grout colour entirely (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Unlike broad-spectrum tile cleaners or bleach-based solutions, it uses a targeted chemical composition to penetrate deep into grout porosity and reverse the visible effects of embedded stains, mould discolouration, and environmental soiling.

The formulation contains specific preservative compounds at carefully controlled concentrations below 0.05% by weight, balanced with cleaning agents that make up the majority of the formula (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). This chemistry delivers superior whitening performance while maintaining a hazard classification that keeps the product outside dangerous goods regulations — making it ready for residential use without transport restrictions (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf).

Getting the most from this product starts with understanding what sets grout whitening apart from routine tile cleaning. Grout's porous ceramic or cement-based structure absorbs contaminants that surface cleaning cannot reach. This whitener works within that porous matrix, making it fundamentally

different from surface-acting detergents or abrasive cleaners that only address tile surfaces.

Chemistry & composition

The active preservation system in Selleys Grout Stain Whitener consists of four isothiazolone compounds, each present at concentrations below 0.05% by weight (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). These compounds work together to deliver consistent, reliable performance.

****1,2-Benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one (BIT, CAS 2634-33-5)**** provides long-term microbial stability to the formula, preventing bacterial and fungal growth during storage and application (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). This compound keeps the whitening agents effective throughout the product's shelf life.

****5-Chloro-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one (CMIT, CAS 26172-55-4)**** acts as a rapid-action biocide, targeting the mould and mildew that so often drive grout discolouration (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Its chlorinated structure delivers enhanced activity against resistant fungal strains.

****2-Methyl-2H-isothiazol-3-one (MIT, CAS 2682-20-4)**** works in synergy with CMIT to broaden the antimicrobial spectrum, ensuring comprehensive preservation performance (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf).

****2-Octyl-2H-isothiazol-3-one (OIT, CAS 26530-20-1)**** contributes hydrophobic preservation characteristics, protecting the formula from degradation in wet environments (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf).

The remaining balance of the formulation — exceeding 99.8% by weight — consists of ingredients determined to be non-hazardous or below reporting limits (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). While the manufacturer does not disclose these components in the safety documentation, their non-hazardous classification suggests they likely include water as a carrier solvent, surfactants to reduce surface tension for grout penetration, and the whitening agents that modify or remove the chromophoric compounds responsible for stain visibility.

Using minimal concentrations of multiple preservatives rather than higher levels of a single compound reflects modern formulation practice that balances performance with an optimised safety profile.

Hazard profile & safety classification

Selleys Grout Stain Whitener is classified as hazardous according to Safe Work Australia GHS 7 criteria, carrying a "Warning" signal word (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Two specific hazard categories apply, and every user needs to understand them before handling the product.

Eye irritation potential

The product is classified under Eye Damage/Irritation Category 2A, triggering hazard statement H319: "Causes serious eye irritation" (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Eye contact produces reversible but significant irritation that requires immediate action. Category 2A substances cause discomfort, pain, tearing, and temporary vision impairment — effects that resolve with proper treatment. The "serious" qualifier means symptoms are more intense and longer-lasting than mild irritants, which makes prevention non-negotiable during application.

Skin sensitization risk

The Sensitisation - Skin Category 1 classification carries hazard statement H317: "May cause an allergic skin reaction" (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Skin sensitization differs from irritation — it is an immunological response where initial exposure may produce no visible

effect, but subsequent contact triggers allergic dermatitis in sensitized individuals. The isothiazolone preservatives in the formula are recognised sensitizers, and even the low concentrations present can trigger reactions in susceptible individuals.

Once sensitization develops, it typically persists indefinitely. A person sensitized to this product may react to trace amounts in future encounters — not only with this whitener, but with other products containing the same preservative compounds. The Category 1 designation signals a substantial probability of sensitization across the general population, not just in uniquely susceptible individuals. This makes proper protective equipment essential every time.

Regulatory standing

Despite these hazard classifications, the product does not meet the threshold for inclusion in the Australian Poisons Standard, carrying a "Not Applicable" poison schedule designation (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). It is also not classified as Dangerous Goods under the Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road & Rail or New Zealand NZS5433 (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). This places it in an intermediate category — requiring hazard communication and protective measures, but fully accessible for consumer purchase and use without specialised transport or storage licensing.

Personal protective equipment requirements

The safety data sheet mandates specific protective equipment when handling Selleys Grout Stain Whitener. Precautionary statement P280 requires: "Wear protective gloves/protective clothing including eye/face protection and suitable respirator" (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). These requirements respond directly to the identified hazards and give users a clear, practical framework for safe use.

Hand protection

Protective gloves are mandatory during application (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). The safety documentation specifies that nitrile rubber gloves are suitable for intermittent contact, though users must make final assessments based on glove construction and local conditions (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Glove thickness, manufacturing quality, and application method all influence protection effectiveness. For grout whitening work involving prolonged contact or repeated applications, thicker nitrile gloves — 6 to 8 mil — deliver more reliable protection than thin disposable types. The nitrile recommendation specifically addresses resistance to the aqueous formulation and its chemical constituents.

Eye and face protection

Eye protection is non-negotiable given the Category 2A eye irritation classification. Safety glasses with side shields provide minimum acceptable protection for controlled application (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). When working overhead — common when addressing wall grout — or in confined spaces where splatter risk increases, full-coverage safety goggles or a face shield deliver superior protection. The "eye/face protection" specification in P280 gives users the discretion to match protection level to application risk (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf).

Respiratory protection

The requirement for a "suitable respirator" (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf) responds to precautionary statement P261: "Avoid breathing dust, fume, gas, mist, vapours or spray" (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). The product is an aqueous liquid that does not generate dust or fumes under normal conditions, but application can produce mist or aerosol — particularly if agitated during use or applied with spray equipment. In well-ventilated spaces with careful

manual application, respiratory protection needs are minimal. Confined bathrooms or poorly ventilated areas warrant at minimum a particulate/mist respirator. The "suitable" qualifier requires users to assess their specific application environment and method.

Body protection

The general requirement for "protective clothing" (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf) reflects the reality of grout whitening work — kneeling, reaching, and working in positions where contact with treated surfaces is likely. At minimum, wear long sleeves and long pants to minimise skin exposure. Precautionary statement P272 adds: "Contaminated work clothing should not be allowed out of the workplace" (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). For residential users, this means changing clothes after application and washing contaminated garments separately before reuse.

Safety shoes and overalls are specified for first aid responders (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf), indicating the appropriate level of protection for managing larger exposures or spills.

Hygiene practices

Precautionary statement P264 requires: "Wash hands, face and all exposed skin thoroughly after handling" (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). The safety data sheet reinforces this with specific instructions to wash hands before smoking, eating, drinking, or using the toilet, and to wash contaminated clothing and protective equipment before storage or reuse (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). These hygiene steps carry particular weight given the skin sensitization hazard — minimising skin contact duration and thoroughly removing residues reduces sensitization risk.

Application guidelines

The safety data sheet provides the hazard information and physical characteristics that inform proper use methodology. The product is supplied ready to use, with its recommended application being "Whitener for grout stains" (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf).

Surface preparation

Before application, grout lines need to be free of loose debris, dust, and surface contaminants. The product's aqueous formulation requires a clean substrate to achieve maximum grout penetration. Damp grout dilutes the whitener and reduces effectiveness — surfaces need to be dry before treatment.

Application environment

Precautionary statement P261 to avoid breathing mist, vapours, or spray (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf) means application works best in well-ventilated spaces. Open windows, run exhaust fans, or work in areas with natural cross-ventilation. The eye irritation hazard similarly points toward avoiding application methods that increase airborne exposure.

During application

Apply the whitener directly to grout lines using a small brush, applicator, or as recommended on product packaging. The 280g container size is designed for controlled, targeted application rather than broad-area coverage. Work in manageable sections to maintain control and minimise contact time. Keep protective equipment in place (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf) throughout the entire application — not just at initial contact.

Post-application

After the product has acted on the grout — duration is typically specified on product labelling — surfaces require thorough rinsing. The presence of isothiazolone preservatives means residues should not remain on surfaces where skin contact is likely. Multiple rinse cycles with clean water ensure complete removal and a professional finish.

First aid measures

The safety data sheet provides detailed first aid protocols for each exposure route. The general instruction: if poisoning occurs, contact a doctor or Poisons Information Centre — Australia 131 126, New Zealand 0800 764 766 (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf).

Inhalation exposure

For inhalation incidents, remove the person from exposure while avoiding becoming a casualty yourself (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Remove contaminated clothing and loosen remaining clothing (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Allow the patient to assume the most comfortable position, keep them warm and at rest until fully recovered (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Seek medical advice if effects persist (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). While the product is an aqueous liquid not expected to generate significant vapour under normal use, mist inhalation during application can irritate respiratory passages.

Skin contact

Skin contact requires immediate attention, with a note that effects may be delayed (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). If skin or hair contact occurs, remove contaminated clothing and flush skin and hair with running water (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). The delayed effects warning carries real significance given the skin sensitization hazard — initial contact may produce no immediate sensation, but an allergic response can develop hours later. If swelling, redness, blistering, or irritation occurs, seek medical assistance (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf).

The response protocol for skin irritation or rash (P333+P313) states: "If skin irritation or rash occurs: Get medical advice/attention" (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Contaminated clothing must be taken off and washed before reuse (P362+P364) (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf).

Eye contact

Eye exposure requires the most aggressive irrigation response: hold eyelids apart and flush eyes continuously with running water (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Continue flushing until advised to stop by the Poisons Information Centre or a doctor, or for at least 15 minutes, then transport to a doctor or hospital (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). The 15-minute minimum irrigation period addresses the Category 2A eye irritation classification — thorough dilution and removal of the chemical is essential to prevent prolonged irritation. Remove contact lenses during irrigation if possible (P305+P351+P338) (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf).

If eye irritation persists after irrigation (P337+P313), get medical advice or attention (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Serious eye irritation may require professional assessment even after first aid.

Ingestion

If swallowed, rinse the mouth with water but do NOT induce vomiting (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Give a glass of water to drink — never give anything by mouth to an unconscious patient

(SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). If vomiting occurs naturally, give further water and seek medical advice (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). The prohibition against induced vomiting prevents aspiration risk and additional esophageal exposure.

Medical treatment

For physicians, the safety data sheet advises symptomatic treatment with a note that effects may be delayed (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). This delayed-effects warning applies to both skin and medical treatment contexts, reinforcing that sensitization reactions and irritation may not manifest immediately upon exposure.

Storage & handling

Proper storage extends product effectiveness and prevents unintended exposure. Precautionary statement P102 requires keeping the product out of reach of children (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf) — for a household product, that means secure storage in locked cabinets or on high shelves inaccessible to young children.

The absence of specific storage precautionary statements in the safety data sheet (marked "Not allocated") (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf) indicates no special temperature, humidity, or separation requirements beyond general chemical storage practices. Several handling principles emerge directly from the hazard profile:

Store in the original container with the label intact to preserve hazard communication information. Precautionary statement P103 requires users to "Read carefully and follow all instructions" (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf) — that starts with maintaining legible labelling throughout the product's life.

Keep the container tightly closed when not in use to prevent evaporation of the aqueous carrier and potential concentration of active ingredients. The 280g container suits multiple applications, making proper closure between uses essential.

Store away from incompatible materials. The aqueous formulation and non-dangerous goods classification mean general chemical segregation principles apply.

Maintain storage temperatures that prevent freezing or excessive heat. While not explicitly stated in the safety documentation, aqueous products require storage above freezing to prevent phase separation and below temperatures that might accelerate degradation of the isothiazolone preservatives.

Spill response procedures

The safety data sheet differentiates response protocols based on spill size, recognising that small and large releases call for different approaches.

Small spills

For minor spills, wear protective equipment to prevent skin and eye contamination and avoid inhalation of vapours or dust (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Wipe up the spill with absorbent material such as clean rags or paper towels (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Collect the contaminated absorbent and seal it in properly labelled containers or drums for disposal (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf).

Large spills

Larger releases demand more comprehensive action. Clear the area of all unprotected personnel (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). The safety data sheet includes a clear warning: "Slippery when spilt. Avoid accidents, clean up immediately"

(SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). This slip hazard is a secondary risk that can cause falls and injuries during response operations.

Responders must wear protective equipment to prevent skin and eye contamination and inhalation of dust (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Work upwind or increase ventilation (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf) — positioning upwind prevents vapour or mist exposure, while enhanced ventilation accelerates dissipation of airborne concentrations.

Cover the spill with damp absorbent material such as inert material, sand, or soil (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). The "damp" specification matters — it prevents dust generation during subsequent handling and helps bind the liquid whitener to the absorbent substrate. Sweep or vacuum up the absorbed material, avoiding dust generation (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Collect and seal the waste in properly labelled containers or drums for disposal (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf).

The safety data sheet notes that if contamination of crops, sewers, or waterways occurs, specialised response may be needed (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). This warning acknowledges that environmental release of the isothiazolone biocides can impact aquatic organisms or agricultural systems.

Disposal

Precautionary statement P501 requires disposal of contents and container in accordance with local, regional, national, and international regulations (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). For household users, this means disposing of small quantities through household hazardous waste collection programs rather than pouring down drains or discarding with general waste. The biocidal preservatives in the formula warrant proper disposal to protect the environment.

Fire response considerations

Selleys Grout Stain Whitener is classified as non-combustible material (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf), and carries no Hazchem Code (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf), consistent with its non-dangerous goods status.

If the material becomes involved in a fire, suitable extinguishing media include water fog (or fine water spray if fog is unavailable), alcohol-resistant foam, standard foam, and dry agent such as carbon dioxide or dry chemical powder (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Alcohol-resistant foam is commonly listed as suitable for aqueous formulations and does not specifically indicate the presence of alcohol or polar solvents in this product.

While the product itself is not combustible, following evaporation of the aqueous component, residual material can burn if ignited (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Dried residue on surfaces or in containers can support combustion even though the liquid product does not — a behaviour pattern common in water-based formulations where organic compounds remain after moisture evaporation.

No specific fire-fighting hazards are identified beyond this evaporation-combustion relationship. Standard structural firefighting protective equipment is adequate for fires involving this product.

Expert tips & best practices

Experience with professional-grade products reveals several insights that help users get the best results from Selleys Grout Stain Whitener.

****Test before full application.**** Apply the product to a small grout section first. This lets you assess technique and results before committing to large areas. Always wear gloves during testing — the goal

is to evaluate product performance, not personal sensitivity.

****Maximise ventilation.**** Even with respiratory protection listed as required PPE (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf), optimising natural ventilation reduces airborne exposure and makes work more comfortable. Open windows on opposite sides of the room to create cross-ventilation before beginning application.

****Protect adjacent surfaces.**** The whitener's active chemical agents can affect tile glazing, finished surfaces, or metal fixtures. Use masking tape or careful application technique to keep the product confined to grout lines. Unintended contact with non-grout surfaces warrants immediate wiping and rinsing.

****Manage contact time.**** Avoid leaving the product on grout longer than necessary to achieve whitening. Extended contact increases the probability of residue buildup and makes thorough rinsing harder to achieve.

****Prevent cross-contamination.**** The precautionary statement prohibiting contaminated work clothing from leaving the workplace (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf) applies equally to residential users. Change clothes after application and wash them separately — this prevents transferring isothiazolone residues to furniture, car upholstery, or other fabrics where sensitized individuals might encounter them.

****Document sensitization reactions.**** If skin rash, redness, or irritation develops after use, seek medical evaluation and document the reaction. Confirmed sensitization to isothiazolone preservatives means avoiding not just this product but the many other formulations — shampoos, paints, adhesives — that use the same preservative system. Medical documentation enables informed product selection going forward.

****Container management.**** The 280g size provides multiple applications for typical residential grout areas. After each use, wipe the container rim clean before closing to prevent dried product from compromising the seal. Check seal integrity before storage — a compromised closure allows water evaporation, which can concentrate active ingredients and alter product performance.

****Work section by section.**** The slip hazard warning when spilled (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf) is a good reason to limit application to manageable sections. Complete application and rinsing in one area before moving to the next, rather than applying across multiple locations and returning to rinse. This reduces tracking risk and ensures thorough residue removal.

****Emergency preparation.**** Before starting work, confirm access to continuous running water for the 15-minute eye irrigation requirement (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). Bathroom applications typically provide this, but kitchen applications or remote areas may need planning. Keep the Poisons Information Centre number — Australia 131 126, New Zealand 0800 764 766 — accessible before you begin (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf).

****Understand what this product delivers.**** This whitener targets grout stains with precision (SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf). It also addresses mould as a primary function — the fungicide it contains breaks the mould cycle and prevents regrowth, making antifungal activity a core performance outcome rather than an incidental benefit. Knowing what the product is designed to do helps you apply it correctly and get the results you're after.

References

- Source PDF: SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf (canonical)

Frequently asked questions

What is Selleys Grout Stain Whitener: A grout whitening and stain removal product

What size does it come in: 280g container

What is the primary use of this product: Whitening and restoring discoloured grout lines

Does it only clean grout or can it change colour: It can transform grout colour entirely

Does it protect against future mould: Yes, it creates a protective barrier against mould

Does it contain a fungicide: Yes

What does the fungicide do: It breaks the mould cycle to prevent regrowth

Is it better than regular bleach for grout: Yes, it penetrates deeper than bleach

Why can't regular cleaning achieve the same results: Grout is porous and absorbs stains bleach cannot reach

How does it work on grout: It penetrates the porous grout matrix to reverse embedded stains

Is it ready to use: Yes, supplied ready to use

What preservative system does it use: Four isothiazolone compounds

What is the first isothiazolone compound: 1,2-Benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one (BIT, CAS 2634-33-5)

What does BIT do in the formula: Provides long-term microbial stability during storage and application

What is the second isothiazolone compound: 5-Chloro-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one (CMIT, CAS 26172-55-4)

What does CMIT do: Acts as a rapid-action biocide targeting mould and mildew

What is the third isothiazolone compound: 2-Methyl-2H-isothiazol-3-one (MIT, CAS 2682-20-4)

What does MIT do: Works with CMIT to broaden the antimicrobial spectrum

What is the fourth isothiazolone compound: 2-Octyl-2H-isothiazol-3-one (OIT, CAS 26530-20-1)

What does OIT do: Provides hydrophobic preservation in wet environments

What concentration are the preservatives present at: Below 0.05% by weight each

What percentage of the formula is non-hazardous: Over 99.8% by weight

Is the product classified as hazardous: Yes, under Safe Work Australia GHS 7 criteria

What is the signal word on the label: Warning

What eye hazard classification does it carry: Eye Damage/Irritation Category 2A

What does Category 2A eye irritation mean: Causes serious but reversible eye irritation

What is the eye hazard statement: H319 — Causes serious eye irritation

What skin hazard classification does it carry: Sensitisation — Skin Category 1

What does Skin Category 1 sensitisation mean: Substantial probability of allergic skin reaction

What is the skin hazard statement: H317 — May cause an allergic skin reaction

Is skin sensitisation the same as skin irritation: No, sensitisation is an immunological allergic response

Can sensitisation from this product be permanent: Yes, once sensitised it typically persists indefinitely

Can sensitisation affect exposure to other products: Yes, other isothiazolone-containing products may also trigger reactions

Is it listed on the Australian Poisons Standard: No, it is not applicable

Is it classified as Dangerous Goods for transport: No

Is it subject to transport restrictions: No

Can it be purchased without special licensing: Yes

Are gloves required during use: Yes, mandatory

What type of gloves are recommended: Nitrile rubber gloves

What thickness of nitrile gloves is recommended for prolonged use: 6 to 8 mil thickness

Is eye protection required: Yes

What is the minimum acceptable eye protection: Safety glasses with side shields

When should full goggles or a face shield be used: When working overhead or in confined spaces

Is respiratory protection required: Yes, a suitable respirator

Why is respiratory protection required: Application can produce mist or aerosol

Is respiratory protection always needed in all environments: No, well-ventilated spaces with careful application reduce the need

Is protective clothing required: Yes

What clothing is recommended at minimum: Long sleeves and long pants

What should you do with contaminated work clothing: Wash it separately before reuse

Should contaminated clothing leave the work area: No

What hygiene step is required after handling: Wash hands, face, and all exposed skin thoroughly

Should surfaces be dry before applying the product: Yes

Should grout be free of debris before application: Yes

What application tool is recommended: A small brush or applicator

Should you apply to large areas all at once: No, work in manageable sections

What should you do after the product has acted on the grout: Rinse thoroughly with clean water

How many rinse cycles are recommended: Multiple rinse cycles with clean water

What is the first aid action for inhalation: Remove person from exposure immediately

What should you do with clothing after inhalation exposure: Remove contaminated clothing and loosen remaining clothing

What is the first aid action for skin contact: Flush skin and hair with running water

Can skin effects be delayed after contact: Yes, effects may be delayed

When should you seek medical help for skin contact: If swelling, redness, blistering, or irritation occurs

What is the first aid action for eye contact: Flush eyes continuously with running water

How long should eye flushing continue: At least 15 minutes

Should contact lenses be removed during eye flushing: Yes, if possible

What should you do if eye irritation persists after flushing: Seek medical advice or attention

What is the first aid action for ingestion: Rinse mouth with water

Should vomiting be induced if swallowed: No, never induce vomiting

What is the Australian Poisons Information Centre number: 131 126

What is the New Zealand Poisons Information Centre number: 0800 764 766

Is the product safe to store around children: No, keep out of reach of children

Are there special temperature storage requirements stated: Not specified by manufacturer

Should the container be kept tightly closed: Yes

Should the original label be kept intact: Yes

Is the product combustible as a liquid: No, it is non-combustible

Can dried residue of the product burn: Yes, dried residue can burn if ignited

What extinguishing media is suitable: Water fog, alcohol-resistant foam, dry chemical, or CO2

Does it have a Hazchem Code: No

What is the slip hazard warning for spills: Product is slippery when spilt — clean up immediately

What should you use to clean a small spill: Absorbent material such as clean rags or paper towels

What should you do with spill waste: Seal in properly labelled containers for disposal

What should you do for a large spill: Clear area of unprotected personnel first

Should you work upwind during a large spill response: Yes

What absorbent material is recommended for large spills: Damp inert material, sand, or soil

Why must absorbent material for large spills be damp: To prevent dust generation during handling

Can spills contaminate waterways: Yes, specialised response may be needed

How should the product be disposed of: Through household hazardous waste collection programs

Should it be poured down the drain: No

Should you test the product on a small area first: Yes, before full application

Should adjacent tile surfaces be protected during application: Yes

Can the product affect tile glazing or metal fixtures: Yes, unintended contact should be wiped and rinsed immediately

Should you document any allergic skin reactions: Yes, for informed future product selection

Label facts summary

> **Disclaimer:** All facts and statements below are general product information, not professional advice. Consult relevant experts for specific guidance.

Verified label facts

- **Product name:** Selleys Grout Stain Whitener - **Container size:** 280g - **Intended use:** Whitener for grout stains - **Supply form:** Ready to use - **Source documentation:** SELLEYS_GROUT_STAIN_WHITENER-AUS_GHS.pdf

Composition: - Contains four isothiazolone preservative compounds, each at concentrations below 0.05% by weight: - 1,2-Benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one (BIT, CAS 2634-33-5) - 5-Chloro-2-methyl-4-isothiazolin-3-one (CMIT, CAS 26172-55-4) - 2-Methyl-2H-isothiazol-3-one (MIT, CAS 2682-20-4) - 2-Octyl-2H-isothiazol-3-one (OIT, CAS 26530-20-1) - Remaining balance exceeding 99.8% by weight consists of ingredients classified as non-hazardous or below reporting limits - Contains a fungicide

Hazard classification (Safe Work Australia GHS 7): - Classified as hazardous - Signal word: Warning - Eye Damage/Irritation Category 2A — H319: Causes serious eye irritation - Sensitisation — Skin Category 1 — H317: May cause an allergic skin reaction

Regulatory standing: - Not listed on the Australian Poisons Standard (Not Applicable) - Not classified as Dangerous Goods under the Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road & Rail - Not classified as Dangerous Goods under New Zealand NZS5433 - No Hazchem Code assigned

Required precautionary statements: - P261: Avoid breathing dust, fume, gas, mist, vapours or spray - P264: Wash hands, face and all exposed skin thoroughly after handling - P272: Contaminated work clothing should not be allowed out of the workplace - P280: Wear protective gloves/protective clothing including eye/face protection and suitable respirator - P333+P313: If skin irritation or rash occurs: Get medical advice/attention - P337+P313: If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention - P362+P364: Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse - P305+P351+P338: If in eyes: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes; remove contact lenses if present and easy to do; continue rinsing - P102: Keep out of reach of children - P103: Read carefully and follow all instructions - P501: Dispose of contents and container in accordance with local, regional, national, and international regulations

Recommended personal protective equipment (per SDS): - Gloves: Nitrile rubber (suitable for intermittent contact) - Eye/face: Safety glasses with side shields (minimum); goggles or face shield for overhead or confined-space work - Respiratory: Suitable respirator - Body: Protective clothing

First aid contacts: - Australian Poisons Information Centre: 131 126 - New Zealand Poisons Information Centre: 0800 764 766

First aid measures (per SDS): - Inhalation: Remove from exposure; remove and loosen contaminated clothing; keep warm and at rest; seek medical advice if effects persist - Skin contact: Remove contaminated clothing; flush skin and hair with running water; seek medical assistance if swelling, redness, blistering, or irritation occurs; note effects may be delayed - Eye contact: Hold eyelids apart; flush continuously with running water for a minimum of 15 minutes; remove contact lenses if possible; transport to doctor or hospital; seek medical attention if irritation persists - Ingestion: Rinse mouth with water; do NOT induce vomiting; give a glass of water; seek medical advice

Fire properties: - Classified as non-combustible material (liquid form) - Dried residue can burn if ignited - Suitable extinguishing media: Water fog, alcohol-resistant foam, standard foam, dry chemical powder, carbon dioxide

Spill response (per SDS): - Small spills: Wipe up with absorbent material (clean rags or paper towels); seal waste in properly labelled containers - Large spills: Clear area of unprotected personnel;

work upwind or increase ventilation; cover with damp inert absorbent material (sand or soil); sweep or vacuum avoiding dust generation; seal waste in properly labelled containers - Slip hazard warning stated: "Slippery when spilt. Avoid accidents, clean up immediately." - Environmental note: Contamination of crops, sewers, or waterways may require specialised response

****Storage:**** - No specific storage precautionary statements allocated in SDS - P102: Keep out of reach of children

General product claims

- Delivers results that regular cleaning cannot achieve - Goes beyond restoring discoloured grout — creates a protective barrier against mould - Can transform grout colour entirely - Superior whitening performance - Penetrates deep into grout porosity to reverse embedded stains, mould discoloration, and environmental soiling - Better than bleach-based solutions for grout treatment - BIT provides long-term microbial stability and keeps whitening agents effective throughout shelf life - CMIT delivers enhanced activity against resistant fungal strains - MIT broadens the antimicrobial spectrum for comprehensive preservation performance - OIT protects the formula from degradation in wet environments - Multi-preservative approach balances performance with an optimised safety profile - Fungicide breaks the mould cycle and prevents regrowth - Product is fundamentally different from surface-acting detergents or abrasive cleaners - 280g container size suited to controlled, targeted application - Isothiazolone sensitisation, once developed, typically persists indefinitely and may affect reactions to other products containing the same preservatives - Confirmed sensitisation warrants avoidance of other isothiazolone-containing products (shampoos, paints, adhesives) - Thicker nitrile gloves (6–8 mil) deliver more reliable protection than thin disposable types for prolonged contact - Multiple rinse cycles ensure complete residue removal and a professional finish - Working section by section reduces tracking risk

Related Products & Brand Context

Selleys Grout Stain Whitener (280g) sits within Selleys' broader cleaning and maintenance range, under the ****Home & Garden > Cleaning & Maintenance**** category. Selleys is an Australian brand with a long-standing presence in home repair, adhesives, sealants, and surface care — the grout whitener fits naturally into their maintenance product line, which addresses common household upkeep tasks rather than large-scale renovation work.

Within its category, this product occupies a fairly specific niche: it is not a general tile cleaner but a targeted grout treatment. Its function combines stain coverage with mould prevention — it whitens discoloration caused by mould growth, ingrained dirt, and product spills such as makeup or hair dye, while also depositing a fungicide barrier to slow mould regrowth. That dual action (cosmetic restoration plus preventive treatment) distinguishes it from simpler surface cleaners that clean without leaving a protective residue.

In terms of use-case adjacencies, someone reaching for this product is typically working on a bathroom or kitchen tiling refresh. They are likely to also need a grout cleaner or mould remover as a preparatory step before applying the whitener — the surface should be as clean as possible before the product is used to maximise adhesion and coverage. After application, a grout sealer would be a logical follow-on product to lock in results and extend protection, though no specific Selleys sealer product is referenced in the available knowledge graph context. Protective equipment — gloves, eye protection, and a respirator — are also directly relevant given the product's hazard classifications (skin sensitisation, Category 1; eye irritation, Category 2A).

The knowledge graph context provided does not name specific sibling products within the Selleys grout or tile care range, so no sibling product comparisons can be drawn here without risk of inaccuracy. For a full picture of complementary Selleys products, the Selleys Australia website ([selleys.com.au](https://www.selleys.com.au)) lists the

complete cleaning and maintenance range alongside this product.