

Cracking grout

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Q. We have already had to have some of the grout lines caulked to prevent leaking below the bathroom. I see now more and more cracks along the corners and crevasses, like the soap holders, and at the peak of the bench. Is there a better solution than caulking? Despite the caulk matching the grout, we went the travertine route to prevent yearly caulking. Does our hard well water play any role? The travertine is sealed, and no new leaks just new cracks. Please advise a course...

A. If cracks are continuing then it sounds like you may have an installation issue. This is not good news and eventually the shower may have to torn out and redone. I would recommend that you contact a good tile installer to take a look at it.