

Field Tiles

HM01



Installation & Maintenance Guide

Field Tiles

www.field-tiles.com

Information

Tile Understanding

Field Tiles are suitable for most interior and exterior applications, including residential and commercial floors, walls, counters, showers, bathrooms, swimming pools, spas and fountains. Because the purchase of Field Tiles for your home or commercial project represents an important investment, proper installation and maintenance is critical.

It is important to understand that the differences in color, shape, size, texture and moisture absorption are the unique characteristics that distinguish each of these tile products.

Glazed Tile

- A colored, liquid glaze is applied to the surface of a clay body.
- The tile is fired in a kiln at very high temperatures of more than 1.050° C.
- The glazing process defines the color and surface texture and produces a hard, non-porous, impermeable tile with a very low water absorption rate.

Glazed tiles are easier to clean and any liquid on its surface will drain faster.

Size and Length Variation

Our tiles shrink during the production process. You can expect some variation, especially on longer tiles.

Lengthwise Bowing and Surface Undulation

Clay is an elastic material; therefore it will attempt to regain its original shape as it moves through the production process. For this reason, you can expect both an acceptable amount of lengthwise bowing and a surface undulation. Undulation can occur anywhere on the surface and could include a slightly raised corner or edge.

Color and Glaze Variation

Shade variation is inherent in all fired ceramic products and certain tiles will show greater variation within their dye lots.

We assign all our glazes with a low, moderate, high or very high rating. See our Glaze Specifications for a complete description of glaze characteristics.

Tile Preparation

Meticulously plan your layout. The time you take for preparation and placement will greatly impact the finished result.

- Pre-sort your tile by color and size so you can distribute the range of variation throughout the installation.
- Blending is recommended.
- Inspect each tile for cracks or other deformities that make its use inappropriate for the application intended.

Tile Grouting

We advise a grout joint (our standard grouting space is 2-4 mm) which joins the tiles so that they touch one another with an irregular space left between tiles, created by the imperfection of the edges.

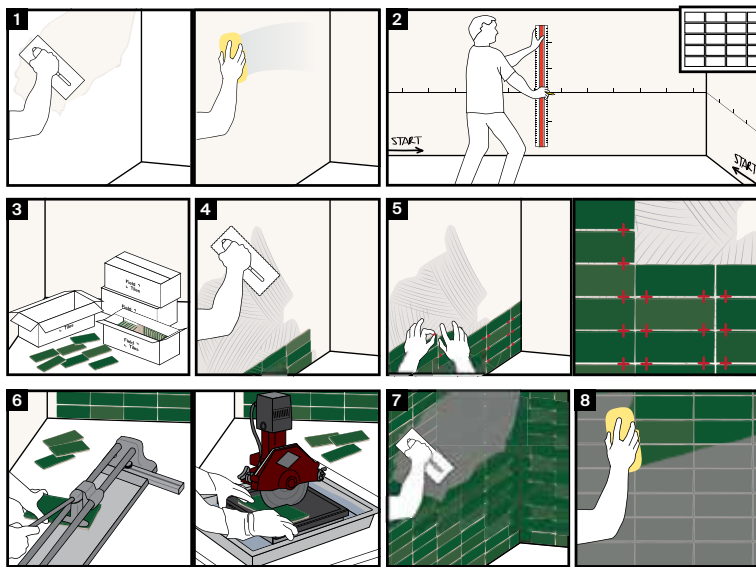
Grout joint width can be varied to adjust tile alignment with adjacent hand-made tiles or other architectural elements.

Give design consideration to the grout color as relates to the color of tile chosen. There may be a desire to accentuate the tile with a border of contrasting grout color. To more closely connect each tile with each other, use a grout color in a hue that approximates the colors found in the tile.

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Tile Installation

Install per industry standards for terracotta glazed tiles. Proper substrate preparation and the right choice of adhesives and grouts for the type of tile and specific project conditions are critical for achieving a long-lasting installation. Field Tiles can be installed with any conventional tiling method, using any mortars, adhesives (EN 1200 C2) and grout compounds (EN 13888) suitable for use with wall tiles.



1. **Prepare the surface.** Substrate must be clean, leveled and adequately set.
2. **Determine the layout and mark the surface.** For aesthetic and technical optimization, define starting points and cuttings.
3. **Distribute the tiles.** Pre-sort your tile by color and size so you can distribute the range of variation throughout the installation.
4. **Apply the proper tile adhesive.** Use a large-toothed trowel to spread the adhesive.
5. **Install the tiles.** Lay down tiles by lining them up and pressing them firmly into the adhesive. Installation is easier if you use X-shaped tile spacers.
6. **Cut the tiles.** If some tiles need to be trimmed, you can use either a snap tile cutter or a wet tile saw.
7. **Grout the joints.** Allow the adhesive to cure for about 24 hours and then fill in the joints with the selected grout, using a rubber grout float.
8. **Clean the tiles after grouting.** The excess grout must be cleaned immediately with a wet sponge, rinsing often.

Tile Maintenance

Field Tiles are a relatively maintenance-free product that requires little continuing care beyond regular cleaning.

Continued beauty and performance of our tiles is assured by following these recommendations:

- For everyday cleaning, simply use a pH-balanced natural cleaner diluted in warm water.
- To clean stubborn spots or grout joints use a stiff natural bristle brush.
- Always avoid the use of abrasive cleaning pads or products containing bleach, ammonia and paint thinner.
- Never scrub with rough materials, such as hard brushes or wire wool, which may scratch the surface.
- In cooking areas, around a stove on counters and backsplashes, cooking oil splatters should be cleaned as soon as possible as oil may darken some tiles.

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