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Installing cement tile is a sample process, but it must be done with care in order to achieve the best results.

Each cement tile is individually a piece of art, handmade and slight variation, such in thickness, shade, slight imperfections, colors, these characteristics add to the products natural appeal and do not compromise the performance of the tile. Please consult a professional contractor who is familiar with installing cement tiles.

## **Installation steps:**

- 1. The tiles should be installed edge to edge (butt jointed) and laid on a perfectly leveled and clean surface.
- 2. The tiles can be cut using a wet saw with a diamond blade.
- 3. When installing a pattern we recommend installing the center portion first, the borders and lastly the field tile that will surround the pattern.
- 4. Tiles can be installed either with a pre-mixed adhesive, or with regular thin-set. In either case use a high-notched trowel to spread the adhesive on the surface as well as on the back of the tile in order to achieve adequate adhesion.
- 5. When using thin-set mortar the back of the tile must be dampened. When using a pre-mixed adhesive the back of the tile should be cleaned lightly.
- 6. The tiles must be laid by hand and handled carefully to avoid damaging the edges. Once laid level the tiles using your hands. Using a rubber hammer to do this could damage the tiles surface. Cement tiles can not be grinded down after they are installed, so it is very important that they are perfectly leveled during installation.
- 7. Any residue of mortar left on the surface of the tile must be cleaned immediately to avoid staining.
- 8. Do not step on the tiles until the mortar has dried.

# Grouting

- 1. You may use colored or white grout. If you decide to use colored grout, then we recommend that it be a similar color, or lighter than the lightest color used in the pattern.
- 2. The grout should be fluid enough to completely fill the joints.
- 3. Apply the grout with a rubber float or a rubber squeegee, always moving diagonally across the joints.
- 4. Any excess grout should be removed with a damp cloth or sponge before it dries.
- 5. If tiles are installed before construction is finished, then make sure you protect them appropriately by covering them with a large piece of cloth, fabric or a tarp.

## Sealing

1. As with natural stone products, cement tiles are porous in nature and should be sealed to avoid staining. Our Cement tiles are not pre-sealed at the factory. Therefore, sealing with a penetrating sealer is necessary. Make sure to seal with a impregnating or penetrating sealer after cleaning and before grouting. This acts as a grout release to prevent the tiles from being stained with grout. Do not use any acids to clean tiles. Use a PH neutral cleaner. Seal the clean floor, including grout, a second time or more with the penetrating sealer. (Always try the sealer on one loose tile before applying it on the entire surface in order to measure the grade of absorption of the tile,)

#### Maintenance:

For ongoing maintenance, clean regularly with a neutral detergent and buff tiles with a white pad. Extremely heavy foot traffic may require additional maintenance. Water spotting will be eliminated through an ongoing maintenance routine. Bars, shops, restaurant, etc., these floors require special protection and attention on a daily maintenance.

For more information please do not hesitate to contact us by the above e-mail or phone and one of our customer services team will be happy to assist you.

Thank you for your business!