# ■ MOTAWI TILEWORKS | Planning Your Tile Installation

# ABOUT OUR TILE

#### **SIZE AND WEIGHT**

**Dimensions** :: Motawi tile is sized to fit together using a  $\frac{3}{16}$ " grout space. The actual size of a Motawi Tile is  $\frac{3}{16}$ " less than the stated or nominal size. Thus a 4x4 is actually  $3^{\frac{13}{16}}$ " x  $3^{\frac{13}{16}}$ " square.

**Thickness**:: All Motawi tiles are generally %" thick. Installed thickness depends on the underlayment.

**Modularity**:: Our tile line is completely modular, which means they will fit together as expected; for instance, two 2x2's can be substituted for one 2x4 and they will occupy the same amount of space.

**Weight**:: Motawi tile weighs approximately 8 pounds per square foot. When mounted and grouted, allow about 11 pounds per square foot.

## **GLAZES**

Variations of hue, tone and surface quality are intrinsic to the beauty of Motawi tile. To promote clear expectations on this point, we recommend all customers approve a glaze range sample for each glaze in their project before we make your tile. A range sample consists of three pieces of the same glaze showing the expected variation. By approving a range sample, you acknowledge that all or part of your order may vary just as the range sample varies. To order a range sample please visit our web site or contact customer service at (734) 213-0017.

# **USAGE**

Motawi tiles are made for use on fireplaces, kitchen backsplashes, and wet applications like bathrooms and residential floors. Motawi tiles will not be damaged by heat.

**Outdoor Usage**:: Motawi tiles are designed primarily for indoor use. However, our tile has been successfully and beautifully installed outdoors in selected applications and locales. We offer no written guarantees of our tiles' suitability for outdoor installations, nor do we market them as outdoor products.

# **TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS**

Water Absorption: Field Tile = Approx. 6.5%

Polychrome tile = Approx. 8%

Average Breaking Strength: 2,264 foot-pounds

Surface Hardness: Average MOHs = 6 (where 1 = talc and 10 = diamond).

#### **CLEANING**

To keep your Motawi tile looking its best, we recommend wiping it with warm water and buffing dry with a soft towel or an old t-shirt. Not quite getting the job done? Try any non-acidic cleaner. We like Simple Green.

### **SUSTAINABILITY**

We are passionate about creating durable and beautiful ceramic tiles that endure generations of use and ever-changing trends. We are constantly striving to minimize our environmental impact, and there are several reasons why Motawi is a green choice.

- **Long Life Cycle.** Tile provides a durable, cleanable surface that has a useable life of over 40 years.
- Air Quality. Our tiles use lead-free glazes and do not contain added volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The tiles are also chemically inert and inhibit the growth of mold, mildew or fungus.
- Energy Efficiency. An aid to insulation, tile keeps heating and cooling costs low.
- **Low Maintenance.** pH-neutral cleaning products work best to clean our tile, avoiding the need for toxic chemicals.
- Recycled Water and Raw Materials. We reuse all clay used in tile production and utilize a water filtration system to capture and clarify the water we use in the studio.
- **Fire Resistant.** Due to a noncombustible composition, ceramic tiles are completely fireproof at any temperature. They will not burn nor fuel a fire.

# ■ ORDERING INFORMATION

# **OVERAGE**

It is essential to order 5–10% more tile than is specified for your project. This overage helps to ensure a smooth and timely installation in case tiles are broken during installation. It also allows for better range selection. Extra tile should be saved in perpetuity in case of future damage, since matching tiles to batches made years ago may not be possible.

# **INSPECTION UPON DELIVERY**

Open all boxes to inspect your tile immediately to make sure that all tiles are accounted for, that no tiles are broken, and that you have received what you were expecting. Although mistakes are few, delays can be mitigated if they are addressed right away. In the event that tiles have been lost or damaged in transit, our shippers require that a freight claim be made within five days of delivery.

### **RETURNS & CANCELLATIONS**

Returns are not accepted on made-to-order tile unless they are defective or damaged in shipping. Cancellations are not accepted on tile already in production. Please understand that installation signifies acceptance, and no post-installation adjustments will be made.

Prior to installation, the entire design should be laid out to ensure a good balance of glaze variation and to confirm that all of the necessary tiles are accounted for. The manner of installation should follow industry guidelines for specific site conditions, which can be found in the Tile Council of North America publication "Handbook of Ceramic Tile Installation." Contact the TCNA at www.tcnatile.com for more information.

# ■ INSTALLATION

# **SELECTING A TILE INSTALLER**

Finding an installer who cares about your job is essential to a successful installation. We like installers who take extra time at the beginning to check fit, spacing, and glaze variation pattern before they glue down any tile. Motawi Tileworks or your building contractor may be able to help you locate a professional tile installer.

# **GROUT**

**Spacing**:: Standard grout spacing is  $\%_{16}$ ". If installation requires adjustment to grout spacing, always adjust to be smaller, not larger, grout joints.

**Grout Type**:: We recommend TEC brand Power Grout for nearly all installations. If TEC is not available in your area, another sanded grout product may be substituted. NOTE: Motawi cannot guarantee results of any grout other than TEC. See Important Grout Information regarding testing grout prior to installation. Sanded grout is recommended for all Motawi tile installations.

**Color** :: Recommended grout colors vary depending on glaze color and installation. Please consult with our staff regarding grout color selection for your specific project, or visit our web site for grout color recommendations for each of our Motawi glazes.

The TEC Product Service Department can be reached at 800.832.9023, www.tecspecialty.com.

# **IMPORTANT GROUT INFORMATION**

**Sealant**:: Motawi tile may be sealed with a penetrating sealer prior to grouting to help protect against grout staining. All glossy glaze colors must be sealed prior to grouting. We like Miracle brand 511 Impregnator Sealer.

**Testing**:: Always test a sample before grouting as some dark grouts may stain light colored glazes and some light grouts may stain dark colored glazes. As a rule, grout should be darker than the tile being installed.

**Installation Tip**:: Installers should apply masking tape or painter's tape to the faces of art tiles and relief tiles to prevent problems caused by grout adhering to the tile surface

# ■ LIMITED ONE-YEAR WARRANTY

Motawi tiles are warranted to the original consumer purchaser to be free from defects in material and workmanship for one (1) year from the date of installation. Where inspection by Motawi Tileworks, Inc. discloses any such defects occurring in normal usage within one year after installation Motawi will, at its election, repair or replace the product or make appropriate adjustment. Motawi is not liable for any direct or indirect costs associated with the repair or replacement of Motawi tile including removal, installation or reinstallation. Motawi tile should be inspected prior to installation and any defects must be reported at that time. Installation constitutes acceptance. Damage caused by inappropriate installation, accident, misuse, abuse, or improper maintenance is not covered by this warranty. Variations in color, shade, flow, grain, tonality, crazing, veining, and texture are inherent characteristics of Motawi tile and are not defects. Variations in facial dimensions and thickness will be allowed as per Motawi standards. No warranties are made against crazing, scratching or wear due to: improper installation—including improper alteration of the surface with sealers or grout, falling objects, abuse, misuse, exposure to extreme temperatures, using improper chemicals or compounds, non-foot traffic wear or other similar incidents.

To obtain warranty service, contact Motawi Tileworks, Inc. at 170 Enterprise Drive, Ann Ar bor, MI 48103, call 734.213.0017 or contact us at www.motawi.com.

IMPLIED WARRANTIES INCLUDING THAT OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE ARE LIMITED IN DURATION TO THE DURATION OF THIS EXPRESS WARRANTY. SELLER DISCLAIMS ANY LIABILITY FOR SPECIAL, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES. Some states/provinces do not allow limitation on how long an implied warranty lasts, or the exclusion or limitation of special, incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitations or exclusions may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may also have other rights which vary from state/province to state/province. Any action for breach of this warranty must be commenced within one (1) year from the time the defect occurs or should have been discovered. Some states do not allow such a limitation on the time in which to sue, so the limitation may not apply to you.

THIS IS OUR EXCLUSIVE WRITTEN WARRANTY.