

CEMENT TILE INSTALLATION GUIDE



DISCLAIMER: This document should only be used as a general reference. Consider it supplementary, not to be used as a replacement for actual manufacturer installer instructions or guidelines. When purchasing tile, please ensure you seek out specific installation information based on the exact material purchased or specified, as the manufacturer instructions may include concessions like using special setting materials or using a technique of unknown association.

SURFACE PREP

- Cement Tiles must be installed on a level, clean, dry surface. Humid subsoil can cause deposits on the surface of the tiles.
- Do not let the boxes get wet. You should store the material in a dry area. Moisture can cause staining on the surface of the tiles.
- Dry Lay & Mix Boxes: Cement Tiles are manufactured using natural materials, therefore slight tonal variations may be present from tile to tile. It may be necessary to mix tiles from different boxes during installation to disperse the slight variations.
- If the tiles are to be laid on a concrete slab, ensure the slab is completely cured to prevent white efflorescence spots from appearing on the surface later as water evaporates through.
- Please check with the manufacturer of both the cement tile & membrane, when using underlayment or an uncoupling membrane such as Schluter®-DITRA to prevent cracking caused by shifting foundations.

GENERAL INSTALLATION TIPS

- Seal the tiles before installation (and after). This will help with the grouting process.
- Adhesive must be applied on the floor or wall surface evenly and thoroughly using a large, toothed trowel. All Cement Tile must additionally be back buttered, evenly, with adhesive.
- Lay the tiles without hammering, leveling them using hand pressure. This is especially important since there can be slight variations in the thickness of the tiles.
- Cement tiles MUST be leveled on thinset using hand pressure. If you choose to install with space, leave a thin gap – a joint of 1/16" thickness between the tiles for grouting.
- Cement Tiles must only be cut with a wet saw.
- Fill the joints between the tiles using a fine plastic scraper without spreading the grout on tiles. Use a rubber grout float for clean spreading.
- Any extra grout must be cleaned immediately with a wet sponge.

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POST INSTALLATION

- Installed tiles should be left to dry completely before sealing.
- After installation, wash tiles with a neutral detergent. Any extra residue or mortar should be removed immediately.
- Do not allow water or other liquids to spot, pond, or ring on the surface of the installed tiles. Do not leave spills, drips, wet buckets, cups, footmarks, etc. on the surface at any time prior to sealing.
- Never use acidic or alkaline cleaners, do not use ammonia or bleach. Use only pH neutral cleaners.
- Always store extra tiles in case they are needed in the future. Store in a cool dry place & if boxed keep the boxes dry as well

LILI BRAND CEMENT TILES

LiLi Cement Tiles come pre-sealed for handling purposes; however, they must be sealed as part of the installation process

- Dry-Treat STAIN-PROOF Original™ sealer is the only approved sealer for LiLi Cement Tiles, apply a minimum of 2-3 coats.
- Apply 4 or more coats for backsplashes where hot oil may be present.
- Seal after grouting is complete

Please do not use standard grout. These contain color pigments that have been proven to stain cement tiles. The below specialized grouts are approved for use with LiLi Cement Tiles.

- Mapei Flexcolor™ CQ Grout
- TEC® InColor™ Advanced Performance Grout
- Bostik TruColor® RapidCure™ Grout
- Laticrete® Ready-to-Use™ Grout
- Laticrete® SPECTRALOCK® 1 Pre-Mixed Grout

[Please reference the complete LiLi Tiles Installation Guide when installing this brand.](#)