

## **SLABS SERIES - INSTALLATION RECOMMENDATIONS**

Our slabs series introduces rectified, large format tiles with smaller thickness which enable the coverage of large areas with thinner and less joints. This creates a feeling of amplitude and continuity in the space that they are installed. However, in order to guarantee the visual impact and durability of the product, it is crucial that the installation process is executed perfectly.

Please find the recommended steps in order to achieve this:

- Carefully check the surface where the tile will be installed. The subfloor must be treated and leveled, humidity must be controlled, and any bumps or imperfections corrected.
- Due to the large format of these products, two people are required in order to move the pieces using suction cups to handle and lift the product.
- The pieces must be placed in an upright, yet angled position to make the back of the tile accessible for mortar application.
- Check for the arrow on the back of the pieces which indicates the correct direction in which the mortar should be applied.
- A trowel with 10-15mm "teeth" should be used to apply the mortar, using the flat part of the trowel to apply and the opposite to remove excess and create the dents necessary to lay the product.
- This operation should be repeated on the subfloor by using the trowel or more heavy duty mortar application solutions. It is important that mortar is applied in one direction both on the tile & subfloor.
- Two people will also be needed to place the tile onto the surface where mortar has been applied, through the use of suction cup equipment. Placing the piece 5 cm away from the final laying position and then dragging or pushing it until it reaches this spot helps to remove air and crush the dents on the mortar. This reduces the possibility of cracks or breaks.
- Using a rubber hammer to tap on the tile with medium intensity also helps this process.
- Remove the excess mortar to prevent it from rising between the joints by using a trowel and clear the entire side of the piece so another piece can be laid evenly.
- Use leveling spacer clips between the coating and the mortar always close to the bottom of the tile surface and along the entire length of the piece in an interval of approximately 30 cm.
- Repeat all previous steps for each piece that is installed.
- Wedges can be placed into the clips or spacers and tightened by using pliers to ensure that the leveling is being done correctly and locking it into place. This will avoid unevenness once the mortar dries and retracts. A period of 96 hours is required before removing the leveling clips and wedges in order to proceed to the grouting process. Never walk on the tile or remove the clips before this period of time as this may cause the pieces to sag.

This same process applies for the installation of the product on walls. The use of thick Styrofoam is recommended to use as support to apply mortar on the pieces before they are lifted in order to avoid scratches on the surface.