



**AMERICAN**VILLA



**STONEPEAK**

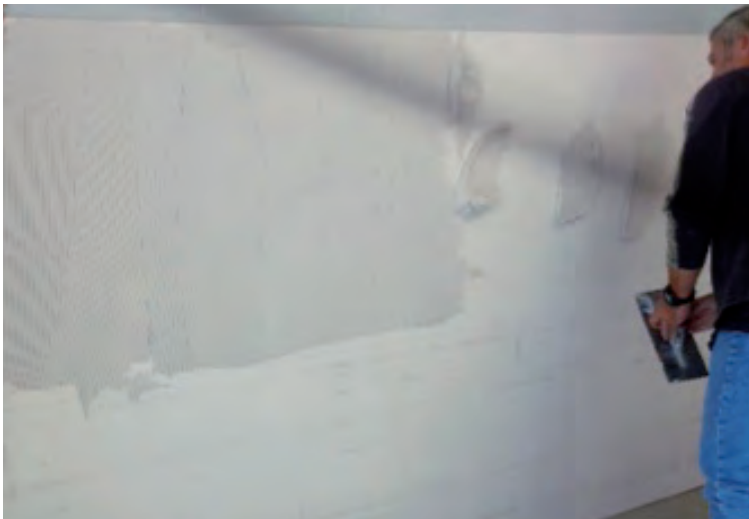
high tech porcelain

[www.stonepeakceramics.com](http://www.stonepeakceramics.com)

## FLOOR/WALL INSTALLATION SUGGESTIONS

Large porcelain panels can be installed over concrete or other suitable substrates. You should take in consideration all expansion joints or any defects in the substrate and mitigate prior to installation.

The back of the panel and substrate should be spread the same direction at the shortest distance with a modified LFT thin set mortar to achieve 100% coverage. Flatness must be considered when installing large porcelain panels. Please consider and evaluate the TCNA Handbook, which states, "The finish flatness requirement for ceramic tile installations is 1/4" in 10' according to ANSI A108.02. The finish flatness requirement for stone installations is 1/8" in 10' according to MIA. If a more stringent finish flatness tolerance is desired, it must be clearly specified and the subsurface tolerance must be adjusted accordingly."



Example of full skim coat being applied

Self-leveling systems are required to achieve desired flatness between joints. Fill any voids with the mortar for complete support.

Recommended tools and techniques need to be used to ensure full bond of the panel.

Recommended techniques should be followed to move air out from underneath the panels.

(See preferred trowels page 12).

Material can be mitered using proper tools. Colored or tinted compounds such as polyester, epoxy, or equivalent are often used to fill edges and bring the 45 degree miter cuts together.

Please see image below of 45 degree miter cut.



**Material can be bullnosed the same as regular porcelain.**

## FLOOR / WALL ISNTALLATION CONTINUED



Self-leveling system being used for floor installation



Example of proper full mortar coverage

The setting material manufacturers have vast experience in the installation of porcelain tiles and large porcelain panels. Accordingly, we strongly recommend that the installer should contact the relevant setting material manufacturers and seek their advice prior to installation of our large porcelain panels.

(See referenced manufacturers page 11 for contact details).

It is very important to spread thin set the same direction on both the substrate and the panel, the shortest direction of panels. Recommended thin sets are: LFT by Mapei, Prolite by Custom, 254 Platinum by Laticrete, and x77 Walls & x78 Floors by Ardex. (See referenced manufacturers page 11 for contact details). Place tile into the fresh mortar and firmly press to cause the ridges to flatten out and come together into a continuous void-free bed. Install desired spacers/levelers of preferred grout joint design width.

NOTE: Recommended 1/8" grout joint width should be maintained throughout the entire installation. Countertop seams can be butted.

Polymer added sanded and unsanded grout, epoxy grout, silicone, or polyurethane can be used to fill the joints. If using epoxy grout, make sure to follow proper cleaning instruction within the manufacturers' specific time frame.

**StonePeak does not guarantee nor does it recommend a particular method of installation. It is the responsibility of the installer/buyer to design and install the tiling system based on the advice obtained from the setting material manufacturer.**



## MANIPULATION (FULL CUTS, CUT OUTS, MITERED EDGES)

The **“score and snap”** is the preferred method for **straight cuts** (from one end of the panel to the other) using a recommended tool. (See page 11-12 – for tool suppliers.)



- When planning a cut that will be the full length of the panel, either with a plunge cut, or starting at the edge, mark and drill a relief hole at the termination point of the cut, then cut towards the relief hole. Properly support piece equally across entire surface of the piece when setting in mortar and prior to handling for installation.
- When planning a **plunge cut**, drill a relief hole with an electroplated core bit at the termination point of the cut, prior to beginning the cut. Always cut towards the relief hole.
- When planning a **“U” shaped cut**, mark, and drill relief holes where the cut lines will intersect. Always make the shortest cuts first, leaving your waste/dropout attached to the largest part of your desired piece for the final cut.
- When planning an **“L” shaped cut**, mark and drill relief holes where the cut lines will intersect. Always cut the shortest length first, and cut towards the relief hole.
- When manipulating large porcelain panels, a variable speed right angle grinder is strongly suggested to reduce vibration. Electroplated diamond blades or electroplated diamond drill bits should be used for various cuts and manipulations.

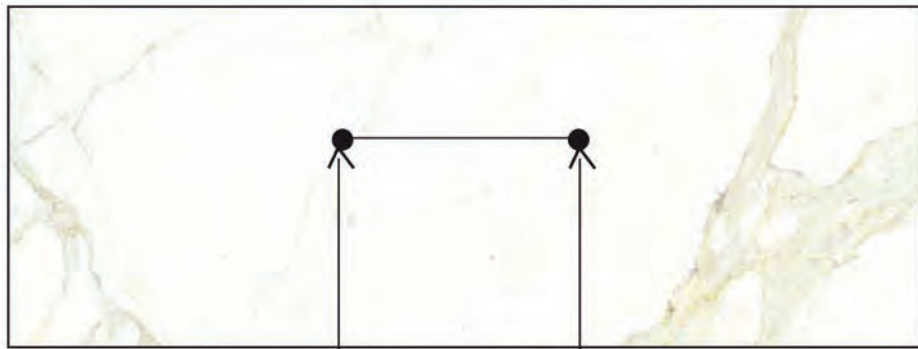
(See appendix for tool suppliers.)



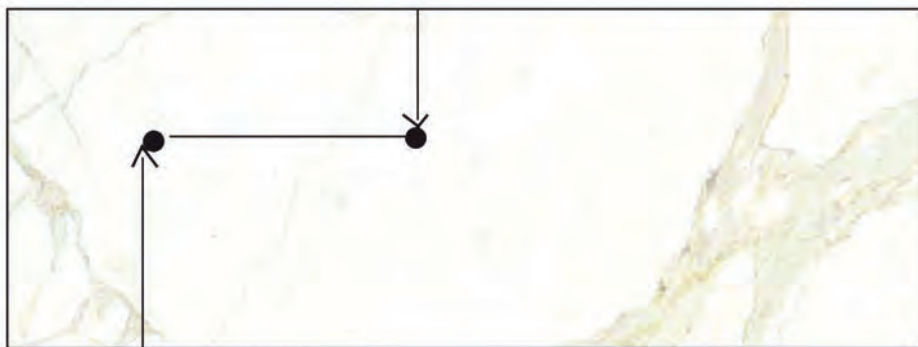
**IMPORTANT: Always cut towards the relief hole.**



When cutting a “U” shaped piece, mark, and drill relief holes where the cut lines intersect; always make the shortest cut first.



When cutting an “L” , drill relief holes where the cut lines intersect; always make the shortest cut first.



Color matched or tinted polyester, epoxy compounds or equivalent are often used to fill edges and bring the pieces together to form a smooth transition.



DANGER

**ALWAYS PROPERLY SUPPORT EACH PIECE PRIOR TO INSTALLATION.**

For circular cut outs, a circular electroplated diamond core bit must be used with a variable speed grinder or drill.



Example of initial drawing for plumbing fixtures cut out

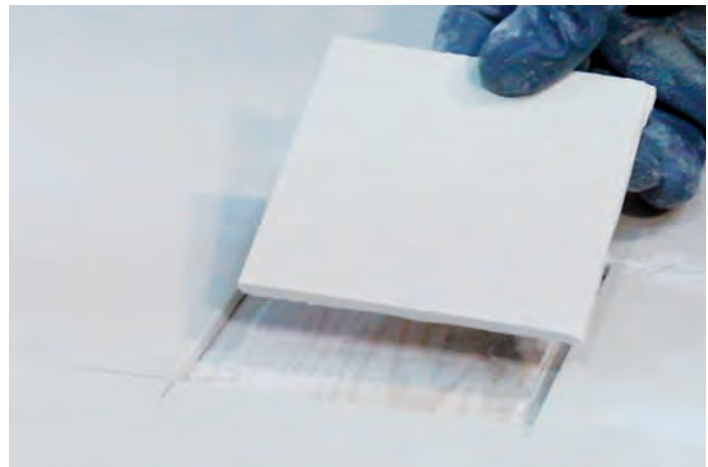


Image shows use of drill with electroplated diamond core bit.

For straight line cut outs, a variable speed grinder with electroplated diamond blades must be used. Relief holes or cuts before planning a square or rectangular shape are necessary.



Example of variable speed grinder using diamond electroplated blade to make straight line cut out



Clean cut out complete

When possible, it is best to fabricate niches and holes after the panel is already installed with thin set on wall or floor. If it is not possible to cut holes or square/rectangular cuts (fireplace, sink, etc.) before the panel is installed, create full support with plywood or MDF panel template with same shapes and cuts to attach and transport the porcelain panel. Support panels should only be detached when porcelain panels are fully bonded to the substrate. It is also possible to move panels with proper moving tools made of multiple suction cups to avoid tension of the panel after it is cut.



IT IS IMPORTANT TO AVOID STRESS AND TORSION TO THE ALREADY CUT PANEL.

## TOOLS & MATERIALS NEEDED TO WORK WITH PORCELAIN PANELS



- Rigid working table to match the dimension of the panels
- Scoring tools
- Variable speed right angle grinder with electroplated diamond blades (See page 5 & 7 for photos)
- List of tools & materials needed for porcelain panel installation jobs

Tape measure  
 Framing square  
 Marking pencil / china marker  
 Chalk line  
 Grid (graph) paper  
 Carpenter's triangle  
 Safety glasses  
 Safety gloves  
 Knee pads  
 Buckets  
 Drill and mixing paddle  
 Spray bottle  
 Trowel specific to large panels  
 2 x 4  
 Rubber mallet

Sponges  
 Abrasive stone  
 Manual tile cutter  
 Tile nipper  
 Grout float  
 Cheesecloth  
 Tile spacer / Leveling system  
 Water  
 Thin-set mortar  
 Grout  
 Painter's tape  
 Grout haze / film remover  
 Grout sealer  
 StainBlocker for grout  
 Paper towels



# CLEANING & MAINTENANCE



## FIRST CLEANING POST INSTALLATION

A PROPER INITIAL CLEANING AFTER INSTALLATION IS SUGGESTED. PROFESSIONAL CLEANERS SHOULD BE USED TO MAKE SURE ALL CONSTRUCTION RESIDUES ARE COMPLETELY REMOVED. (See below for recommended professional cleaners.)

Construction particles, dust, sand, and debris should be removed from the panel surface by sweeping with a soft brush. Sand and other abrasive materials may scratch the floor; therefore the surfaces should always be kept free from dust, sand, and soil. StonePeak large porcelain panel surfaces should be properly covered and protected after the installation, and up to the completion of all construction.

## ORDINARY MAINTENANCE

Large porcelain panels are a high quality, solid, nonporous product that require minimum maintenance. (For daily maintenance, see below for recommended household cleaners.)

# RECOMMENDED CLEANERS & CONTACT INFORMATION

## RECOMMENDED CLEANERS FOR PROFESSIONAL USE

### FILA CLEANING SOLUTIONS

FILA  
10800 N.W. 21st Street #170  
Miami, FL 33172  
Phone 305.724.8939  
Website [www.filasolutions.com](http://www.filasolutions.com)  
For organic residue removal  
FILA PS87  
For cement-based residue removal  
FILA DETERDEK  
For epoxy removal  
FILA CR10

### AQUA MIX

AQUA MIX  
7711 Center Ave Ste 500  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647  
TF 800-272-8786  
[www.aquamix.com](http://www.aquamix.com)

### HILLYARD, INC.

HILLYARD, INC.  
302 North 4th Street  
St. Joseph, MO 64501  
TF 800.365.1555  
Fax 800.861.0256  
Website [www.hillyard.com](http://www.hillyard.com)  
For lead or metal residue removal  
For contractor pencil marks  
For removal of metal marks  
Crème Clean

## RECOMMENDED CLEANERS FOR DAILY USE

### HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS

Magic Eraser  
Melamine Pad  
Brasso Gel  
Lysol Gel  
All purpose ceramic cleaner  
Windex  
Baking Soda  
Ammonia



# RECOMMENDED INSTALLATION ACCESSORIES INFORMATION



## TOOLS

### WEHA

WEHA USA  
625 Griffith Rd Suite 120  
Charlotte, NC 28217  
Phone 704.940.0115  
[www.wehausa.com](http://www.wehausa.com)

### SIGMA / ETMTTOOLS

European Tile Masters, Inc.  
27 Copper Ridge Rd  
Trout Creek, MT. 59874  
Phone 954.917.3599  
Fax 954.917.3539  
[www.europeantilemasters.com](http://www.europeantilemasters.com)  
[www.toolsfortile.com](http://www.toolsfortile.com)

### RUSSOTRADING COMPANY INC

RUSSOTRADING COMPANY, INC.  
4235 N 127th St.  
Brookfield, WI 53005  
Phone 855.782.8665  
Fax 262.790.2177  
[www.RTCproducts.com](http://www.RTCproducts.com)

### RAIMONDITOLS

Donnelly Distribution LLC  
N 56 W 24790 N Corporate Circle Unit A  
Sussex, WI 53089  
TF 800.625.6686  
Phone 262.820.1212  
Fax 262.820.1226  
[www.donnelydist.com](http://www.donnelydist.com)

### OMEGA DIAMOND INC

OMEGA DIAMOND INC.  
10125 Ophir Road  
Newcastle, CA 95658  
Phone 888.996.4777  
Fax 530.885.3785  
[www.omegadiamond.com](http://www.omegadiamond.com)

### ABACO MACHINES USA (BOOM, PINCH CLAMP)

ABACO MACHINES USA  
14508 S Garfield Ave  
Paramount, CA 90723  
Phone 310.532.0366  
Fax 310.532.0499  
[www.abacomachines.com](http://www.abacomachines.com)

## BLADES/BITS

### CYCLONE

DIAMAX INDUSTRIES  
949 W Marietta St X100  
Atlanta, GA 30318  
Phone 404.817.3232  
[www.diamaxinc.com](http://www.diamaxinc.com)

### ETM

European Tile Masters, Inc.  
27 Copper Ridge Rd  
Trout Creek, MT. 59874  
Phone 954.917.3599  
Fax 954.917.3539  
[www.europeantilemasters.com](http://www.europeantilemasters.com)  
[www.toolsfortile.com](http://www.toolsfortile.com)

## BUILDING PRODUCTS / BACKERBOARDS

### WEDI BOARD

WEDI Corporation  
171 S Gary Ave  
Carol Stream, IL 60188  
Phone 877.933.wedi (9334)  
Fax 847.357.9819  
[www.wedicorp.com](http://www.wedicorp.com)

### KERDI BOARD

SCHLUTER SYSTEMS L.P.  
194 Pleasant Ridge Road  
Plattsburgh, NY 12901-5841  
TF 800.472.4588  
Fax 800.477.9783  
[www.schluter.com](http://www.schluter.com)

### USG (CEMENT BOARD)

USG US Corporate Office  
550 West Adams Street  
Chicago, IL 60661  
Phone 312.436.4000  
[www.usg.com](http://www.usg.com)

### GOBOARD

Johns Manville Corporate Office  
P. O. Box 5108  
Denver, CO 80217-5108  
Phone: 303.978.2000  
[www.jm.com](http://www.jm.com)

### HARDIEBACKER BOARD

Available at most local hardware stores



## ADHESIVES (COLORED EPOXY GLUE, ETC.)

### AKEMI

INNOCHEM  
Innovative Chemicals  
4030 Pleasantdale Road Suite F  
Doraville, GA 30340  
Phone 770.409.8789  
Fax 770.409.9096  
[www.akemina.com](http://www.akemina.com)

### TENAX

TENAX USA  
625 Griffith Rd Suite 120  
Charlotte, NC 28217  
Phone 704.583.1173  
[www.tenax4you.com](http://www.tenax4you.com)

## SETTING MATERIALS (THIN SET, GROUT, ETC.)

### BOSTIK

BOSTIK, INC.  
11320 W Watertown Plank Road  
Wauwatosa, WI 53226  
TF 800.762.7845  
[www.bostik-us.com](http://www.bostik-us.com)

### MAPEI

MAPEI Americas Headquarters  
1144 E. Newport Center Drive  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442  
TF 800.992.6273  
Fax 954.246.8805  
[www.mapei.us](http://www.mapei.us)

### ARDEX

ARDEX Americas  
400 Ardex Park Drive  
Aliquippa, PA 15001  
Phone 888.512.7339  
[www.ardexamericas.com](http://www.ardexamericas.com)

### LATICRETE

LATICRETE International, Inc.  
One LATICRETE Park North  
Bethany, CT 06524-3423 USA  
TF 800.243.4788  
[www.laticrete.com](http://www.laticrete.com)

### TEC

H.B. FULLER CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS INC.  
1105 S Frontenac Street  
Aurora, IL 60504  
TF 800.552.6225  
Phone 562.598.8808  
[www.tecspecialty.com](http://www.tecspecialty.com)

### CUSTOM BUILDING PRODUCTS

CUSTOM BUILDING PRODUCTS  
7711 Center Ave Ste 500  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647  
TF 800.272.8786  
Phone 562.598.8808  
Fax 800.200.7765  
[www.custombuildingproducts.com](http://www.custombuildingproducts.com)

## TROWELS

### FLOW RIDGE TROWEL BY RAIMONDI

DONNELLY DISTRIBUTION LLC  
N63 W 22611 Main Street Unit C  
Sussex, WI 53089  
TF 800.625.6686  
Phone 262.820.1212  
Fax 262.820.1226  
[www.raimondiusa.com](http://www.raimondiusa.com)

### EURO NOTCH TROWEL BY ETM

EUROPEANTILE MASTERS, INC.  
1830 Vista Way  
Margate, FL 33063  
Phone 954.917.3599  
Fax 954.917.3539  
[www.europeantilemasters.com](http://www.europeantilemasters.com)  
[www.toolsfortile.com](http://www.toolsfortile.com)

### PREMIUM NOTCH TROWEL BY SUPERIOR BILT

PREMIUM NOTCH TROWEL BY SUPERIOR BILT  
7711 Center Ave Ste 500  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647  
TF 800.272.8786  
Phone 562.598.8808  
Fax 800.200.7765  
[www.custombuildingproducts.com](http://www.custombuildingproducts.com)



# DISCLAIMER



**The information herein is provided as suggestions only for the design, installation and care of StonePeak large porcelain panels. No warranty, implied or expressed, is given in relation to the procedures outlined in this technical information guide.**

StonePeak Ceramics recommends that the designers, fabricators and installers using our large porcelain panels be familiar with all aspects outlined in the information provided, and strictly adhere to the recommendations and specifications described herein and by ANSI industry standards. Any deviation from the recommended guidelines may result in the products not performing as expected, and may result in the warranty becoming null and void.

StonePeak specifically disclaims liability for any loss of profit or any other loss or damage caused or alleged to have been caused either directly or indirectly as a result of reliance upon any information contained in this guide.

StonePeak reserves the right to change or modify this manual or its electronic version from time to time without notice. It is the responsibility of the consumer, installer and contractor to consult or contact StonePeak for the latest version or updates.

For more information and to view our informative videos for handling / shipping, cutting / fabricating, floor and wall installations of our American Villa collection – large porcelain panels, please visit our website

**[www.stonepeakceramics.com](http://www.stonepeakceramics.com)**

STONEPEAK  
high tech porcelain