

TILE INSTALLATION

STEP 01

SURFACE PREPARATION

1. Check the resistance of the substrate*, by scratching on different parts of the substrate surface. If it crumbles easily it should be scarified and applied again, so that the surface is more resistant. This will eliminate the possibility tiles loosening overtime.

**Substrate: Support or concrete base where the ceramic product will be installed*

2. Check that the surface level of the Substrate is adequate. Avoid leveling with adhesive.

3. If it is required to install floor on floor, check the surface where the installation will be made and make sure there are no loose tiles. The presence of voids below the surface precludes proper installation.

4. Doorjamb's may be undercut for tile to slip under.



STEP 02

LAYOUT

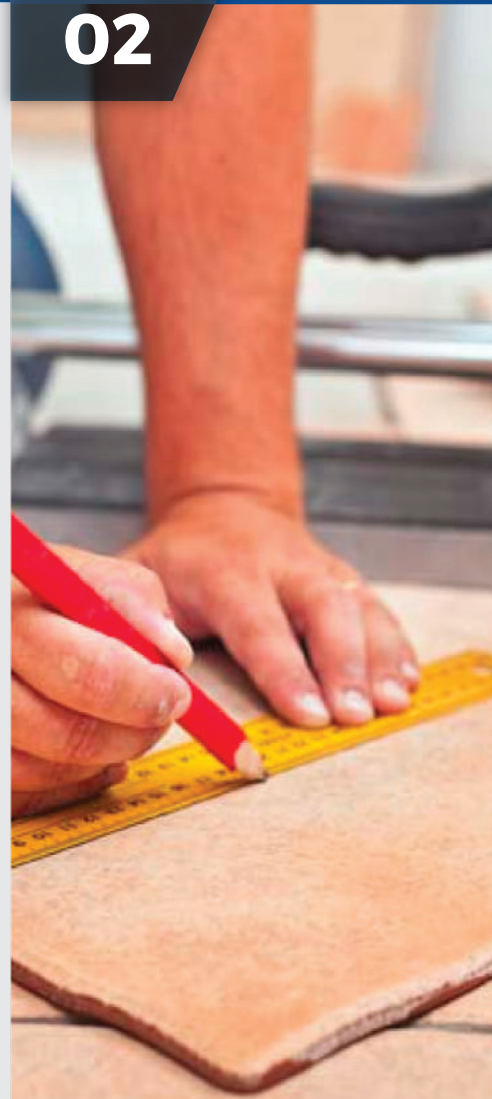
1. Mark the center point of all four walls.

2. Snap chalk lines between the center points of opposite walls. Make any necessary adjustments

3. Using tile spacers, lay out a row of loose tiles along the center lines in both directions. Leave space for uniform joints.

TIP: If cuts leave tiles smaller than half of their original size, adjust the center line by snapping a new line a half tile closer to the wall. Repeat along other center line necessary.

4. Divide the room into smaller grids (approx. 2 ft x 3 ft) by snapping additional lines parallel to center lines



TILE INSTALLATION

STEP 03

5

NAME OF THE PRODUCT AND NOMINAL SIZE: **STAR BEIGE 33 cm x 33 cm**
 Med. Fabricación / Work Size: 332 mm x 332 mm x 7.7 mm
 QUALITY GRADE: Calidad / Grade: **1a**
 Fecha / Date: 24/11/12 Tono / Shade: **9J5**
 Turno / Shift: 03
 Línea / Line: 3
 Clasificador: 0934 Medida / Size: **5**
 Analista: 3458
 Norma Técnica: ISO13006
 Moldeo B: Baldosas Presas en Seco
 Baldosa Esmalada (S.E.)
 Pavimento Cerámico / Floor Tile
 Hecho en México / Made in México

5.1

NAME OF THE PRODUCT AND NOMINAL SIZE: **ALBANIA SALMON 25 cm X 40 cm**
 Med. Fabricación / Work Size: 257.5 mm x 400.4 mm x 8.3 mm
 Código Producto / Product Code: LALBA001401
 QUALITY GRADE: Calidad / Grade: **1a**
 Fecha / Date: 18/05/14 Tono / Shade: **BJ5**
 Turno / Shift: B
 Línea / Line: 3
 Hora / Time: 13:01
 Supervisor: 3458
 Norma Técnica: ISO13006
 Moldeo B: Baldosas Presas en Seco
 Baldosa Esmalada (S.E.)
 Revestimiento Cerámico / Wall Tile
 Hecho en México / Made in México

6

Shade Variation		
GRADE	GRAPHIC GUIDE	DESCRIPTION
I		Uniform Appearance: The differences between tiles are minimal
II		Light Variation: Differences clearly distinguishable between tiles in texture and / or design, within similar colors
III		Moderate Variation: The colors present in a tile are indicative of the colors presented by the others, the amount of color can vary from one tile to another.
IV		Random Variation: Random color differences from one tile to another, so that one piece can have colors completely different from the others.

PRODUCT VARIATION

1. Verify the identification of the product purchased before being installed, the necessary information appears on the label of each box. Make sure that the name of the product, the tone number and measurement are the same in all boxes. In the case of ceramic pavements (floors), do not mix identified products with different tone numbers and measurements.

1.1 In the case of ceramic coverings (walls) make sure that the name of the product and the tone number are the same in all boxes. Do not mix identified products with different tone numbers.

2. It is important that you know the shade variation of the product that you will choose, since it will help you decide the type of environment you want to obtain with the installation of ceramic tiles.

3. For flooring installations, mix the contents of several boxes, identified with the same number of tone and measure (Caliber), to obtain the best appearance. For wall installations, perform the above process based only on the tone identified in the boxes.

4. Do not install if drastic difference in product dimensions is noticed.

5. In the event that any of the tiles to be installed has an apparent defect, please discard and use another tile of the same shade and caliber.

STEP 04

LAYING FLOORS AND WALL TILES

1. Make sure that the surface where the products will be installed is completely clean, free of oils, powders, paints or impurities, which inhibit the adhesion of the tile to the surface. Cleaning can be done with a broom, pressure washers, spatulas or sandpaper.

2. Saturate the surface of the substrate so that it remains moist during laying, but without puddles.

3. In the event that the installation is going to be floor on floor, after cleaning the surface, check whether damaged or loose tiles exist and make the necessary repairs to ensure that no loose or damaged tile remain in the subfloor.

TILE INSTALLATION

STEP 04

LAYING FLOORS AND WALL TILES



4. Use the appropriate adhesive for the product (floor or wall; ceramic or porcelain) and installation type and follow the manufacturer's instructions. To install floor on floor, use the special adhesive recommended for these cases.

4.1 Mix only enough adhesive or mortar to be used within 30 minutes.

4.2 Using the type of trowel recommended on the adhesive package, spread a 1/4 in. coat on the surface of one grid area, using the flat side of the trowel. NOTE: Do not cover an area larger area than can be set in 15 minutes. NOTE: In the case of wall installations, the direction of the adhesive must be horizontal

4.3 Use the notched side of trowel to comb adhesive into standing ridges by holding trowel at a 45° angle.

4.4 Remove excess adhesive, leaving a uniform, ridged setting bed.

4.5 For large format tiles, butter the backside of the tile to ensure proper full-coverage. Use a medium bed mortar for tiles with a dimensional length greater than 15 inches on any one side. NOTE: 90% mortar contact is recommended.

STEP 04

LAYING FLOORS AND WALL TILES



5. Place the pieces by pressing slightly downwards and make a movement perpendicular to the grooves several times. Tap gently with the rubber mallet to ensure adhesion and remove air that may remain trapped in the adhesive.

6. During installation, clean the spaces between the tiles (space for joint) with a sponge moistened with water.

7. Keep a joint between the tiles, as indicated on the product packaging. The omission of this can cause the lifting of the pieces or cause infiltrations. Proper installation requires a perimeter expansion joints - the absence of a perimeter joint may cause tile to break or lift with room temperature changes.

8. For products with rectangular formats, perform the installation in a or 25% ± 5% out-of-phase pattern with respect to the length of the long side.

TILE INSTALLATION

STEP 05

GROUTING JOINT

1. Choose the adhesive color that most closely matches the color of the product and apply it following the manufacturer's instructions.
2. Remove tile spacers and spread grout on the tile surface, forcing down into joints with a rubber grout float or squeegee.
3. Tilt the float at a 45° angle and remove excess grout from surface immediately with the edge of float. Tilt it at a 90° angle and scrape it diagonally across tiles.
4. Wait 15-20 minutes for grout to set slightly, then use a damp sponge to clean grout residue from surface and smooth the grout joints, rinsing sponge often.
5. Let dry until grout is hard and haze forms on tile surface, then polish with a soft cloth and wait 72 hours for heavy use. NOTE: Don't apply sealers or polishes for three weeks, and then only in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations.
6. Perform the curing of the joints 24 hours after the installation is completed: clean the joints again with a sponge moistened with water.
7. Allow the adhesive dry as indicated by the manufacturer. In a floor installation, do not walk or put objects before drying is complete, as it could cause unevenness.

STEP 06

POST-INSTALLATION CLEAN UP

1. Once the drying time is complete, thoroughly clean the installed product, using a mop, soft bristle broom, neutral detergent and water.
2. The complete removal of grout and construction dirt after products have been installed will improve daily maintenance.
3. Clean by scrubbing the installation with hot water and a pH neutral liquid cleaner (soapless), followed by a thorough rinsing, then remove the rinse water with a wet vacuum or dry toweling.
4. If some residue remains, further cleaning will need to be done - follow grout manufacturer recommendations.
5. For more aggressive cleaning, floor scrubbing machines equipped with nylon pads or brushes should be used. Wet vacuuming of the suspended dirt and grout is recommended.
6. Be sure that cleaning products do not contain muriatic acid, hydrofluoric acid or similar since these substances can damage/alter the surface of the tiles or change the appearance of the tiles.