

Mosaic Tile Installation

Step 1: Surface Preparation

- Tile may be installed over most structurally sound substrates.
- Make sure surface is clean, smooth, dry and free of wax, soap scum and grease.
- Any damaged, loose or uneven areas must be repaired, patched and leveled.
- Remove any moldings, trim, appliances or anything that could interfere with installation.



Step 2: Layout

- Find the center point of the wall, using a level to draw a plumb line in the wall's center.
- Lay out a row of loose tiles across the bottom of the wall from the center line leaving uniform joints between tiles. NOTE: Tiles can be butted together leaving a consistent 1/16 in. joint automatically. TIP: If cuts leave tiles smaller than half to their original size, adjust the center line a half tile closer to the wall.
- Stack two tiles here. At the top, draw a horizontal line on the wall and continue the line around all side walls to be tiled.



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Step 3: Cutting Tile

- It is recommended to use a diamond blade, as blades designed for ceramic tile will chip the stone and/or glass. NOTE: Cut edges should be placed in corners where they can be hidden.



Step 4: Drilling

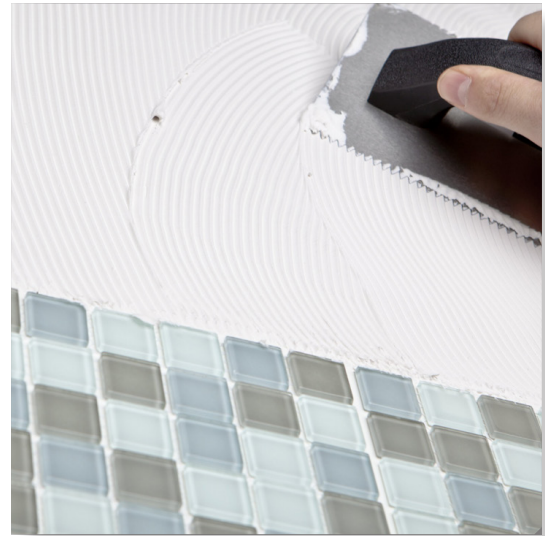
- It is recommended to use a drill bit that is specially designed for glass, metal and stone. NOTE: The tile must be securely clamped into place to prevent movement of the tile during the drilling process.
- When drilling the hole, keep the bit and hole lubricated to prevent chipping.
- Drill from both sides of the tile, starting with the back and drilling half of the depth of the tile.
- Turn the tile over and complete the hole. This will prevent the glass, metal and stone from chipping as the drill bit exits the tile.



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Step 5: Installing Tile

- Suitable for use in wet, but not fully submersed areas, such as shower walls.
- It is recommended to use a white thin-set mortar with a flexible acrylic additive or a white polymer fortified thin-set mortar.
- Apply this mixture with the manufacturer's recommendations of a notch trowel (typically 3/16 in. x 3/16 in. V-notch).
- Knock down the trowel ridges with the flat edge of the trowel to produce an even layer of the thin-set mortar.
- Spread only enough thin-set to install a few sheets at a time. Fully butter the back of each sheet with the flat edge of the trowel in order to avoid the notch marks in the thin-set from showing through the glass.
- Carefully press into the thin-set, leaving even spaces in between tiles. A grout float can be used to tap the tiles into place. Allow for movement joints where the tiles abut restraining surfaces and around the perimeter of the installation. NOTE: We recommend allowing a 1/8 in. joint between tiles.



Step 6: Grouting

- To prevent scratching, grout with an unsanded grout after the adhesive has had proper time to cure.



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Step 7: Initial Cleaning

- It is recommended to use a non-abrasive cleaner to prevent scratching of the tile. NOTE: Tiles that have been scratched prior to or during installation are the customer's responsibility.



Glossary of Terms

Back-butter	spreading of a bond coat to the back of a ceramic tile before placing the tile to ensure a strong bond with the thin-set mortar.
Balanced cuts	perimeter tile cut at equal size and installed on opposite sides of an area; also, equally sized cuts on each side of a miter.
Butt joint	a plain square joint between two members with no grout joint.
Grout	a mix used for filling tile joints, commonly based of cement.
Mortar	a mixture of cement paste and fine aggregate used to bond masonry together.
Plumb	perpendicular to true level.
Substrate	the underlying support for a ceramic tile installation.

ATTENTION / ATENCIÓN / ATTENTION

Do not dry cut using motorized equipment due to the potential for exposure to harmful silica dust. Use a wet saw or a score and snap tool when cutting is necessary during the installation process.

No corte en seco usando equipo motorizado debido a la posibilidad de exposición a polvo dañino de sílice. En caso de que sea necesario cortar durante el proceso de instalación, usar una sierra de corte en húmedo o una herramienta cortadora manual.

Ne pas couper à sec à l'aide d'un équipement motorisé en raison du risque d'exposition à la poussière de silice nuisible. Utiliser une scie à eau ou un outil à inciser et rompre lorsqu'il faut couper pendant le processus d'installation.