



Inspection:

Always inspect your tiles before they are installed, as **installation of material constitutes acceptance**. Any questions as to acceptability must be resolved before installation. Always layout your material prior to installation to ensure the appearance meets desired results. Apollo Tile is in no way responsible for the installation of our tiles or thereafter. The responsibility for correct installation rests with the end user.

Installation:

- To prolong the life and beauty of your installation, it is best to secure a licensed installer familiar with the industry standards established in the NTCA, ASTM, M.I.A. and ANSI handbooks for tile and trade installation.
- Cracked glazed ceramic may vary in absorption. It is recommended to pre-seal cracked glazed ceramic prior to installation. This will help prevent setting materials and grouts from staining the surface and bleeding into the body of the ceramic.
- Penetrating type sealers that leave the material looking natural are recommended for this purpose. Suggested sealer brands include but are not limited to: Dupont™ Stonetech® Professional Sealer and Aqua Mix. Please refer to sealers Manufacturer instructions prior to sealing. Test in a small area before sealing entire surface to ensure suitability. Contact your purchase location for additional information on these types of sealers.
- We recommend installing ceramics over a clean, sound, and flat concrete or mortar substrate. The surface should be free of contaminants or any condition that could compromise the bond of the tile.
- Use a high quality, well maintained wet saw with a diamond blade designed for cutting ceramic tiles. Using a poorly maintained tile saw or a blade will cause the tile to chip during cutting. Always cut tile very slowly to avoid chipping.
- Grout joints should be packed full and free of all voids and pits. Excess grout should be cleaned from the surface as the work progresses, while grout is fresh and before it hardens. Prior to grouting, test in a small area to make sure that the right color grout is chosen and that the surface does not scratch during grouting.

Care and Maintenance:

To maximize the life of your hand-crafted ceramic and retain its artistic integrity, please consider the following:

- Use only a mild, pH-neutral detergent cleaner and damp sponge or rag to clean your mosaic.
- **Do not** use acid, alkaline, and solvent-based cleaners. They can damage and/or discolor the tiles and the grout.
- **Do not** allow soap, bleach or other cleaning solutions set on the surface.
- **Do not** wax any part of your mosaic.
- **Do not** let stains sit on your mosaic's surface for extended periods. Clean promptly.