

METAL FOIL GLASS TILE INSTALLATION GUIDE

Note

This is intended as a general guide only. Some installations require different or more detailed specifications. Please consult a professional tiler, architect or the technical department of your adhesive company to ensure the guideline is applicable to the particular circumstances.

Product

Please fully read the instructions and inspect each piece carefully prior to installation. Ensure product quality, colour, size and shading is acceptable. Due to the handmade nature of our product a certain amount of variation in colour, shade, tone and size can be expected. The installer or end user is responsible for determining if the product is acceptable. Use of the product constitutes full acceptance.

Suitability

The protected metallic layer in the glass tile is susceptible to moisture and high U.V. light. It is not suitable for areas subject to water immersion i.e. swimming pools etc. It is not suitable for outdoor use in areas exposed to direct sunlight and weather.

Glass products may be installed in any area not subject to high abrasion, mechanical or thermal shock.

We do not recommend this product for situations where severe heat will be applied to this product, i.e. directly behind a kitchen hob. The glass is not toughened, meaning it is not heat treated. If high temperature is applied to an isolated area, the glass may crack.

Since the glass is non- toughened, it can be cut like a regular glass tile, cutting it from the glossy side. Normal glass tile installation procedures should be followed. Ensure enough space for the glass to expand and contract during varying temperatures.

General

The performance of any adhesive depends on the dimensional stability and structural soundness of the substrate. All substrates should be clean, dry and fully cured and free from any contaminants including curing compounds. As glass is a reflective product, any surface inconsistencies will show after the product is installed. Follow the adhesive manufacturer's guide on substrate preparation.

Adhesives and Grouts

Due to the translucent nature of the glass product the colour choice of bonding material will impact on the shade or tone of the colour when set. The manufacturer recommends the use of a flexible, white thin-set adhesive suitable for moisture sensitive material and suitable for glass tile installation and the specific substrate. Epoxy is not recommended. Mastic type adhesives should **NOT** be used.

Adhesive should be applied strictly within the adhesive manufacturer's installation specifications using a notched trowel (typically a 6mm notch trowel). The back of the tile must be clean prior to installation.

The thin set adhesive should be applied first to the surface to be tiled. Only apply enough adhesive that can be covered within 10 minutes or while the adhesive remains wet and tacky. Back butter the glass tile then set in place and gently tap to ensure 100% full bedded adhesive contact to avoid notch marks in the back of the tile showing through the glass. Clean excess adhesive from the surface with a damp sponge while it is fresh.

Grout colour plays an important role in the final appearance of glass mosaic. Contrasting colours will frame each glass piece. Grout that matches or coordinates will provide an overall smoother appearance. Avoid using sanded grout to prevent possible scratching during installation. Use a flexible (polymer modified) grout. Once the grout is fully dry it can be sealed.

Expansion and Control Joints

Existing joints in the substrate should be carried through the tile work. Expansion joints should be installed every 3.5metres, all "changes of plane" and wherever the tile abuts a restraining surface.

Cutting and Drilling

Eye protection should always be worn when cutting, drilling or grinding glass tile. Glass tiles can be cut with a ceramic tile cutter, glass cutter, or wet diamond saw equipped with a continuous rim blade. Smooth any rough edges with sand paper or sanding stone. For round holes, drill the back of the tile with a water cooled diamond drill bit and finish the hole from the front to prevent chipping.

Cleaning and Maintenance

Maintain glass tile similar to ceramic products. Avoid acids, corrosive or abrasive cleaners which may permanently scratch or damage the glass tile. Use a neutral cleaner or water with a soft cloth. Acid should not be used to clean grout residue.