

THE TILE GURU GUIDE TO HAPPINESS

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE BETTER HANDLING, MANAGING, LAYING AND MAINTAINING TILES

BASICS

- Please check the date of manufacturing, name of the design and batch number before opening the box of tiles. It is desirable that tiles of same date and batch number be used in the same room.

PREPARATION OF SUBSTRATE OR BASE OR PPC

- Prepare the base (on which tiles have to be fixed), Substrate, or PCC as we commonly called, before laying the tiles. The thickness of base may be about 25mm.
- Give the substrate a proper curing time before the tile laying. At least 4 to 7 days have to be given for properly setting up the base before tiling work starts.
- Check the level of the base carefully, the balance of the surface should not exceed more than 2mm@ every 2mt.

DESIGNING AND RANDOMNESS:-

- Randomness in tile is the classic surface designing, it is a part of Design. Always study the different faces while purchasing the particular tile surface.
- Always understand Surface, Thickness and Size you are selecting.

AESTHETICS AND SHADE VARIATIONS:-

- Tiles have inherent property of shade variation. Remember,
- Variants in shades are not Shade Variations.
- To minimize the problem of shade variation, spread all the tiles (to be laid in a room) in an open area with proper illumination and observe them for colour uniformity. If some tiles do not match with others take them out and use them for skirting. Start laying work only when the tiles spread on floor are acceptable to you.

LAYING:-

- The tiles should be laid in such a way that arrow marks shown at the back of the tile point in the same direction (as shown in the picture). This will maintain the continuity of the design.
- Glossy tiles are slippery when wet. Do not lay Glossy, High Gloss or Polished tiles on the area of High Traffic.
- Always follow RIGHT TILES FOR RIGHT AREA.
- Always use higher R-Value, matt finish, full body matt tiles for higher traffic area.
- Outdoor, matt finish tiles, GVTs must be laid with at least 3 to 5 mm spacers based on the application of the area. Outdoor, semi outdoor, areas having direct rainfall must be laid with anti-skid tiles, Higher R-value Tiles and spacers as mentioned above.
- Always use suction cups and hand gloves for the safety.

SPACERS AND LEVELLING SYSTEM:-

- It is a better practice to lay the tiles with 2mm gap and later filling this gap with a grout. Use Spacers always, Spacers are the very need of tiling. It helps you protect the flooring from possible de-bonding because of the expansion and contraction actions.
- It allows the gases to be released underneath the tiles if spacers are given, it is also helping to replace the broken tile to cut and change because of the spacers, cutting becomes easier and do not damage the other tile.
- Always lay tile with proper levelling system, Use of spacers, clips and wedges gives tile a proper balanced laying and also provides a deep aesthetic look.

GROUTING:-

- Do not walk or put any weight on the floor after it is laid for the next 24 hours at least.
- Gaps between tiles should be filled with grout after 24 hours to 72 hours of laying the tiles.
- After filling the joints with grout, excess grout should be wiped/cleaned using a damp cloth or sponge. This cleaning of residues must be done within 20 to 30 minutes of Grouting completed.
- A very thin film of Grout may remain even after wiping the floor and it should then be cleaned with a tile cleaner having PH value ranging from 6 to 8. Never use acid having Content of HF-Hydro Fluoric Acid.

TILE PROTECTION/COVERING THE FLOOR:-

- The floor should be covered with Polythene, Floor Guards and POP (Plaster Of Paris) before undertaking any furniture / polishing / painting or any work on the vitrified flooring. Direct contact of wood polish chemicals (with tiles) should be avoided.
- Remember, never use the Tile cartons to cover the floor, there is always a possibility of impression might remain of corrugation on the tile which is very difficult to clear later on.

CLEANING:-

- Always use recommended Tile Cleaners ranging from PH Value of 6 to 8. NO TO ALL ACIDS.

TILES LAID BY THIN SET /ADHESIVE:

- Only TYPE-3 Adhesive/ Chemical must be used for the tile fixing for longer and better results.
- Use at least 6/8 mm Notched Trowel for the bed preparation with the TYPE-3 Adhesive/Chemicals on the PCC/Substrate.
- Apply the Adhesive/Chemicals keeping the length of the tile, put it straight as per the tile Length.
- Apply back buttering on the back of the tile to level the grid behind.
- Then use 3/4 mm Notched Trowel by applying the same Adhesive/Chemical,Run it on the smaller side of the tile.
- Use suction cup to lift the tile and fix in the area of application.
- Always follow the guidelines of Adhesive manufacturer.
- Advantages: Ease of application, saving of time &labour cost, cleanliness, Avoidance of bad masonry.

USAGE OF TOOLS:-

1. Always use branded power tools, keep it in a proper alignment, balanced shaft. Both Grinder and Cutting Machine have to be with proper capacity.
2. Zero chipping high density diamond Blade for cutting.
3. Diamond Core bits for making holes for hinges to CP Fittings ranges from 6 mm to 65 mm must be used.
4. Manual, Dry cutting tool for the strips cutting is very useful, it minimizes the cracks possibilities in larger formats especially.
5. Notched Trowels ranging from 3 mm to 12 mm can be very handy for the tile fixing and adhesive application.
6. Diamond Pads for finishing the edges,
7. Suction Cups
8. Tile Closer with suction cups.
9. Manual Polishing pads for the edge finishing.
10. Proper levelling system with spacers, Grout profiles and grout cleaners.
11. Spacers with clips and wedges available from 1 mm to 5 mm thickness.
12. Wedges can be reused.
13. Use of Vibrators is a must, for smaller tiles we can use Tappers also. This will not allow air pockets developed and there will be no hollowness.

**Note:- Get in touch with our customer care representative for more details
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