



Installation - Porcelain Tile

Installation Procedures.

- **Backing Material (Substrate):** The surface to be tiled must be clean, dry, flat and structurally sound (does not flex when weight is applied), secure, and free from any type of contamination that can act as a bond breaker or bond inhibitor. If there is any substance present that could inhibit the bond of the mortars used, it must be completely removed. Suitable substrates include, but are not limited to, exterior grade plywood, cement backer board, concrete, mortar beds, cement plaster, and existing ceramic tile/stone. Refer to industry information for a complete list of approved substrates. When using the double plywood or plywood/cement backer-board scheme, check to ensure that the proper types and thickness of plywood are used.

- **Mortar:** Depending on the application and conditions present, the use of a liquid-latex fortified sanded cement mortar, Polymer modified sanded cement, medium bed, or epoxy mortar is recommended for the installation of Porcelain Stone® tile.

It can also be installed in mortar bed (i.e., thick bed) applications. Consult the installation materials manufacturer for additional information and installation instructions. Ensure that adequate coverage of mortar is present under the tiles to provide proper bedding coverage and problem-free performance.

- **Grouting:** A polymer-modified, liquid-latex fortified or epoxy grout should be used with porcelain stone tiles. While grout-staining problems are extremely rare when using Crossville products, a small test patch is recommended when using a dark grout over a light-colored tile, or vice versa. The test patch will also verify cleanability of the grout with heavily textured tile surfaces.

Cleaning Procedures. Please consult our “How to Care for Porcelain Tile” brochure for proper cleaning procedures after grouting as well as for routine maintenance. For routine maintenance, please refer to the procedures under “Daily Maintenance,” “CROSS-SHEEN®,” or “Polished,” depending on the type of cleaning required.

For more Specific installation instruction please refer to the TCNA Handbook.

Crossville Inc
Technical Services