



**NOTICE
READ PRIOR TO INSTALLATION**

These instructions will serve as a guideline for the installation of Clayhaus Modern Tile.

***We strongly recommend hiring a professional tile installer to install our ceramic tile. You are making an investment in our handcrafted artisan tile- please don't let a faulty install ruin it.**

Inspection:

It is important that you inspect your entire order to ensure that it is acceptable before installation. All claims must be brought to the attention of your salesperson within 72 hours.

Prepping for your Install:

Please keep in mind that variation in size, shape and color is inherent with handcrafted artisan tile and is to be expected. These characteristics contribute to the beauty and unique quality of our products and are not considered flaws.

For best results and to achieve optimum distribution of color range and strategic blending, we highly recommend pulling tiles from multiple boxes simultaneously and lay the tiles out prior to installation.

Installation Constitutes Acceptance.

No claims can be made after installation of the tile

Substrate:



Preparing the existing surface is the most critical task of any tile installation. The tile must be placed on a rigid, level, plumb and structurally sound surface to avoid problems. The surface should be clean, dry and free of contaminants that could prevent a good bond.

The recommended substrate is a cement backer board such as HardieBacker. Gypsum board may also be acceptable for interior dry installations only.

Installations should be mocked-up prior to beginning tiling. This will show how the tile will fit the space, how to avoid uneven cuts at the row's end and inform you of the appropriate grout width.

Adhesive:



Use a mastic or a thin-set to install ceramic tiles.

Tools:



Rubber Grout Float, Large Bucket, 3/16" V Notched Trowel, Sponge, Lint Free Cloth and a Wet Saw with a Diamond Blade appropriate for ceramic tile.

Process:

1. Apply adhesive to wall evenly with the v-notched trowel. Work in sections of approximately 2 square feet at a time.
2. Apply tile to wall starting in the middle of installation area and work outward.
3. Before applying sanded grout, allow the adhesive to dry for the timeframe recommended by the manufacturer. Thin-set, for example, will cure/dry in 24-48 hours.

***Tip: Don't be alarmed if the installation does not look perfect before the sanded grout is applied- one of the purposes of grout is to hide imperfection in the install. Recommended grout thickness is 3/16". A thinner grout line may be possible but 1/8" is a minimum.**

4. Let sanded grout dry 10-20 minutes. Using a slightly damp sponge, wipe diagonally across the tile to remove the grout film from the surface of the tile. Do not allow grout to dry on the tile.

5. Wipe tile with a lint-free cloth as the final step, buffing away all residual grout from the surface of the tile.

***Note: When installing our ceramic tile, we don't recommend using a high contrast grout color as it may highlight/stain any minor surface imperfections which are inherent in handmade ceramic tile.**

*****All grout should be tested on a sample tile BEFORE application on the entire installation*****

Beware of Grout Haze:

Grout haze is a very thin layer of grout which has been allowed to dry on the surface of the tile. During installation the grout must be completely wiped from the tile surface and then the tops of the tiles buffed with a soft cloth to remove any residual grout film. Once the grout dries overnight there is little that can be done to remove grout haze, aside from washing the tile with one of the commercial acid grout haze removers.

Cutting/Drilling ceramic tile:

- The recommended cutting method is by wet saw with a new diamond blade designed specifically for cutting ceramic tile.
- Make cuts onto the back side of the tiles.
- Edges which have been cut should be smoothed with diamond hand pad or another similar smoothing tool.
- If it is necessary to drill holes in the tile we recommend doing so with a low speed drill equipped with a diamond tipped core bit BEFORE installation. Water must be sprayed on the surface and drill bit continuously during drilling.

Cleaning ceramic tile:

- A damp sponge is typically sufficient to keep this tile clean.
- Non abrasive, ph-neutral cleaners can also be used effectively. Do not use acid or abrasives on glazed surfaces.