

TILE REFERENCE INFORMATION



GLAZED CERAMIC

Glazed ceramic tile has been used for centuries and offers consumers more options in color, texture, pattern and overall beauty than most other floor covering materials. With new manufacturing techniques, today's ceramic tile designs are virtually indistinguishable from natural marbles, travertine, slates and other stone products. Ceramic tile is simply a mixture of clays which have been shaped and fired at high temperatures, resulting in a hard body. Characterized by a dark red or white back with a fine glaze over the body of tile, the non-porous glaze creates a surface that is virtually stain proof and very low in maintenance.

PORCELAIN

Porcelain tiles are usually frost resistant and manufactured using clays (including kaolin and feldspar) that have specific properties. The extremely high firing temperatures result in a tile that is stain- and scratch-resistant and harder than granite. Dense and impervious by definition – with a water absorption rate of 0.5% or less – porcelain tile is produced with either glazed or unglazed surfaces. Unglazed porcelains are usually "through-body" with regard to color, while glazed porcelains are most often glazed over white- or buff-body material. While unglazed porcelains often have higher slip resistance than glazed porcelains, they can also be more difficult to clean than the glazed variety. It is important to take this into account when choosing between different porcelain tiles. There are also many non-porcelain tiles that can be used in environments with extreme freeze/thaw cycles and that are manufactured with properties similar to porcelain.

GLAZED COLORED-BODY PORCELAIN

Glazed colored-body porcelain is one of the most recent innovations, combining the best qualities of glazed tiles (reduced maintenance issues, increased color and design selection) with those of unglazed tiles (body color that more closely approximates the glazed surface color), making it exceptionally versatile, durable and resistant to wear.

INSTALLATION AND REFERENCE MATERIALS

Installation procedures recommended are those indicated in the current Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation as published by the Tile Council of America, Inc. Specification references recommended are those established in the American National Standard Specifications for the installation of ceramic tile, as published by the Tile Council of America, Inc. Due consideration must be taken with regard to the subsurface, intended use of the tile surface, and exposure to foreign substances such as water, oil, acid, etc., when selecting the type of setting material and grout. If in doubt, the manufacturer of these setting materials should be consulted.

SHADE VARIATIONS

Variations in shade and color are inherent in all fired clay products. This natural quality contributes to the overall visual characteristic of ceramic tile and should be expected. Blending of tiles from at least six different cartons during installation is recommended, as shine/finish can differ under certain lighting conditions.

LIMITS OF LIABILITY

Tests are performed on random samples of Interceramic tile by an independent testing laboratory and are believed to be representative of the general quality of the tile. There is no guarantee by Interceramic that these exact results will be guaranteed on every tile. Interceramic extends no guarantees, expressed or implied, as to slip resistance, wear-time period, gloss or maintenance procedures. Test procedures and individual results are available from Interceramic.

ANSI A-137.1

Interceramic tile achieves the necessary values for the ANSI A-137.1-P188 (American National Standards Institute) requirement. This is the most complete testing done on ceramic tile and includes tests on thickness, facial dimension, warpage, edging, water absorption, crazing, thermal shock, bonding strength and breaking strength.