

PORCELAIN

DELUXE

Installation Instructions

Laying

How a floor is laid is of great importance. A well-laid floor enhances all of the aesthetic qualities of the material used.

- Check that the bed (concrete slab) is perfectly level and completely dry and smooth
- Use a cleaning device, such as a vacuum, to carefully remove dust and residues.

After having chosen a suitable glue and having prepared it following the manufacturer's instructions, spread the glue with a smooth spatula and then comb it with the tooth part. DuChâteau strongly suggests the use of polymer-modified thin-set mortar, which will increase the lifetime of your installation.

For heavy traffic floors, a double layer of glue is recommended. Thus, wetting the back of the product itself with glue. This procedure prevents the possible creation of holes that could cause breakage (see the difference between spreading and double spreading). After approximately 24 - 48 hours, it is safe to proceed to grout. The laid floor must be cleaned carefully and then grouted all over its surface using a rubber spatula. It is advisable to use colors similar to the floor, in order to obtain a harmonious end result.

Fabricating

How to cut

It is necessary to use suitable, professional tools, always checking their cutting capacity and replacing worn parts when necessary. For accurate cutting, use a traditional cutter, checking the state of the cutting wheel before starting.

For circular cutting, after having made a template (that is to say a pattern of the part to be cut), lay it on the part in question and transfer the shape with a pencil. Using a diamond-cutting disk, cut without exerting excessive pressure.

How to make holes

It is necessary to use a water milling cutter or a continuous crown diamond-cutting disk for stoneware and granite tiles. After having penciled – on the back of the product – the perimeter of a square within which the hole must be made, use the cutting tool to cut perpendicular and diagonal lines and then concentric circles towards the outside.

When the central thickness of the hole has become very thin, turn the piece over and open up the hole by tapping lightly.

For making holes in tiles, a diamond point drill for granite must be used. It is important to remember to cool the points often while working.

Grouting

Grouting and grout cleanup of DuChâteau Porcelain DeLuxe materials can be achieved quickly and efficiently if the contractor follows the directions from the grout manufacturer. Many grout manufacturers produce products specifically for use with unglazed porcelain tile, and by following their instructions, a beautiful and durable installation is ensured. Special attention should be given when using contrasting grouts --- specifically, light colored tile with dark grouts. All installations using a black grout should be field tested for compatibility.

Performing a test area using the specified grout and DuChâteau Porcelain DeLuxe materials is recommended to determine if the inclusion of a grout release agent is necessary, it is important to use one that will not affect the bonding of the grout to the sides and edges of the joint.

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Surface Coatings

DuChâteau Porcelain DeLuxe materials do not require the use of sealers or waxes; in fact, adding surface coatings only increases the maintenance of this flooring system. Surface coatings may actually diminish the exceptional performance characteristics of DuChâteau Porcelain DeLuxe materials by creating a thin barrier that can modify skid resistance properties. The dense, low-porosity of DuChâteau Porcelain DeLuxe materials inhibits not only the absorption of stains, but also the absorption of sealers and waxes. Application of these products may produce a spotty or streaked appearance on the tile. In the event a polished finish is used in an area prone to excessive spills or dirt, it may be advisable to treat the tile with a penetrating type sealer. During the polishing process, microscopic pores are sometimes exposed. Although the pores are shallow, spills can fill them making standard cleaning procedures inadequate. By using a penetrating type sealer, these microscopic pores are filled preventing stains from setting in. A penetrating type sealer is designed only to fill pores, not to coat the tile surface. You will not alter the polished tile's appearance, provided a recommended sealer is used and applied according to the manufacturer's instructions.



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