INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR 120 cm x 120 cm x 0,8 cm

Ceramic tiles are not the finished product. To get the most out of the design, quality and overall optimal performance of ceramic floor and wall tiles - from both a technical and aesthetic perspective - they must be installed properly. As such, there are a number of things you need to think about prior to installing your ceramic tiles.

Checking your chosen ceramic tiles are suitable for the intended use is paramount.



Humidity and the ambient temperature will affect how certain materials (mortars, adhesives, grout) act upon application/hardening. You should avoid installing ceramic tiles when the air temperature (or temperature of the base or materials) is below 5°C or above 35°C.

Avoid leaving loose tiles stacked together in the open for long periods of time.



The surface you're laying the tiles on should be in the right condition for laying the ceramic tiles on a thin bed with a clean, dry and unbroken surface. Using a two-metre ruler, check the flatness tolerance of the surface does not exceed 3 mm. Check it has adequate resistance for your intended





We recommend using a notched spreader to apply a thin layer of class C2ES2 adhesive (according to European standard EN 12004). Specifically, Butech's Superflex S2. This adhesive has excellent adhesive and deformable properties and doesn't need to be mixed with additives, is easy to work with and comes in a 15 kg container.



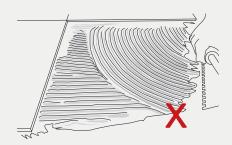
Before you start to lay the tiles, we recommend assembling or testing the layout of your ceramic materials when dry to prevent small or uneven cuts and optimise the design.



Choose the notched spreader type depending on the format of your tiles, base and adhesive type.



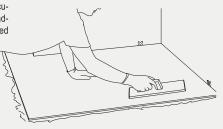
Always use the buttering-floating technique. Generally speaking, we recommend using an 8-10 mm notched spreader to apply the adhesive on your base and 3-4 mm for the back of the tile. Apply the adhesive in a straight line and in the same direction on both the base and back of the tile. Avoid applying the adhesive in semi-circles, diagonally, or in different directions on the base and back, as it makes it harder for air to escape.





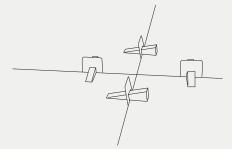
Offset tiles with fixed joints at ¾ of the length of the tile.

Use specialist tools to press the tile and get rid of any air bubbles or hollow areas. Pay particular attention to the edges and corners. We advise using a hard rubber spreader for improved distribution over the tiles.



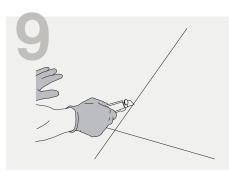
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We recommend laying the tiles with a minimum joint of 1.5 mm for indoor areas and 5 mm outdoors. It's a good idea to use a levelling system such as Butech self-levelling spacers to facilitate even installation of your floor tiles and avoid any lippage issues.

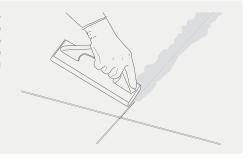


These levelling systems are not intended for rectifying or offsetting any issues with the flatness of your base. In this instance you should use products intended specifically for that problem. We recommend using self-levelling mortar.

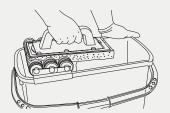
Before using the self-levelling spacers, test them on the type of floor or wall tile you're laying, and check you won't damage the tiles when you're breaking them off. This is especially important if you're working with relief tiles or non-bevelled, rectified tiles.



Pay adequate attention to the setting time of the adhesive and remember that with large formats, and/or if you're laying the tiles in adverse weather conditions, it may take longer to dry. Once the adhesive has hardened, clean the full width and depth of the joints and apply grout, making sure you spread it evenly, with no bubbles or gaps.



Wipe away any excess grout and don't let any harden over the tile.



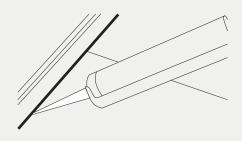


We recommend class CG2WA grout, as per EN 13888, specifically Butech Colorstuk Rapid. This coloured technical mortar is a grout for indoor or outdoor use. It sets quickly, is highly weather resistance and won't produce efflorescence.

If you need a product with greater mechanical and chemical resistance, or need to achieve more uniformity and colour maintenance over time, we recommend using epoxy grout. In this instance, use the Epotech Aqua epoxy range.

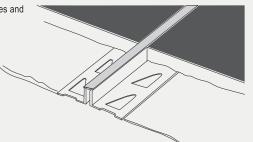
How you treat your movement/ expansion joints (structural, perimeter and intermediate) is a determining factor when you want to achieve the perfect ceramic tile installation.

You must pay close attention to the existing structural joints on the sub-floor or slabs, as well as any open shrinkage joints present on the sub-floor.



Perimeter movement joints should be a minimum of 8 mm. Interior intermediate movement joints should be planned in regular, square sections, with a maximum surface area of 40 m2, in place every ≤ 8 m with a minimum width of 5 mm. When used outdoors, the length between them should be between 2.5 - 5 m, with a maximum surface area of 16 m2 and minimum width of 8 mm. Always follow the regulatory guidelines in your country.

Butech offers a wide range of prefabricated profiles and elastic sealants for filling joints. See catalogue.

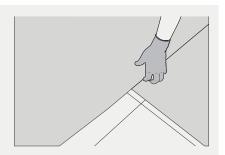


Once you've laid and grouted the tiles, a coating should be applied to the ceramic tiles, first ensuring they are completely clean.



If you are unaware of the next stage of use for the ceramic floor tiles, you should use the appropriate means of protection to cover the entire surface.

Butech offers protective materials for this purpose.



These instructions have been drafted based on our own expertise and technical knowledge. Any installation regulations in the destination country should be wholly respected.