

MIRAZUR

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APPLICATIONS

- Interior walls
- Showers/Steam Showers (including Miro)
- Light duty residential floors (matte only)

This is not a step-by-step installation guide, but general precautions and tips on how to install and care for your tile. Select installers for our products with great consideration and care as proper installation is critical. Installation constitutes acceptance.

This product is made with a semi-absorbent clay body. With this body particular attention must be paid to the following:

- **installation of an absorbent clay body**
- **use of dark or contrasting grouts with crackles**
- **extra care required for crackles**

BEFORE INSTALLATION

IMPORTANT: Make sure the installer understands the blending requirements given the variation in color and surface texture of Mirazur. All tiles must be unpacked, inspected and BLENDED prior to installation.

- Color and shade variation is an inherent characteristic of Mirazur. Due to the special moulds and unique production process for Mirazur, some tiles will also contain surface imperfections. These “imperfect” characteristics are intentional and do not affect the integrity of the tile.
- As such, it is very important to blend the tiles from ALL boxes once they arrive and place them in the installation area to ensure the layout is acceptable before installing. Do not install without blending and reviewing the tiles prior to installation.

INSTALLATION

- Install Mirazur per industry standards and always refer to the most current Tile Council of North America (TCNA) “Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation”
- Movement joints are essential for the success of tile installations. Follow recommendations on movement joints EJ 171 in the most current TCNA “Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation”
- Some Mirazur ships with a dissolvable wax between the tiles to prevent scratching in transport. This can easily be removed by wetting the tiles with warm water and gently rubbing it off with a soft sponge or soft cloth.
- For cutting, use a high quality diamond blade that is new or well maintained. This will help minimize glaze chipping during cuts.

SEALING

- **FOR ALL APPLICATIONS CRACKLE GLAZES MUST BE SEALED BEFORE GROUTING TO LIMIT WATER PENETRATION AND TILE DISCOLORATION. WE RECOMMEND AT LEAST 2-3 COATS OF A SEALER SUCH AS AQUAMIX GOLD OR SIMILAR.** To create crackle glazes, the glaze surface develops cracks (which do not affect the integrity of the tile), not the tile body. As a result, **unsealed crackle tile will stain.** If unsealed crackle glaze tiles get wet, they will temporarily darken from the moisture. Allow tile to dry before resealing the area. Crackle glazes may continue to crackle over time and resealing is highly recommended every 6 months based on usage and application. Some water related darkening may still occur.
- Sealing is also recommended for backsplashes to help prevent staining in the cracks from food splashes while cooking. Unsealed tile may stain. Resealing the area should be repeated every 6 months to maintain best appearance.

GROUTING

- **Any dark or contrasting grouts are likely to stain crackle glazes. Sealing may not prevent staining.** If a dark or contrasting grout is desired, sealer and grout must be tested on tile prior to installation. Sealers such as Aquamix Gold or similar may help prevent staining, but must be tested prior to using a grout color and always follow sealer manufacturer’s instructions.

SHOWERS

- We recommend the use of pre-formed waterproof shower systems (such as Schluter Kerdi-Shower-Kit, Laticrete Hydo Ban or similar products), or one of the TCNA methods that require a gap and flexible sealant between the mortar bed and shower wall substrate.

NOTE ON STEAM SHOWERS

- Because of their unique moisture environment, steam showers require specific installation methods. Follow TCNA guidelines for steam shower installation and always refer to the most current version of the TCNA “Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation.”
- When installing in steam showers we also recommend sealing the top and sides after setting but before grouting. A second coat of sealer should be applied once the grout has set. This will help prevent water penetration and tile discoloration. In addition we recommend sealing grout joints or using a water resistant grout to help mitigate moisture absorbing into the tile. Follow grout manufacturer’s recommendations for resealing periodically.

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CLEANING & MAINTENANCE

- For everyday cleaning use a mild dishwashing soap with water or a ph neutral cleaner made for tile
- Avoid harsh chemicals (such as phosphoric acid, vinegar, lemon juice etc.)
- Use a non-abrasive cloth/sponge for cleaning
- Miro can be particularly susceptible to abrasive products. Abrasive cleaners and scouring pads are not recommended.
- For any cleaning products, always test a small inconspicuous area first to make sure it doesn't affect the tile's glaze
- Clean up any spills or stains immediately not allowing them to dry
- Grout lines can be cleaned with warm water and soft bristle cleaning brush
- Vacuum floor tiles regularly to remove dirt and other gritty particles
- Periodic resealing every 6 months based on usage and application is highly recommended

IMPORTANT!

We recommend wet cutting or the score and snap method during the installation process. Do not dry cut using power tools during the installation process. Improper installation techniques could expose installer to harmful dust.