

CLAYMONDE INSTALLATION & CARE

■ Claymonde Ceramic Sheets

Applications

Please be sure your application suits the product. Please note our ceramic tiles are frost resistant but not frost proof. If being used in a wet area such as a pool or wet kitchen or bathroom area please be sure the glaze is suitable and is acid resistant. Claymonde is not rated for flooring or countertops, though many projects have used Claymonde on countertops over existing countertop materials.

Cutting

Use a diamond blade wet tile saw for cutting. A new tile saw blade will make a cleaner cut than an old overused blade. Stone or sand edges. Whenever possible use cut edges against the outside walls or ceiling where they are hidden. Dry tiles after cutting before applying silicone. Use a diamond bit with water to drill holes. Make sure that the faucet flange covers any chipping on the edges of the cut out.

Setting

Silicone – Best for tub surrounds, bathroom walls, backsplashes and fireplace surrounds. Create a waterproof installation by using silicone as the adhesive and grout and will result in much less mess than mixing thin sets and grouts. Install Fiberock Aqua-Tough™ 5/8" board plumb and level to wall studs. Take extra time to shim the wallboard and make sure that walls are straight true and level, because the tile will be glued directly to the wallboard. This board is water resistant and approved for tub surrounds. The back of tiles and wallboard must be free of dust and dry. Apply silicone in a squiggly line pattern from top to bottom of piece. Leave 1" gap between lines and from top, bottom and sides. Press tile smooth and flat to wall.

Mortar – Best for steam shower walls, fountains, pools and heavy use bathroom showers. Apply anti-fracture waterproof membrane (Laticrete 9235, C-cure 963 or equivalent) to mortar bed. Follow instructions of manufacturer for membrane application and thin set application. Use an elastomeric Thinset (mapei keralastic) with 100% acrylic additive. Spread thin set evenly and push tiles smooth and flat to each other.

Spacing & Grout

Space tiles with $\frac{3}{32}$ " spacers. Grout with unsanded grout. Use a grout color that blends with the tile or has no color added. Do not use a darker grout than the tile. A darker grout may stain the tile. After all pieces are installed use masking tape around joints, caulk joints with silicone, smooth and remove masking tape. Unsanded grout may also be used but will not be waterproof and will have to be sealed after installation when it is thoroughly dry.

Sealing

Seal annually with a thin coat of penetrating sealer in wet areas and behind cook top areas. Wipe penetrating sealer on with a soft cloth and remove residue before it dries. Sealing will protect tile and make clean up easy.

Care

To remove everyday wear and tear on your tile we suggest using soap and water and a clean rag or mop. Diluted dishwashing soap does the job without the worry of damaging the tile or stripping the sealer from your grout. You should be able to use any cleaning product specified for tile, though we suggest first testing the product to be sure. A good rule of thumb is using cleaning products that do not contain phosphoric acid. This ingredient is common in many harsh smelling cleaners. Avoid highly abrasive cleansers on higher gloss tiles as they may become scratched.

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