



ORIGINALSTYLE

Artworks

FIXING GUIDE

Artworks

FIXING GUIDE

Contents

Introduction	3
Successful tiling	4
Glossary of tiling terms	5
The right tools for the job	6
Selecting your tiles	7
Suitability	7
Shade variation	10
How many tile will you need?	10
Preparation	12
Planning	14
Adhesives	15
Grouts	16
Masterpiece tiles	18
Cleaning	20
Photography	20
Limits of liability	20

Introduction

Original Style Artworks tiles come in a wide range of types, sizes and finishes, to suit every taste.

Using this guide will help you to:

- Choose a suitable product for your project
- Calculate how many tiles you require
- Prepare and plan for the installation
- Mark out the work area
- Fix, grout and seal
- Clean and maintain your finished installation

This guide provides installation information on the following Original Style ranges:

Artworks Wall Tiles and Masterpieces*

Other fixing guides can be downloaded from www.originalstyle.com/guides

* A detailed fixing guide for Klimt masterpiece tiles is included with each product.

Where applicable, Original Style tiles are manufactured and tested to BS EN14411

Successful tiling

The key to success is to:

Gather together all the tools, tiles and materials you need before you start

Plan the installation.

Thoroughly prepare the surfaces to be tiled; time spent on this will save time later

Keep the work area clear and clean as you go along.

Work methodically and avoid mistakes by allowing sufficient time for each task

This guide is not intended to be a definitive guide to fixing tiles. If you are uncertain about anything having read this guide you should consult a professional tile installer.

PLEASE NOTE

It is the responsibility of the purchaser of Original Style products to adhere to the following guidelines in accordance with the British Standards Institute Wall and Floor Tiling Codes of Practice:

BS 5385-1:2009 Code of practice:

Wall and floor tiling. Design and installation of ceramic, natural stone and mosaic wall tiling in normal internal conditions.

BS 5385-3:2014 Code of practice:

Wall and floor tiling. Design and installation of internal and external ceramic and mosaic floor tiling in normal conditions.

It is the purchaser's responsibility:

To check the tiles by laying them out and viewing them prior to installation.

Please be advised that installation constitutes acceptance of the quality, colour, texture, shade and size of the tiles. This applies even if the home owner is not present during the tile installation.

To store products in an adequate, clean, dry and secure space that is free from frost and moisture.

To ensure that installation is carried out in adequate artificial lighting conditions.

To ensure that work is adequately protected during and after fixing.

All Original Style wall tiles made by dry pressing or extruding processes conform to BS EN14411. There are no standards for tiles and mouldings made from the slip casting process. Internal standards are adopted for slip cast pieces.

Glossary of tiling terms

Adhesive	The glue used to fix tiles to the substrate. There is a wide choice available, so always ask your stockist for advice on your particular project and type of tiles.
Grout	A hardening compound used to seal the joints between tiles. There is such a wide choice available, it is best to seek advice from your stockist on your particular project and type of tiles to be used.
Movement joints	Where tiles meet another surface, the joint is filled with silicone sealant, not grout, to allow for minor expansion and contraction. Should be placed according to architect's specifications, over existing joints and any changes in plane Movement joints eliminate stress transferring from the substrate. Internal: Please refer to BS5385-1 2009, 6.5-6.5.2 External: Please refer to BS5385-3 2014, 71.6.1-71.6.4
Pointing	Where grout is mixed to a thicker consistency than usual and applied into the joints with a squeegee, pressed in firmly and finished off with a grouting tool to give a neat finish. Any excess is removed using a damp sponge and the surface wiped clean.
Render	A wall finish made up of sand and cement, usually made up of sand/cement in the ratio of 4:1.
Screed	A floor screed is usually a cementitious material made from 1:3, 1:4 or 1:5 ratio of cement to sharp sand.
Silicone sealant	A material with elastic and waterproofing properties used to fill movement joints instead of grout.
Solid bed	A method of tiling where there are no voids under the surface of the tile.
Slurry grouting	Where the grout mix is runnier than normal and is spread across a large area at a time using a spreader. Care is needed to ensure the grout goes right into the joint and no areas are missed out.
Stud wall	Internal walls in a home, usually constructed of plasterboard over a wooden framework.
Substrate	Any surface on to which tiles are laid.
Thin set	A layer of adhesive applied to a depth of less than 5mm / ¼"

The right tools for the job

These tools will help you complete your tiling project to a professional standard. Most are readily available to buy or hire.

Adhesive spreader/ bedding trowel	The notched edge of this tool ensures an even spread of adhesive of an even depth.
Chinagraph pencil	For marking any tiles that need cutting. This will not stain the tiles and will resist being washed away when using a water-fed cutting machine. Never use a felt tip pen as they can leave permanent marks.
Drill	Use a masonry or tile drill bit.
Electric water-fed diamond wheel cutter	A water fed diamond wheel cutter is the best way of cutting porcelain and ceramic tiles. These are available from tool hire companies, tile shops, or DIY stores. Follow the manufacturer's advice regarding protective goggles, masks and gloves.
Scribe and snap straight cutter	A tool for straight cuts that scribes the tile ready for snapping by applying a light pressure at the end of the scribe mark.
Epoxy squeegee	A rigid squeegee specifically designed for the application of epoxy grouts.
Eye protection, gloves and dust mask	It is vital that you use all possible protection when using any cutting or drilling machinery. Always use personal protective equipment as advised by the HSE. Visit www.hse.gov.uk for further health and safety advice.
Gauging trowel	For removing the grout from its container, or the vessel used for mixing the grout. Use it to place adhesive onto a bedding trowel.
Grout finishing tool	This tool is run along the grout lines before they set completely to give consistent, neat finished grout lines. A piece of dowel can work just as well. NB: NOT to be used on epoxy grout.
Spacers	These small pieces of plastic are inserted between the corners of the tiles or mosaic sheets to provide consistent spacing. Push them in side-on so they are at right angles to the surface, and place them at regular intervals to maintain the spaces, and remove them before the grout is applied.
Spirit level/laser level/ plumb line	One or more of these tools will be necessary to ensure that your tile installation is level and that verticals are straight. A plumb line can be made from a small weight on a length of string.
Sponges	Use to remove grout residue and for smooth joints. Always use new sponges and grouting tools rather than old sponges and tools which may have adhesive or grout residue which could scratch tiles.
Squeegee or rubber trowel	Used for spreading grouting compound into the spaces between the tiles.
Steel ruler/tape measure	For accurate measuring.
Tile gauge	A device for accurately measuring and shaping your tiles.
Tile nippers	A specialist tool for 'nibbling' away unwanted sections of tiles.
Wedges	These are wooden or plastic for minute tile adjustment.

Selecting your tiles

This is obviously the most important and enjoyable task. With such a large range of tiles to choose from, you may like to order some samples to see how they fit in with the rest of your furnishings and decorations.

Tiles differ in size and thickness and choosing the right size is just as important as choosing which type. Small tiles are often better suited to covering small areas whereas larger areas look better with larger tiles. Suitability of your chosen tiles is also an important factor.

Suitability of tiles for your installation

Wall Tiles

Artworks wall tiles are not suitable for steam rooms, saunas, work surfaces, floors or external use. They are suitable for interior walls only. Most are suitable for walls in wet rooms and showers, with the following exceptions:

Victorian Green tiles are only suitable for dry walls. They have a copper-based glaze which is prone to discolouration by very mild acids often found in the home. To avoid such discolouration they should be cleaned only with pure water and should always be wiped dry immediately after cleaning. These tiles should never be used in wet areas such as showers, bath surrounds or basin splashbacks.

Gold and Platinum Tiles and Mouldings and Art Deco tiles and borders are only suitable for dry walls and should not be used in wet areas such as showers.

Crazing and Crackle Glaze Tiles

Highly glazed ceramic tiles may craze with time, and no guarantee can be given against this occurrence. Crackle glaze Metro and Finishing Pieces will need sealing. Crackle glaze tiles are not recommended for use near power showers.

Crackle glazed tiles and finishing pieces are suitable for dry and wet areas as long as they are impregnated before and after grouting on initial installation. They also need to be impregnated after three months and then again a year after installation. Suitable products are Lithofin KF Stainstop, LTP Mattstone, LTP Crackle Glaze Protector and FILA MP90.

When used in wet areas, crazed tiles should be sealed with an impregnator to stop moisture penetrating and causing discolouration. They should be sealed in both dry and wet conditions before grouting to facilitate grout removal from the crazing and then after grouting cleaning and drying. LTP Crackle Glaze Protector, LTP Mattstone, Lithofin KF Stainstop and FILA MP90 are suitable impregnators.

Suitability of tiles for your installation - continued

Due to their shape Albert and Victoria mouldings are not recommended for use in areas subject to wall movement. It is also imperative that care is taken when grouting these mouldings to ensure moisture cannot get into the back of them as this may cause the moulding to crack. Completely fill the back of the moulding with adhesive on fixing.

The reverse sides of mouldings are prone to variance. This does not affect fixing. We cannot guarantee that glaze will cover the side edges of the profiles.

Floor Tiles

The Floor Mosaics featured in the brochure are suitable for dry floors, internal use only. Fixing information can be found in the Original Style Mosaics Fixing Guide, www.originalstyle.com/guides

Various other tile floors have been featured in the brochure. Please see full details, suitability and fixing information on our website www.originalstyle.com and search for the tile range and appropriate guide at www.originalstyle.com/guides

If you are in any doubt about the suitability of any tiles for your particular requirements, please contact our Customer Services Team for advice by emailing info@originalstyle.com.

Copper Glazes Special Warning

Artworks Victorian Green tiles and Victorian Green mouldings contain a copper based glaze which reacts with mild acids found in the home such as lemon scented soaps, washing up liquids etc. found in wet areas. These stain the tile and this unsightly marking cannot be removed, so we recommend the tile is installed in dry areas only. The marking looks like multi-coloured oil on water. To avoid such discolouration they should be cleaned only with pure water and should always be wiped dry immediately after cleaning.

Outside Installations/Steam Rooms/Saunas/Floor

Artworks wall tiles and Artworks Masterpieces are NOT suitable for outside installations as they are not frost resistant. They are NOT suitable for steam rooms or saunas and are not suitable for floors.

Artworks Gold and Platinum Tiles and Mouldings and Art Deco Tiles and borders

These tiles are only suitable for dry area installations and should not be installed in wet areas such as showers.

Artworks Sigma, Victoria and Albert Mouldings

Not recommended for use in areas subject to wall movement due to their shape. It is imperative that care is taken when grouting these to ensure that moisture cannot get into the back of them, as this may cause the moulding to crack. Use a CG2WA type reduced water absorption grout and fill the grout gaps flush with the face of the tile. Fill the back of the moulding with adhesive to further reduce the possibility of water ingress.

Suitability of tiles for your installation - continued

Wet Areas

Tiles and mouldings which are suitable for wet walls (which most are), need to be installed with a reduced water absorption grout, type CG2WA. The grout must be fully flush with the face of the tile to prevent the ingress of water into the porous back of the tile. This may cause changes to the glaze colour giving a patchwork effect.

Wet areas must be fully water proofed (tanked) prior to tiling.

When installing tiles in power showers epoxy grout must be used.

Using coloured grouts with ceramic wall tiles

An inherent feature of our dark coloured ceramic wall tiles (is a faint lighter line along the outer edges of the tile glaze.

This is the case for all glazed ceramics that are not rectified. It is not a fault; it results from the firing process and is known as a surface tension effect. This lighter edge is more visible when dark coloured grouts are used. It is important to bear this in mind when considering the overall effect of your installation before you start your project.

Tile weights

Always check the tile weight is suitable for your substrate adding 3.5kg/m² or 6.4lb/yd² for adhesive and grout to the tile weight per m² or yd². The weights of the tiles are given in the brochure and on the internet.

Below is a table with typical wall substrates and their maximum tile weight loading:

Wall Substrate	Maximum tile weight	
Gypsum plaster	20kg/m ² max	37lb/yd ² max
Plywood (exterior grade) Not suitable for direct tiling*	30kg/m ² max	55lb/yd ² max
Plasterboard direct	32kg/m ² max	59lb/yd ² max
Sand cement render	40kg/ m ² max	74lb/yd ² max
Gypsum fibre boards	40kg/m ² max	74lb/yd ² max
Tile backer boards	40kg/m ² max	74lb/yd ² max
Glass reinforced cement sheets	50kg/m ² max	92lb/yd ² max

***Wooden surfaces are not suitable for the direct application of tiles.**

Use a Tile backer board to line wooden surfaces and add the weight of the backerboard and fixings when calculating the total load on the substrate.

Shade Variation

Shade variation may be an inherent feature of some Original Style ceramic tiles. We recommend that your tiles are loosely laid out and ‘blended’ prior to fixing to achieve the most pleasing distribution of shades. Differences between batches can be more marked, so for this reason we recommend that you buy all the tiles at one time. Make sure your tiles are all from the same batch.

Batch numbers

The batch number can be found on the tile box label. There will be sets of numbers, for example ‘20AG 158 066.’

The batch number relates to the first two sets of numbers, for example ‘20AG 158’.

The last set of numbers (for example ‘066’) is an internal process traceability number and is not relevant.

In this example the batch number would be ‘20AG 158’ and all your boxes should have the same set of numbers on the labels.

You can ignore the third sets of numbers.

No liability for shading issues can be accepted after installation, even if the home owner is away during tile installation.

How many tiles will you need?

Nominal Tile Size*	Tiles per m2*	Tiles per sq.ft*
Field Tile 152 x152mm (6" x 6")	43	4
Half Tile 152 x 75mm (6" x 3")	86	8
Large Brick 228 x 75mm (9" x 3")	58.3	5.3
Metro Tile 152 x 75mm (6" x 3")	86	8
Floor Mosaics		
271 x 281mm / 10 ⁵ / ₈ " x 11 ¹ / ₈ "	13.1	1.2
292 x 292mm / 11 ¹ / ₂ " x 11 ¹ / ₂ "	11.7	1.09
292 x 310mm / 11 ¹ / ₂ " x 12 ¹ / ₄ "	11	1
295 x 295mm / 11 ⁵ / ₈ " x 11 ⁵ / ₈ "	11	1
297 x 257mm / 11 ¹ / ₄ " x 10 ¹ / ₈ "	13.1	1.2
297 x 297mm / 11 ¹ / ₄ " x 11 ¹ / ₄ "	11.3	1.04
Nominal Tile Moulding Length*	Tiles per linear m2*	Tiles per linear ft*
152mm (6")	6.6	2

* Recommended grout gaps 2 to 3mm / 1⁄16" to 3⁄16". Please allow an extra 5 per cent for wastage.

How many tiles will you need? - continued

How to calculate the area of the wall area to be tiled:

Measure the height of your room or the height you will require the tiling to end and multiply by the width. The result will be the square metre/square foot measurement of the area to be tiled*.

How to calculate the number of tiles required:

If the shape of the area to be tiled is a simple square or rectangle you can simply calculate the area of each tile and divide it into the area of the wall/walls. This assumes that the area being tiled is square at the edges, if not you will need to allow some extra for part tiles.

An alternative method is to make a scale drawing of the walls on a piece of graph paper, draw the outline of each tile (including dados, trims and borders where appropriate) and add them up.

We recommend that you allow for part tiles, wastage and any imperfections by adding at least 10 per cent. This also gives you spare tiles, if needed, in the future. It can be a false economy to only order the exact quantity. You may break some tiles when cutting or you may end up with awkward shapes that take more tiles than anticipated. There is nothing worse than getting near the end of the job only to find that you are short of one or two tiles, especially as colours can vary between different batches.

If you have any problems calculating the number of tiles required please do not hesitate to email our Customer Services Team at info@originalstyle.com.

The secret to a perfectly laid wall is to lay the tiles as flat and as evenly as possible. To do this successfully you need the firmest, flattest and driest possible surface to work on. Some surfaces are ideally suited for tiling, others require a certain amount of preparation first, and a few are totally unsuitable.

Storage

Please store all tiles and any fixing materials such as grouts and adhesives in a cool and dry storage area. All tiles must be dry before installation.

Wall preparation

All surfaces must be allowed to dry out completely before tiling. Failure to do this can result in moisture being trapped behind the tiles which can react with some tiles causing them to deteriorate over a period of time.

Tiles are completely inflexible. With this in mind, it is important to ensure that the substrate will not move otherwise cracking will occur. If there is movement in the substrate, we strongly advise that you seek professional advice before proceeding any further.

ALL walls should be primed before tiling.

Make sure the wall to which you are fixing tiles is able to take the weight of the adhesive and tiles.

Painted surfaces are unsuitable for tiles. You will need to scrape off all loose paint and rub the whole surface down with coarse sand paper until all the paint is removed.

Plasterboard walls may be suitable for tiles, depending on their weight and how well the plasterboard is fixed to the stud wall underneath. You may need to seek advice on this. Normally a plasterboard wall which has not been skimmed has a load bearing of 32kgs per m². These walls should be primed first, left to dry and then the adhesive applied directly to the wall.

Plaster is a suitable surface as long as it is dry and in good condition. Normally a plaster wall has a load bearing of 20kgs per m². Remove any loose or crumbling plaster and repair it with new plaster or filler before rubbing down to a level finish. Prime the walls and leave to dry before commencing to tile. It is important to check weight restrictions before fixing tiles. Always seek professional advice if you are tiling over plaster. Mapei Primer G and Ardex P51 are suitable for priming gypsum pink plaster.

Rendered walls can be tiled but new rendering must be allowed to dry out completely before tiling; normally a period of 21 days is recommended. Rendered vertical walls are a good base for tiles up to 15mm / 5/8" thick with a maximum height of 3.6 metres / approximately 12 foot. For tiles thicker than this the render must be reinforced with metal mesh screwed to the wall. Professional advice regarding this is recommended.

Papered walls cannot be tiled. Strip the paper completely, check for loose plaster or other damage, repair as necessary and then allow the wall to dry out thoroughly before priming. Allow the primer to fully dry.

Old ceramic wall tiles

We do not recommend tiling over old tiles because of weight restrictions and stability. Old tiles should be removed and the exposed surface should be prepared as appropriate (see above).

Wall preparation

Wet rooms and showers

Ceramic tiles can be used in showers provided you take certain precautions in preparing the surfaces, and use the correct adhesive and grout. It is vitally important to prepare all substrates in any area subject to frequent water (such as around a bath, basin or shower) carefully to protect them from water absorption. The best substrates are normally water resistant boards such as Wedi or Marmox. The underlying surface must be waterproofed first, using a waterproofing kit known as a tanking system (see below), to prevent the ingress of water into the substrate. There must also be sufficient falls for water to drain away.

Tanking Systems

We recommend using a tanking system for power showers, shower cubicles, steam rooms and wet rooms in hotels, guest houses, leisure centres, fitness centres and in domestic homes. These normally consist of a primer, a liquid waterproofing membrane that you brush onto the wall and floor, and a tape for reinforcing all internal corners. Please refer to specific manufacturer instructions or, preferably, get a professional to do this job. Tanking a previously painted surface is not recommended. You can usually apply the tile adhesive 24 hours after the wall and floors are waterproofed.

We recommend that all waterproofing processes are carried out by a professional.

Planning - walls

First, make a tiling gauge.

Use approximately 1m / 39" length of straight, planed, wooden batten approximately 30 x 20mm / 1 1/8" x 3/4" in cross-section. Use a pencil to mark off the length of your tiles, plus the space between them. For instance, if you are fixing tiles that measure 300 x 300mm / 11 3/16" x 11 3/16" and have grout gaps between each tile of 2mm / 1/16" you will mark every 302mm / 11 7/8".

Mark out the work area. You must always check to see whether the ceiling is level first. Aim to position the tiles so that they fit either at the top or at the bottom. This way you will be cutting one edge. This can only be achieved if the floor or ceiling is level.

The first row you fix is the most important. If this is sloping or uneven, then all the other rows will be uneven too.

If the skirting board or floor looks even you may be tempted to start tiling directly up to it. This is not recommended. Very few properties, old or new, have walls and floors that are perfectly square so you will need to set the level for the first row. Here's how:

Take a straight length of timber batten (dimensions as above).

Using a spirit level, make sure the top of the wooden batten is perfectly level then lightly nail it horizontally along the area to be tiled.

NB. Check for concealed plumbing or electrical wiring before nailing into any walls.

Place your homemade gauge vertically against the wall, its end on the top edge of the fixed wooden batten. Work up the wall making pencil marks as you go, making sure that you won't have to cut lots of fiddly small tiles at the top.

Now use a measure to find the horizontal mid-point of the wall. Put your gauge against this point and work horizontally to determine the location of the last whole tile, and mark the batten. Again, make sure you are not left with small slivers of tiles at each end and, if necessary, adjust the 'mid-point' slightly to avoid this.

Next hang the plumb line so that the line hangs directly over the batten mark. Alternatively, you can use a laser level, a long set-square or an upright spirit level to produce a vertical line. Once you have the precise starting point for your first tile you can begin tiling.

If you are placing a patterned border to run around a room, you need to choose one centre point on one wall, and align all the borders to that one point.

Bathrooms

Baths and shower trays must be perfectly level before you start tiling. To ensure a visually pleasing result, use the window as your centre point, and place larger cuts rather than smaller ones into the corners, floors and ceilings.

Adhesives

Important note

Epoxy adhesive can be difficult to use and because of the nature of epoxy, can be extremely hard to remove once cured. For this reason, we recommend keeping hot water and a supply of clean sponges at hand to remove excess epoxy quickly and safely. Always test epoxy prior to using with our products. **It is vital that adhesive is completely dry before grouting.**

Which adhesive and grout?

Certain adhesives are unsuitable for use in wet situations therefore we strongly advise contacting the adhesive and grout manufacturers for their recommendations. Original Style Ltd. makes no representations as to the fitness for purpose of third party adhesives and grouts.

Adhesives and Grouts for wet areas

The requirements for adhesives, grouts and sealers differ according to the type of tile used, the background material, and the width of the joints and whether the shower is gravity fed or a power shower, accordingly it is important that you seek advice from your supplier. Although most adhesives and grouts are a reduced water absorption type in normal situations, they can be further improved using a flexible additive. For power showers we recommend epoxy adhesives and grouts.

Applying the Adhesive

Acrylic-prime the surface to be tiled and leave to dry. Then spread adhesive over as much of the wall as you can work on, within about 15 minutes; approximately one square metre / one square yard is usually about right. Spread an even layer about 6mm (1/4") thick using a notched trowel to form parallel lines. Work to the lines you have drawn on the walls for centre points and level lines and then begin to apply the tiles. Place the first whole tile on the adhesive, press it down firmly.

Check the first tile is straight and level. Now lay the adjacent tiles in the same way, using spacers to create an even joint between them. When you get to the edges of the room, cut the tiles to fit the gap if necessary and clean away any excess adhesive from the corners. The corners will receive silicone for expansion purposes following grouting. Be careful to keep adhesive off the face of the tiles. Wipe away any surplus with a clean damp sponge as you go.

You may find it necessary to cut individual tiles to fit in small areas. Extreme care should be taken especially when cutting small pieces.

Spacers that have been used during the fixing process must be removed from the joints before the adhesive set-ting time is reached.

Where the wall tiles meet the floor, a neater finish will be achieved if the wall tiles sit over the floor tiles. Fill the corner gap with acetox cure silicon.

Where there is any chance of movement from the substrate it is important to use a flexible adhesive. This will allow for tiny movements and will stop tiles and grout from cracking. However, some changes of plane will require expansion joints. Always seek professional advice.

Adhesive is available as standard set or rapid set. Standard set can take up to 24 hours to go off, whereas rapid set can take up to two hours depending on the thickness and temperature and humidity conditions.

Grouts

Grouting gives a neat appearance to the tiled surface; it stops dirt or grease building up between the tiles. Grouting should always be finished flush with the tiled surface. Allow the adhesive to dry out for a minimum of 24 hours before grouting. Thick layers of adhesive, cool temperatures and other factors can prolong drying.

How to grout tiles

Always try a small inconspicuous area before grouting your entire tiled area to check you are happy with the look of the grouted tiles before grouting the complete area. Clean the surfaces where you are going to grout and allow to fully dry before proceeding.

Crackle and crazed tiles must be sealed prior to grouting unless you want the grout colour to remain in the crackle lines for effect, in which case seal them after grouting.

Regardless of the grout colour chosen it is advised that you test a tile prior to grouting to ensure the grout pigment will not contaminate the surface of the tile.

Useful Tip

Always aim to complete whole sections of grouting in one session to ensure an even finish with no colour variation. Wash down with clean water and a sponge every square metre to avoid any excess grout drying on the surface. Never grout corners of rooms; these must be grout-free and filled with a suitable silicone to allow for wall/ floor expansion.

It is very important to mix the grout following the manufacturers' instructions. Once mixed, let the grout stand for two minutes, then apply to the wall using a squeegee working in a diagonal motion across the tiles. We recommend you cover about one metre at a time and then leave for five minutes before removing any excess grout with a squeegee. Wait another five minutes before wiping the tiled surface with a clean sponge. Always check that there are no lines left in the grout. Repeat until the whole wall is complete.

Once the whole work is completed, leave for two hours, wash down all the tiles with clean water and sponges and correct any faults.

Important Note:

If using Mapei Ultra Colour Plus Grout, it must be mixed with an electric mixer using 1-1.1 litres of water per 5kg bag (4¼ cups per 11 lb) of Ultra Colour Plus. Pour all the water in to the bucket and then add all the grout and mix on a slow setting. Leave to stand for two minutes and remix. Do not add more water. If the material begins to harden after 15-20 minutes, remix with just the paddle but do not add any more water. The grout has a pot life of one hour.

Always test a small inconspicuous area before proceeding. Always follow manufacturers' instructions. Use the utmost care when grouting to preserve the beauty of your tiles.

Finishing off

Once your tiling is complete, inspect it carefully for any joints that the grout has missed, and refill if necessary. Wipe over the entire wall with a damp sponge or cloth and allow it to dry out completely.

Sealing grout

We also recommend sealing grout seven days after installation with a grout protective sealer, which can be purchased through any reputable tile outlet.

Coloured grouts can be used on our tiles and they can enhance your installation. Many colours are now available so we suggest you check the range with your retailer. As they may alter the overall appearance of the tile colour, we strongly recommend that a small area is tested before installation. Make sure that the grout is recommended for ceramic. Some grouts are not UV resistant and will fade when placed in direct sunlight, so advice must be sought from the grout manufacturer.

It is essential to first mix tiles from different boxes so that variations in colour are blended together thoroughly. Please note, variations in shade and pattern are an inherent feature of ceramics. Do not fix tiles if an acceptable blend cannot be achieved. No responsibility can be accepted for shading or quality once the tiles have been fixed. Please see section on Shade Variation above.

Control joints

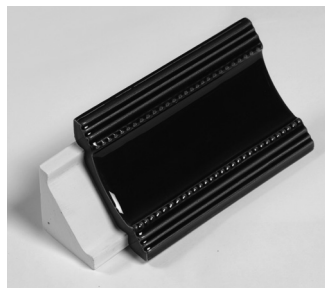
There are numerous reasons for movement and expansion joints. Divide a larger tiled area into a series of smaller ones with sealant and bond breaker between them. Designers may show points at which joints are needed but these are mandatory where tiles adjoin walls or some other building material and where there is an expansion joint in the substrate, among other circumstances. Always seek advice on this.

Victoria Mouldings

These should not be used on any wooden surfaces due to thermal expansion of the wood which may crack the moulding. Silicone expansion joints should be incorporated above or beneath these mouldings.

Fixing mouldings to outside corners

To fix the Plain Cornice and other moulded tiles to an outside corner, one end of the tile must be carefully mitred at 45° with a carborundum or diamond edged saw. This has the effect of shortening the surface of the tile in contact with the wall. Therefore, to maintain a consistent vertical joint line, all non-moulded tiles laid above and below the moulding must also be cut to the shorter width. However this does not apply to the skirting and Victoria and Albert external corners which have been specifically designed for use on outside corners.



45° Angle Block

We recommend this handy 45° Angle Block, which is invaluable for cutting the internal and external 45° angle corners of the Plain Cornice moulding (code 9929), thus ensuring a professional finish. It needs to be used with an electric tile cutting machine with a minimum cutting depth of 75mm/27/8", or a carbide tile saw and mitre block (the Cornice moulding sits on top of the angle block and is placed inside the mitre block, then cut with the carbide tile saw). Please note that, as the angle block is made from Plaster of Paris it is water soluble and likely to only last for one or two installations. Always seek professional advice when using cutting equipment.

Artworks Masterpiece tiles

NB: It is recommended that Masterpiece tiles and frames are installed by an experienced professional tiler.

Preparation

Ensure that the surface on to which the tiles are to be laid is sound, i.e. in good general condition with no flaking paint, loose plaster, wallpaper etc. See preparation section above. The surface should be flat and rigid. Masterpiece tiles are up to 565mm /22¼" long, so it is essential for a good bond that the entire area of the tile comes into close and permanent contact with the wall surface.

Installing the Masterpiece tile

If the Masterpiece tile is to be laid in a field of other tiles, lay most of these first, leaving a space larger than the Masterpiece and frame, equivalent to a whole number of the field tiles.

See figure 1.

Using a rule and spirit level, mark the outline of the Masterpiece tile, excluding the frame, centrally in the untiled area.

Attach a straight wooden batten firmly to the wall horizontally along and below the bottom outline.

Spread the wall tile adhesive evenly over the outlined area and comb with a 6-8mm /¼"-5⁄8" notched trowel.

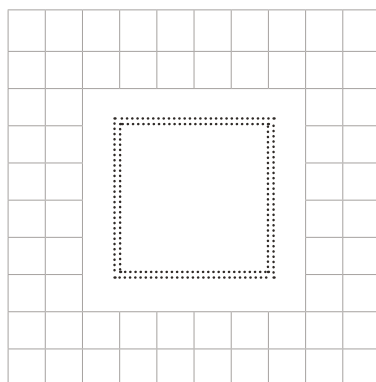


figure 1

Position the Masterpiece tile firmly into the adhesive by sliding it slightly to and fro and apply substantial pressure across its entire surface. Ensure that the Masterpiece tile is correctly positioned; wipe off surplus adhesive with a damp cloth and leave to dry for at least 24 hours without removing the batten. Select an adhesive manufactured to recognised national standards which is appropriate for the particular surface on to which the Masterpiece tiles are to be laid.

Artworks Masterpiece tiles

Installing the Masterpiece frame

Remove the batten and re-secure it approximately 35mm (1 3/8") lower to support the bottom frame tiles.

Lay out the 8 frame tiles on the floor to establish their correct positions.

One at a time, starting with the bottom tiles, fill the cavity of each frame tile with wall tile adhesive suitable for porcelain and push it firmly on to the wall in the correct position with the lip overlapping the Masterpiece tile.

To achieve an even better bond it is advisable to apply a narrow line of clear silicone sealant along the underside of the lip.

See *figure 2*.

Ensure that all 8 frame tiles are correctly positioned, leaving a space approximately 2mm/1/8" wide at each joint, wipe off surplus adhesive and sealant with a damp cloth and leave to dry for at least 24 hours without removing the batten.

Finishing

Carefully remove the batten and check that all the frames are firmly secured. Cut field tiles to fit the remaining space between the Masterpiece frame and the tile area and lay them in the normal way. Once all the adhesive is dry, grout the entire installation, including the spaces between each frame section. Wipe clean.

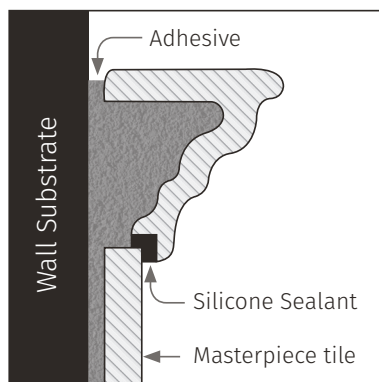


figure 2

General

Handle Masterpiece tiles with extreme care at all times. Each tile weighs up to 5.5kg (12lb) and could cause personal injury if dropped. Masterpiece tiles have a maximum water absorption capacity of less than 3 per cent.

These instructions are intended as a supplement to and not a replacement for the provisions of BS Codes of Practice or ANSI 108 which set standards for the installation of ceramic wall tiles. Adhesive manufacturers' instructions should also be strictly followed.

Cleaning

Not all cleaners are equally suitable for all types of tiles. Wash down tiled surfaces with either clean water or a neutral (i.e. not acidic or alkaline) detergent. Dry off and polish with a dry duster.

Certain acid based cleaning products may cause some of the tiles to react and change in character.

Photography

Owing to variations in studio lighting and printing inks, the tile colours shown in the Original Style Ltd. brochure and website may differ slightly from those of the actual tiles. Before making your choice it is always advisable to ask your Original Style supplier to show you samples.

Limits of liability

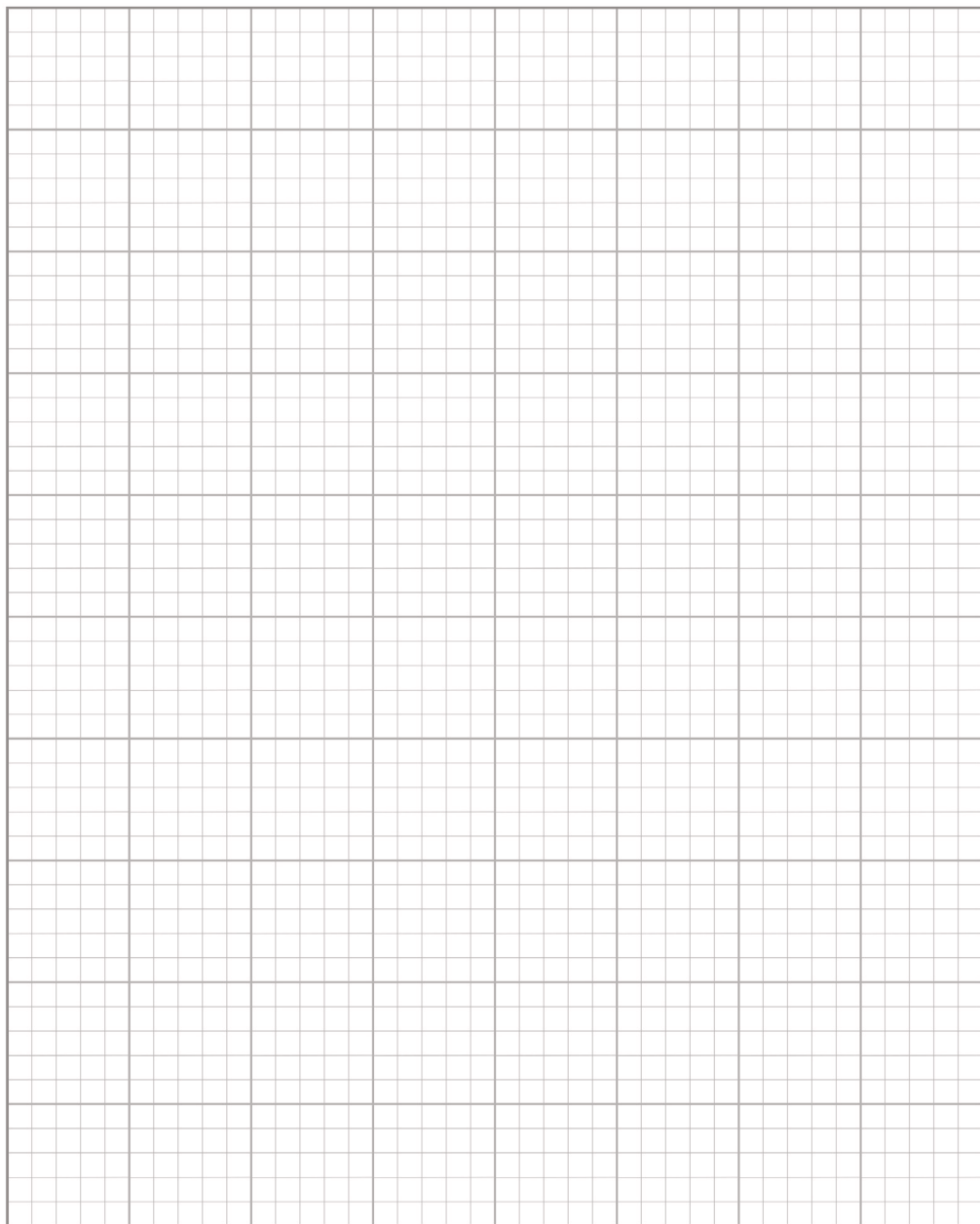
Original Style Ltd. accepts no liability for the faulty installation of its tiles. In the case of any claim relating to the tiles themselves, Winchester Tile's liability, to the extent permitted by law, is limited to either the replacement of the product or a refund of the cost of the product, and does not extend to cover any consequential loss. Claims must be reported within seven working days from receipt of the tiles. Tiles must be inspected prior to installation and claims cannot be considered after the tiles have been installed. Please be advised that installation constitutes acceptance of the quality, colour, texture, shade and size of tiles.

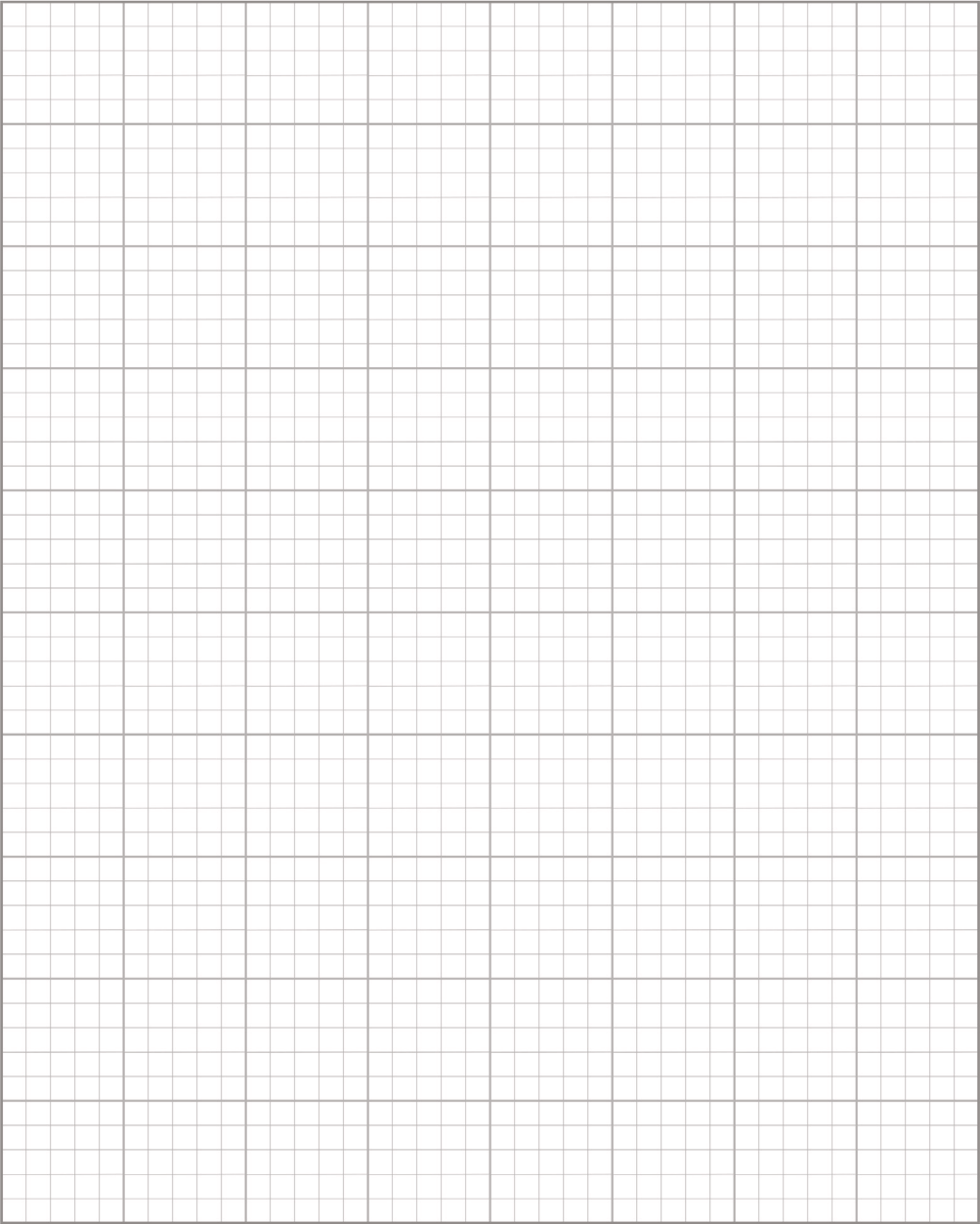
Original Style Ltd. warrants that its tiles conform to their description and are fit for their purpose.

Original Style Ltd. makes no other express or implied warranty as to fitness or suitability of the products for particular installations. We extend no guarantees, express or implied, as to wear resistance or maintenance procedures. Please note, the use of certain acid based cleaning products may cause some of the tiles to react and change in character.

Please note: In the USA please follow the recommendations of reputable product manufacturers in conjunction with this Fixing Guide, and always comply with American National Standards Institution (ANSI) specifications as set out in the Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation published by the Tile Council of America.

Useful links: ctioa.org, tileusa.com







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