

HOW TO INSTALL STONE TILES

A Detailed installation & care guide

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Please read this guide in full before installation. Relative recycled stone tiles are a technical product that requires professional handling. Always hire a qualified tile installer with experience in stone or engineered surfaces. Improper installation may result in performance issues or damage.

REVIEW YOUR ORDER

- Inspect all tiles immediately upon delivery.
 - Blend tiles from **all boxes** to distribute shade and pattern variation.
 - We recommend ordering **10-15% overage** for cuts, waste, and future repairs.
 - Store all materials in a **dry, covered** location to prevent efflorescence or damage before installation.
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REQUIRED MATERIALS

For Installation:

- Wet sponge & buckets
- High-quality tile adhesive:
 - Standard sizes: **C2 TE S1**
 - Large tiles (≥ 50.5 cm sides): **C2 FT S1**
 - Trowels:
 - 10 mm notched for standard sizes
 - 15 mm half-moon notched for large tiles (with double spreading)
- Wet saw with diamond blade
- Straight edge and level
- Expansion joint profile material

For Grouting:

- Piu line fine-grain, non-additive cementitious grout
- Rubber grout float
- Soft sponge
- Clean water (frequently changed)

For Cleaning & Finishing:

- **Neutral pH cleaner** (e.g. **FILA CLEANALL**)
- **FILA PS87** – for stubborn residues and deep cleaning
- **White Scotch-Brite pad** – for gentle scrubbing
- **FILA FOB Xtreme** – penetrating sealer for stain and water protection
- **Finishing wax** – choose a surface-appropriate wax (e.g. **FILA PARQUET WAX**)
- **Fleece wax spreader or soft brush** – for smooth and even application

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

- Ensure the screed is **completely dry, level, and stable**.
- Surface must be clean, free of dust, oils, and any bond-inhibiting substances.
- Compatible with **heated screeds**.
- Install **expansion joints** every **3–4 linear meters** or per project engineer's advice.

TILE INSTALLATION

1. **Dry Layout:**

- a. Arrange tiles dry to preview layout and blend variation.

2. **Adhesive Application:**

- a. Use recommended adhesive based on tile size.
- b. Apply to substrate using appropriate notched trowel.
- c. For large tiles, use **double spreading** (back buttering + surface).

- d. Maintain uniform adhesive thickness.
 - 3. **Tile Placement:**
 - a. Press tiles firmly into adhesive.
 - b. Use a level to ensure flatness.
 - c. Avoid walking on tiles during curing.
 - 4. **Cutting Tiles:**
 - a. Use a **wet-cut diamond saw** for precise cuts.
 - b. Always follow safety precautions when cutting.
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CURING TIME

- Allow adhesive to **fully dry** per manufacturer's guidance **before grouting** (usually 24-48 hours depending on product and climate).
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GROUTING

- Use **Piu line cementitious grout**, suitable for narrow joints.
 - Work in small sections (about $\frac{1}{4} \text{ m}^2$) using a rubber float in **all directions**.
 - **Immediately emulsify** with a wet sponge; change water frequently.
 - Do **not delay cleaning** during grouting — grout haze becomes difficult to remove.
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POST-INSTALLATION CLEANING

- If grouting is done correctly, no additional cleaning may be needed.
- For **light residue**: use white scotch Brite pad + warm water.
- For **stubborn marks**: use **FILA CLEANALL** (does not strip surface treatment).
- For **heavy or colored stains**: use **FILA PS87** (will remove surface treatment — reapplication needed).

- **Avoid** acidic cleaners or harsh degreasers.
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SURFACE FINISHING (WAXING & SEALING)

- Wait **48 hours** after installation and grouting.
 - Before applying Ceramatt finishing wax, tiles can be sealed with **Fila FOB Xtreme** for added stain resistance.
 - Apply only after cleaning and full drying.
 - Fila FOB Xtreme provides **natural-look protection** without altering the surface appearance.
 - Apply **Finish wax** in a thin, even coat using a fleece applicator or brush.
 - If certain areas appear darker or absorb more moisture, reapply a second coat.
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REGULAR MAINTENANCE

- Use only **pH-neutral** cleaners (e.g. **FILA CLEANALL**).
 - Avoid harsh, acidic, or abrasive products.
 - Spot clean spills promptly.
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INSTALLATION SAFETY

- Always wear a **dust mask** and **safety glasses** while unpacking, cutting, or installing tiles.
- Use gloves when handling grout, mortar, or sealers to protect your skin.
- If you need to do a lot of cutting, try to do it **outside or in a well-ventilated area** to avoid breathing in dust.
- After finishing your work, make sure to **wash your hands thoroughly** with soap and water — especially before eating or drinking.