

The Douglas Watson Studio Ltd

Installation

Our tiles need very careful installation, as they are not like standard machine-made tiles.

- As our tiles are entirely handmade there will be some variation in size, from 1 - 2mm in either direction. Plain tiles and tiles with a regular pattern can be turned around to fit better.
- Allow a 2 - 3mm grout space.
- Use a flexible slow drying cement-based adhesive to allow for adjustments.
- Do not use spacers of the cross shaped type. Use wedges, which allow for more variation.
- It is important to use your eye to get the right look, instead of relying on spacers. The idea is to get the tiles to fit naturally together, rather than mechanically.
- We recommend Bal or Mapei grout. They produce a range of tints. White and pale off-white tints usually work well with light coloured tiles.
- We recommend sealing all our crackle tiles, including those with a 'natural crackle' finish, with Lithofin KF Stain-stop, to prevent the ingress of water into the crackle finish. We recommend this be done before grouting, and again after the installation process, once the crackle has fully matured (this usually takes around six weeks to fully develop).
- Our tiles should be handled with clean working methods during installation to prevent any contamination of the crackle finish. Natural aging of the crackle finish will occur over time.
- Fresco tiles are sealed before delivery, but they will need to be re- sealed every 3-4 years, depending on wear.
- Care must be taken when cutting the tiles. We do not recommend any dry cutting methods. We recommend using a diamond blade wet cutter with a fine blade.

Tile panels are numbered from bottom row left to right.

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