



ORIGINALSTYLE
TILE SHOWROOM

TECHNICAL GUIDE

Overview for
Wall Tiles



WALL TILE TECHNICAL GUIDE

	Gypsum Plaster	Gypsum Plasterboard Direct	Wood Based Sheets	Foam Covered Tile Backing Boards	Fibre Cement Boards	Gypsum Fibre Boards	Block Work Walls	Rendered Walls
Weight Restriction*	20 kg/m ²	32 kg/m ²	30 kg/m ²	60 kg/m ²	60 kg/m ²	40 kg/m ²	50 kg/m ²	50 kg/m ²
Porcelain tiles/ Mosaics	Use UltraTile Prime IT FP Note 1/3	Note 1/Note 3	Note 6	Note 1/Note 3	Note 1/ Note 3	Note 1/ Note 3	Note 1/ Note 3	Note 1/Note 3
Ceramic Wall	Use UltraTile Prime IT FP Note 2/4	Note 2/Note 4	Note 6	Note 2/Note 4	Note 2/ Note 4	Note 2/ Note 4	Note 2/ Note 4	Note 2/Note 4
VFT/Odyssey Primo	Use UltraTile Prime IT FP Note 1/3	Note 1/Note 3	Note 6	Note 1/Note 3	Note 1/ Note 3	Note 1/ Note 3	Note 1/ Note 3	Note 1/Note 3
Odyssey Grande	Use UltraTile Prime IT FP Note 1/3	Note 1/Note 3	Note 6	Note 1/Note 3	Note 1/ Note 3	Note 1/ Note 3	Note 1/ Note 3	Note 1/Note 3
Glass Tiles	Use UltraTile Prime IT FP Note 5	Note 5	X See Note 5	Note 5	Note 5	Note 5	Note 5	Note 5
Natural Stone Tiles	Use UltraTile Prime IT FP Note 7	Note 7	Note 6/ Note 7	Note 7	Note 7	Note 7	Note 7	Note 7
Glass Mosaics	Use UltraTile Prime IT FP Note 8	Note 8	X See Note 5	Note 8	Note 8	Note 8	Note 8	Note 8
Natural Stone Mosaics	Use UltraTile Prime IT FP Note 9	Note 9	Note 6/ Note 9	Note 9	Note 9	Note 9	Note 9	Note 9

* Add 3.5 kg/m² to the tile kg/m² figure for the weight restriction calculation.

IN WET AREAS: Make sure the installation is fully waterproofed before tiling commences. We recommend the use of **Instarmac WETROOM SYSTEM**.

Note 1: Porcelain Tiles and Porcelain Mosaics/VFT/Odyssey Primo and Grande

- Gypsum plaster must be primed prior to tiling. **UltraTile Prime IT FP** applied in 2 coats, both diluted 3 parts water to 1 part primer, is suitable.
- Porcelain tiles and mosaics/VFT/Odyssey Primo and Grande are suitable for internal and external use as they are frost resistant.
- Use C2T cementitious modified adhesive. The 'T' means the adhesive will stop the tile from sliding down the wall during fixing.
- Examples: **UltraTile ProSet SS** and **UltraTile ProFlex SP**.
- For large tiles over 30cm back butter the tiles and fix into the ribbed adhesive on the wall with a twisting action.
- Use a CG2 grout such as **UltraTile FineJoint** or **FlexJoint**.
- Clean off the grout with a clean cloth and warm water as you go along, once the grout has started to set. If additional cleaning is required to remove cement haze use **LTP Grout Stain Remover**.
- Polished porcelain tiles and polished mosaics must be impregnated (with **LTP MPG**) prior to grouting following cleaning and drying, and after grouting, cleaning and drying.
- VFT and Odyssey Primo must be impregnated prior to grouting following cleaning and drying, and after grouting cleaning and drying. **LTP Mattstone** is suitable.
- Through bodied porcelain and Odyssey Grande need sealing with **LTP Mattstone** to help with the cleaning operation.
- VFT must only be grouted with light grey grouts following impregnation to further reduce the possibility of staining. **UltraTile FlexJoint** grout is recommended.

Note 2: Porous Wall Tiles

- There are three types of porous wall tile: dry pressed, extruded and slip cast. Slip cast tiles do not have a specification, but the other two do (EN14411).
- Gypsum plaster must be primed prior to tiling. **UltraTile Prime IT FP** applied in 2 coats, both diluted 3-1 is suitable.
- Porous wall tiles are not suitable for external use.

For Original Style factory ceramic wall tiles and similar bought in products (up to max size 30 x 30cm) a C2T adhesive may be used. In addition, ready mixed adhesives that don't require preparation can be used. Examples: **UltraTile ProStick BS, ProGrip HG and SuperWhite WR Flex**. The 'T' means the tiles will not slip down the wall when being fixed.

- When using **UltraTile ProStick BS, ProGrip HG and SuperWhite WR Flex** it is not necessary to prime gypsum plaster with **UltraTile Prime IT FP**.
- Use a CG2 grout such as **UltraTile FineJoint** and **FlexJoint**.
- Clean off the grout with a clean cloth and warm water as you go along once the grout has started to set. If additional cleaning is required to remove cement haze use **LTP Grout Stain Remover**.
- In wet areas the water repellent grout must be flush with the face of the tile to prevent water ingress through unglazed tile edges and into the back of the tile (which changes the glaze colour).
- In wet areas make sure silicone expansion joints are water tight in order to prevent water ingress into the back of the tile causing glaze colour changes.
- Expansion joints must be at changes of plane (wall to wall, wall to floor) and where tiles meet other types of material such as shower bases. **UltraTile ProSeal IT** silicone is suitable.

Winchester Grout Gaps:

Winchester Residence 3-4mm

Winchester Classic 3-6mm

Winchester Artisan 2mm

All other wall tile groups, grout gaps are 2mm

- Mouldings; completely fill the back of the moulding to prevent any ingress of water. Water ingress will cause cracking along the length of the moulding.
- Be sure to note our copper based glazes are unsuitable for wet areas. These are detailed in the back of the brochure.

All Original Style porous wall tiles are subject to crazing, some more than others. This is primarily due to the thick glaze application which puts the glaze face in tension. This tension may be relieved at any time and the glaze will craze.

Always make sure the tiles are laid out and viewed for shading prior to installation. They must not be installed if there is an unacceptable shade variation.

Note 3: Impregnating

- Polished porcelain/Odyssey Primo /VFT must be impregnated/sealed prior to grouting when they are clean and dry. This is to reduce the possibility of staining. Impregnate/seal again following grouting cleaning and drying. Use **LTP MPG** for polished porcelain and **LTP Mattstone** for Odyssey Primo, Odyssey Grande and VFT.
- **We advise light grey grouts for VFT.** Always trial the grout on an unfixed tile to ensure it does not stain the sealed tile and can be removed easily upon cleaning. Light coloured grouts reduce the possibility of staining.
- Glazed tiles and other porcelain tiles do not require impregnating, however, sealing porcelain and Odyssey Grande (through bodied porcelain) with **LTP Mattstone** does help with the cleaning regime.

Note 4: Ceramic Crackle Wall Tiles

- Ceramic crackle glaze wall tiles require sealing before grouting to avoid the grout getting into the crackle and discolouring the face of the tile. It is advisable to seal again after 90 days and then after a year **LTP Crackle Glaze Sealer** and **LTP Mattstone** are suitable for sealing.
- The tiles must be fully dry before sealing.

Note 5: Glass Tiles

- Glass tiles cannot be installed over wood products and are not suitable for external use. They can be fixed over all other wall substrates.
- Glass tiles are completely different from other types of tile and require special installation techniques.
- We advise using **UltraTile ProFlex SP+ES** in white. Do not use cement based adhesives mixed with water as they form alkalis which may attack some of the glass tile backings.
- Back butter glass tiles to achieve 100% coverage on fixing.
- Cement based grouts must be unsanded or finely sanded to avoid scratching the tile. We recommend the use of **UltraTile FlexJoint**.
- Always test an unfixed tile with the proposed grout prior to installation to ensure there is no scratching.
- Always fix with a grout gap of 2mm for small glass tiles and 3mm for large glass tiles. This allows for expansion and contraction differences to be accommodated between the tile and substrate and helps prevent cracking.
- Painted backed glass tiles can be straight cut with the scribe and snap method using an 18mm thin wheel.
- All tiles, including those with vinyl backing can be cut with a special glass cutting thin disc under wet conditions. The glass cutting disc will have fine industrial diamonds coating the circumference of the thin disc.
- Other types of disc used for cutting ceramics and porcelain ARE NOT SUITABLE FOR CUTTING GLASS even if they are coated with industrial diamonds. The diamonds are large not fine. The disc is thick not thin.
- For L shaped cuts drill a small hole at the intersection of the two cut lines prior to cutting to help alleviate stress cracks.
- Holes may be drilled by using a hollow tipped, diamond coated, water fed, drill bit. Drill half way through the back and then half way through the front to join.
- If difficulty is experienced with cutting or drilling glass tiles we recommend using a water jet cutting facility. Search online for the nearest such facility.

It is important to have expansion joints at changes of plane (wall to wall or wall to floor) and where the glass meets different materials (glass wall tile to shower base for example)

UltraTile ProSeal IT is a suitable solvent free silicone for this and is available in 9 colours to match grout colours.

Note 6: Wooden Substrates

Typically you would not have wooden sheets fixed to the wall but if you do and do not want to remove them proceed as follows:

- Wooden sheets must be sealed on the edges and back of the board. Do NOT seal on the surface to be tiled.
- This is to reduce the possibility of water ingress which may lead to warping and distortion of the wooden sheet. This movement will cause de-bonding.
- Wood based sheets must be WBP (water boiled proof) fully water proof types. Marine ply is suitable.
- They must be a minimum of 15mm thick and be fixed by screwing at 300mm intervals in both directions.
- All tile types must be fixed with a C2 modified cementitious flexible S2 adhesive. **UltraTile ProFlex S2** is suitable.
- In addition, if the area is large, it is advisable to fix a de-coupling membrane such as **Dural Durabas** or **DITRA Matting** over the wooden sheets prior to tiling.
- These measures absorb the differences in expansion between the substrate and tile and reduce the possibility of stress cracks.
- Fixing tile backer board over the wooden sheets or preferably directly over the stud wall, prior to tiling, is an alternative acceptable method of fixing.

Note 7: Natural Stone Tiles

- Always check the tile weight suitability for the substrate. Add 3-4 kg/m² for adhesive and grout per metre squared.
- Natural stone tiles may be wet on arrival. They must be stood on edge and dried naturally before installation. This is normal.
- Natural stone tiles must be fixed with a white fast setting, cement based, modified C2 adhesive. This is to avoid water staining on the tile face due to the openness of the tile and also to reduce the possibility of show through.
- Always fix the thickest tile first and use this depth of tile to ensure the installation is level by slightly adjusting the tile adhesive bed thickness as necessary.
- Suitable adhesive is: **C2FT UltraTile ProFlex SP**. The 'F' means fast setting and the 'T' means the tile will not slip down the wall when being fixing.
- Before grouting the natural stone tiles must be sealed following cleaning and drying. Seal again following cleaning and drying after grouting.
- Acceptable sealers are **LTP Mattstone** or **LTP Colour Intensifier and Stainblock**.
- For grout, **UltraTile FlexJoint** products are suitable. Try the grout on a sealed unfixed tile to ensure that staining does not occur prior to grouting the installation.

Note 8: Glass Mosaics

Do not install glass /glass mosaics on the following:

- Particle Board
- Chipboard
- Masonite - Steam cooked and pressure molded system of wood fibres
- Press Wood
- Plywood
- Marine Ply

If the mosaic is suitable for showers ensure a waterproof system has been installed prior to tile fixing.

It is advisable to get a professional to do the waterproofing system.

Adhesives - general:

- A white thinset adhesive is required. This is to maintain the mosaic colour consistency. Thinset is a 2mm V-notched system that is put onto the substrate and then carefully flattened with the flat side of the trowel.
- If there are clear individual mosaic pieces (tesserae) in the mosaic cut away the mesh at the back, peel off and place the piece
- This is to prevent show through of the mesh which can be unsightly.
- The thinset approach prevents the adhesive from oozing up into the grout gaps as the mosaics are carefully pushed into place.
- Adjust after placement as necessary.

Sheet types:

- There are three types of mosaic available. These are mesh backed, paper faced and film faced.
- Paper faced tiles; wait a while until the adhesive has just started to go off and wet the paper with water from a sponge or cloth.
- Peel back the paper from corner to opposite corner and adjust any of the individual mosaic pieces (tesserae) that may be twisted or displaced before the adhesive sets.
- If the sheet starts to come away leave a little longer for the adhesive to set more.
- If adjustments are needed to the tesserae, after placing the film faced mosaics cut the film in the appropriate place and make the adjustments.
- Film faced mosaics; wait until the adhesive has set and peel the film from corner to opposite corner.
- If the sheet starts to come away it needs to be left a while longer. The adhesive drying process can be speeded up by making some holes in the film sheet.

Adhesive type:

Cement based C2 type adhesives in white
UltraTile ProGrip HG
UltraTile ProFlex SP+ES

Grout type:

UltraTile FlexJoint in either white or grey
These are cement based CG2 finely sanded type grouts

Recommendations:

- It may be difficult to remove the grout from uneven surfaces. Check the appearance with the chosen grout colour prior to fixing.
- Care must be taken to remove the grout from uneven surfaces with water and a clean damp sponge as you proceed.
- In all cases try the grout in an inconspicuous area to make sure it does not stain or affect the mosaic.
- Some coloured grouts can cause staining.
- Clean the grout thoroughly as you go along with a clean damp sponge.
- Polish the mosaic with a dry soft cloth once the grout has set.

Maintenance:

- Do not use corrosive cleaners or pads to avoid scratching the glass mosaics.
- A neutral window cleaner is suitable or simply warm water.
- Buff dry with a clean white cloth.

Note 9: Natural Stone Mosaics

- Check the acceptance of the shade and design of the natural stone mosaic prior to installation by mixing and laying them out on the floor.
- Natural stone mosaics must be fixed with a white fast setting, cement based, modified C2 adhesive. This is to avoid water staining on the tile face due to the openness of the tile and also to reduce the possibility of show through.
- Suitable adhesive is: **C2FT UltraTile ProFlex SP**. The 'F' means fast setting and the 'T' means the tile will not slip down the wall when being fixing.
- Before grouting the natural stone tiles must be sealed following cleaning and drying. Seal again following cleaning and drying after grouting.
- Acceptable sealers are **LTP Mattstone** or **LTP Colour Intensifier and Stainblock**.
- For grout, **UltraTile FineJoint and FlexJoint** products are suitable. Try the grout on a sealed unfixed tile to ensure that staining does not occur prior to grouting the installation.

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