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## TOLL FREE ASSISTANCE

### FROM WITHIN THE UNITED STATES

Technical Support 877-648-8222

General Information 866-648-8453

### FROM OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Technical Support 760-929-4020

General Information 760-929-4060

Detail: Geologie Merge Offset Vertical Mosaic Pattern in Tessera Incense #957 and Copper Quartz Slate.

## Thank you for choosing Oceanside Glasstile®

We are committed to providing the highest level of technical service to help make the installation of our products as straightforward as possible, with optimal and beautiful results. To ensure your satisfaction we include installation instructions with your order. In this Installation Guide, we'll take you through detailed, step-by-step, illustrated installation instructions including user-friendly tips, how to maintain your installation and frequently asked questions. More detailed information is also available at our website, [www.glasstile.com](http://www.glasstile.com).

# MATERIAL INSPECTION AND SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

These instructions are provided as a general guideline for installing Oceanside Glasstile; some installations require different or more detailed specifications. An experienced, professional tile installer who is familiar with the following procedures should perform the work. Please read and understand these instructions before beginning any work.

## Verifying Dye Lot Consistency

The owner or end user is responsible for determining the acceptability of the product. Due to the handmade, artistic nature of our product, variation in color, shade, tone, and size is normal.

1. Upon delivery, open and inspect each box of tile.
2. Verify dye lot consistency in the following manner. To establish color control samples, randomly select from your order:
  - A. five sheets of paper-faced mosaics (Facets, Ritual, Geologie or Tessera)
  - B. five pieces of field tile (Casa California, Haiku, Elevations, Ritual or Terrain)
3. To assure shade variations are acceptable check the remaining sheets or field tile in your order against the control samples, prior to installation.
4. If ordering additional materials, samples shall be sent to help attempt to match previously ordered material.

**STOP!** No adjustments will be made after installation.

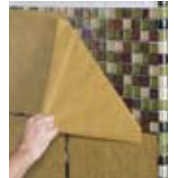
## Tips To Achieve Better Installations

- All mortar beds shall cure no less than 7 days prior to glass tile installation.
- All glass tile installations benefit from extended cure times (48 hours or longer) prior to grouting or foot traffic.
- All submerged or heavy water use applications shall cure no less than 21 days after grouting before submersion or heavy water use.

### IMPORTANT

#### INSTALL PAPER-SIDE OUT

All Facets, Ritual, Geologie and Tessera Mosaics are paper face-mounted sheets. Install with the paper side out.



## Substrates

The performance of a properly installed thin-set tile application is dependent upon the durability and dimensional stability of the substrate to which it is bonded. The following recommendations are from the Tile Council of North America's "2007 TCA Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation" and are general in nature ([www.tileusa.com](http://www.tileusa.com)).

FLOORS	INTERIOR			EXTERIOR		
	CBU	Mortar	Concrete	CBU	Mortar	Concrete
Wood Sub-Floor	F144-07	F145-07 F141-07	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Concrete (Slab on Grade)	N/A	F111-07 F112-07	F113-07	N/A	F121-07*	F102-07
Concrete (Elevated or post tensioned)	N/A	F111-07	N/A	N/A	F121-07*	N/A

\*This method is not recommended for freeze-thaw applications. Proper drainage and a pre-sloped waterproof membrane, meeting ANSI A118.10, are required BELOW the mortar bed.

WALLS	INTERIOR			EXTERIOR		
	CBU	Mortar	Drywall	CBU	Mortar	Drywall
Wood studs	W244C-07 W244F-07	W231-07	W243-07	W244E-07	W231-07	N/A
Metal Studs	W244C-07 W244F-07	W241-07	W243-07	W244E-07	W241-07	N/A
Solid Backing (Masonry)	N/A	W221-07	N/A	N/A	W201-07	N/A

SPECIALTY	CBU	Mortar
Bathtub Walls**	B412-07	B411-07
Shower Receptors/Walls**	B415-07	B414-07
Countertops	C513-07***	C511-07
Swimming Pools	N/A	P601-07

\*\* Wood or Metal Studs

\*\*\* Use only Cementitious Backer Unit (CBU) or Fiber Cement Board

- For large format glass tile installations, horizontal solid blocking shall be installed in the framing every 18" and at all CBU board transitions.
- Membrane meeting ANSI A108.02-3.8 (2005) is required behind CBU in exterior and wet applications. A108.02-3.8.4 (2005) high solids, cold applied membrane: ASTM C836 shall be used only with opaque glass tile.
- All joints on CBU should be taped with the CBU manufacturers' recommended mesh tape and allowed to cure 48 hours prior to installation.



### Unacceptable Substrates

- Single-float mortar bed walls not employing cured scratch coats
- Poultry netting (chicken wire) or metal lath less than 2.5 lbs. per square yard in wire reinforced mortar beds
- Wood products, such as plywood, luan, MDF, MDX, press board and composites

# SETTING SYSTEMS

All materials should be used according to manufacturer's instructions. Due to the translucent nature of glass, the color of the bonding material will impact the ultimate look of the tile. We recommend the use of specific **white** bonding mortars, some mixed with specific latex admix. See the following list for required thin-sets and follow manufacturer's recommended cure times for all setting materials. Pools, spas and all submerged applications require a minimum 21-day cure time after grouting and before submersion or exposure to heavy water use.

Although we require the use of the highest performing setting materials for installing our products, occasionally, due to the transparent and/or light translucent nature of some of our products, visible effects, also known as "Ghosting," may occur behind the glass. This is not considered a manufacturing problem with the glass tile.

## Setting Systems

**NOTE:** When mixing setting and grouting materials do not exceed 300 RPM or the manufacturer's recommendations. Most setting and grouting materials need to slake (sit) 10-15 minutes after mixing and remixed before use.

Select one of these required **white** Thin-Set Mortar Systems

### ACCEPTABLE SETTING SYSTEMS

- CUSTOM BUILDING PRODUCTS: Premium Plus Thin-Set Mortar mixed with Custom Flex Ultra-Strength Thin-Set Additive.
- CUSTOM BUILDING PRODUCTS: MegaFlex Crack Prevention Mortar.
- CUSTOM BUILDING PRODUCTS: MegaLite Crack Prevention Mortar.
- FLEXITILE: 52 Versatile Floor Mortar.
- HYDROMENT: ReFlex Ultra-Premium Latex-Modified Thin Set Mortar.
- KERAKOLL: H40 Tenax Single Component Thin-Set.
- LATICRETE: 254 Platinum Multipurpose Thin-Set Mortar.
- MAPEI: Kerabond Premium Dry-Set Mortar (KER 102) mixed with Keralastic Mortar Additive (KER 310)
- MAPEI: Adesilex P10 mixed with Keraply mortar additive.
- TEC (H.B. Fuller): Super Flex Premium Performance Universal Latex-Modified Thin-Set Mortar.

### Unacceptable Setting Systems

- Organic adhesive (mastic) – due to yellowing and low bond strengths.
- Epoxy – due to low flexibility, as well as degradation in UV sunlight.

## Movement Joints

Movement joints are essential for the success of most tile installations. Follow recommendations on Movement Joints EJ 171-07 in the "2007 TCA Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation". Movement joint requirements will vary depending on substrata, climate and size of installation. An architect or design professional should be consulted when specifying the exact number and location of each movement joint. Certain applications may require a different type of sealant.

### ACCEPTABLE FLEXIBLE JOINT FILLERS

- HYDROMENT: Chem-Calk 900 One-Part Urethane Sealant
- KERAKOLL: Sigibuild PU Poly-Urethane Sealant
- LATICRETE: Latasil 100% Silicone
- SIKAFLEX: 1A or 2C Polyurethane-based Sealant

## Grout

Install grout mix according to manufacturer's instructions. Grout joints shall be full and uniformly finished. Due to the impervious quality of glass, the grout will take longer to begin setting-up. For initial cleaning of grout from the tile face, use clean, dry cheesecloth. This wicks additional moisture from the grout and avoids washing out the joints. Use only a clean, damp sponge for the final cleaning and smoothing of the joints. For final polishing of excess grout haze use a clean, soft cloth.

### ACCEPTABLE GROUTS

We recommend standard sanded grout products.

- CUSTOM BUILDING PRODUCTS: Polyblend Sanded Tile Grout
- FLEXITILE: 600 Polymer Sanded Floor Grout
- HYDROMENT: Sanded Ceramic Tile Grout
- KERAKOLL: Fugabella 2-12
- LATICRETE: 1500 Series Tile Grout or equivalent
- MAPEI: Ker 200 Series and Ker 700 Series Ultra/Color
- TEC: AccuColor Premium Sanded Tile Grout


**NOTE:** An acrylic grout admix can improve freeze-thaw resistance. Check with the manufacturer for their recommendation on specific applications.

### Unacceptable Grout

- Epoxy grout-due to low flexibility, as well as degradation in UV sunlight.
- Non-sanded grout-due to shrinkage.
- Consult grout manufacturers before considering blue, green or red grout in submerged applications.

## Anti-Fracture/Waterproofing Membranes

- CUSTOM BUILDING PRODUCTS: RedGard Waterproofing and Crack Prevention Membrane
- HYDROMENT: Gold Anti-fracture and Waterproofing Membrane
- LATICRETE: 9235 waterproof & anti-fracture membrane
- TEC: TA-324 Triple-Flex waterproofing/crack isolation membrane

 Oceanside Glasstile does not recommend membranes directly behind the setting material when installing light translucent or transparent glass tile (glass tile you can see through).

# TECHNICAL INFORMATION

## Cutting

Oceanside Glasstile's products can be cut to meet job site dimensions with the use of a high-quality wet tile saw. We recommend a continuous, smooth-rim diamond blade designed for cutting glass, such as the 10" Alpha Vetro or the 10" MK - 215 GL. Special glass mosaic tile nippers (available from stained glass supply shops) work well when hand cutting our mosaic tile.

**NOTE:** Cut tile face up.

To dress (smooth) the cut edges of the glass tile use a #120 lapidary (tile rub stone) or 220 thru 600 grit PVA polishing pads available from Alpha Professional Tools or MK Diamond. Do not contact the face of the tile during dressing as this will damage the tile surface.

## Drilling

Solid blocking for the anchoring of fixtures such as shower doors, towel bars, etc, shall be installed prior to installing the substrate. The diameter of all drilled holes shall be 1/4" larger than the diameter of the fastener to allow the fastener to pass through the glass tile and substrate without making contact.

**Caution:** Always use safety equipment while drilling Oceanside Glasstile.

To successfully drill the glass tile, a water swivel and fractional core bit work best. Prior to using a fractional core bit, mark and drill a shallow pilot hole using a carbide or diamond tipped masonry drill bit. Start pilot holes slowly to avoid excess heat. Connect water source and open water control valve on swivel until water trickles out. Hold firmly and begin drilling slowly. Gradually increase the speed. Continue with steady pressure until desired depth is achieved.

# TEST RESULTS & RECOMMENDED APPLICATIONS

The following use chart is a general guideline listing laboratory test results and typical applications; however, an architect should be consulted when specifying Oceanside Glasstile. Additionally, the environment, climate, maintenance and wear can affect the performance of all tile installations; therefore, Oceanside Glasstile suggests the end user verify the performance of all specified materials using a testing facility familiar with the tests necessary to satisfy the specification.

ASTM TEST RESULTS		FACETS & TESSERA		CASA CALIFORNIA & HAIKU		ELEVATIONS		RITUAL FIELD & RITUAL MOSAIC	GEOLOGIE	
TEST #	TYPE of TEST	Iridescent	Non-Iridescent	Iridescent	Non-Iridescent	Iridescent	Non-Iridescent	Matte	Iridescent	Non-Iridescent
N/A	Moh's Scratch Hardness	4	3	4	4	4	3	5	N/A	N/A
C1028	Static Coefficient of Friction	Dry = .76 Wet = .60	Dry = .76 Wet = .30	Dry = .76 Wet = .48	Dry = .81 Wet = .36	Dry = .76 Wet = .48	Dry = .81 Wet = .36	Dry = .77 Wet = .65	Dry = .80 Wet = .60	Dry = .79 Wet = .59
C648	Breaking Strength	N/A		>900 Pounds-Force				N/A		
C424	Crazing Resistance	No Affect, 1 Cycle @150 PSI								N/A
C650	Chemical Resistance	No Affect, 7 Day Duration								N/A
C373	Water Absorption	<.5%, Impervious								N/A
C1026	Freeze-Thaw Resistance	No Deterioration to Tile								N/A

RECOMMENDED APPLICATIONS		FACETS & TESSERA			CASA CALIFORNIA & HAIKU		ELEVATIONS		RITUAL FIELD & RITUAL MOSAIC	GEOLOGIE***	
		Iridescent	Non-Iridescent	Palladium	Iridescent	Non-Iridescent	Iridescent	Non-Iridescent	Matte	Iridescent	Non-Iridescent
WALLS	Interior	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Exterior	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	•
FLOORS	Interior	•			•		•		•	•	
	Exterior	•			•		•		•		
COUNTERTOPS	Powder Room	•	•		•	•	•	•	•	•	
	Kitchen	•			•				•		
SUBMERGED		•	•		•	•			•		
POSSIBLE APPLICATIONS		Residential Heavy*	Residential Medium	Residential Light	Residential Heavy*	Residential Medium	Residential Heavy*	Residential Medium	Commercial Light*	Residential Light**	

\*Limited to light pedestrian traffic (less than 50 people per hour foot traffic), no metal wheeled carts.

\*\*With no exterior entrance.

\*\*\*Not recommended for submerged applications. Geologie is suitable for outdoor use only in non-freeze geographic areas maintaining temperatures of 36°F or higher.

# MOSAIC INSTALLATION

Paper-faced Mosaics – Tessera, Facets™ & Ritual™



## STEP 1

Using the flat side of a trowel to initiate the bond coat, firmly apply the setting material to the substrate.



## STEP 2

With additional setting material, using a 3/16" x 1/4" V-Notch trowel, comb horizontal, full notches in one direction to establish the proper depth of the setting bed.



## STEP 3

Using the flat side of the trowel, flatten the notches to achieve a smooth, consistent setting bed approximately 1/8" thick.



## STEP 4

Apply sheets into the setting bed (paper side towards you), using light even pressure to establish contact and eliminate any voids.



## STEP 5

Apply each subsequent sheet so that grout joints line up and a consistent field is maintained. Prior to setting each sheet, check the setting bed for skinning (slight drying of the thin set surface). If skinning occurs, remove thin set and repeat steps 2 & 3.



## STEP 6

To achieve a uniform surface, tap lightly using a wooden beating block and a hammer. To unify transitions tap from one sheet to the next.

**Caution:** Do not use rubber floats or steel trowels for this step.



## STEP 7

After 15-30 minutes (floors can be removed sooner) lightly wet paper several times over a 5-10 minute period.



## STEP 8

After water has absorbed into paper, the glue will release from the mosaics. Peel paper starting at the corner. Removing paper while the setting material is still in a semi-fresh/flexible state allows for necessary adjustments and reinspection of color consistency.



## STEP 9

Straighten individual tiles prior to final set with the goal of creating a consistent, overall field of mosaics. Pay particular attention to the joints between sheets to eliminate the sheet pattern.

**STOP!** Cure a minimum of 48 hours prior to cleaning and grouting.

# MOSAIC INSTALLATION

Paper-faced Mosaics – Tessera, Facets™ & Ritual™



## STEP 10

After at least 48 hours, using a nylon brush and water, scrub residual paper and glue from the tile, followed by wiping clean with a damp sponge. Allow to dry prior to grouting.



## STEP 11

Use sanded grout mixed per manufacturer's instructions. Apply grout with a rubber float, forcing grout into joints until full. Due to the impervious quality of glass, the grout will take longer to set than with more porous materials.



## STEP 12

Allow grout joints to take initial set (turn dull). For initial cleaning use clean, dry cheesecloth. This method wicks additional moisture from the grout and avoids washing out the grout joints.



## STEP 13

Allow grout joints to set up a second time (turn dull) and smooth finish with a lightly damp sponge.



## STEP 14

For final polishing of excess grout haze use a clean, soft cloth.

### TIPS

- ▶ After 48 hours of curing, a cleaning solution such as liquid dish soap and warm water or stone and tile stripper can be used for final cleaning.
- ▶ ANSI Method A108.15-2005 (The Alternate Method) may also be used for installing paper-faced mosaics: Facets, Ritual and Tessera. When installing blends with transparent or light translucent glass using the Alternate Method the setting material and grout must be the same color.



### Detail:

Tessera 1" x 1" Mosaic in Enchantment Blend.  
Photo: David Fatula

# LARGE FORMAT INSTALLATION

Casa California<sup>®</sup>, Haiku<sup>™</sup>, Elevations<sup>™</sup>, Ritual<sup>™</sup> & Terrain<sup>™</sup>



## STEP 1

Using the flat side of a trowel to initiate the bond coat, firmly apply the setting material to the substrate.



## STEP 2

With additional setting material, using a 1/4" x 1/4" square-notch trowel, comb horizontal, full notches to establish the proper depth of the setting bed.



## STEP 3

Using the flat side of the trowel, flatten the notches to achieve a smooth, consistent setting bed approximately 3/16" thick.



## STEP 4

Thoroughly clean the back of each tile using a dry cloth. Never wet the tile prior to setting.



## STEP 5

Back butter each tile using additional setting material. Verify that 100% coverage has been achieved by checking the face of transparent tile before setting.



## STEP 6

Apply the tile into the setting bed using firm, even pressure.



## STEP 7

Remove excess setting material from the edges and space a minimum of 1/8" between tiles.



**Allow the tile to cure a minimum of 48 hours prior to cleaning and grouting.**



## STEP 8

After at least 48 hours, apply grout with a rubber float, forcing grout into joints until full. Use sanded grout mixed per manufacturer's instructions. Due to the impervious quality of glass, the grout may take longer to set than with more porous tile.



## STEP 9

Allow grout joints to set up (turn dull). For initial cleaning use clean, dry cheesecloth. This method wicks additional moisture from the grout and avoids washing out the grout joints.

# LARGE FORMAT INSTALLATION

Casa California<sup>®</sup>, Haiku<sup>™</sup>, Elevations<sup>™</sup>, Ritual<sup>™</sup> & Terrain<sup>™</sup>



## STEP 10

Allow grout joints to set up a second time and smooth finish with a lightly damp sponge.



## STEP 11

For final polishing of excess grout haze, use a clean, soft cloth. Remove the masking tape and complete polishing.

### TIPS

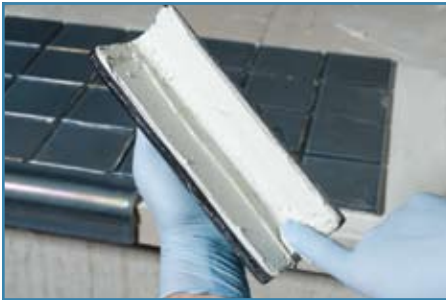
► For liners and decos with detailed surface designs, cover with masking tape to avoid the need for excessive cleaning. Keep tape above the plane of desired grout height.

► After 48 hours of curing, a cleaning solution such as liquid dish soap and warm water or stone and tile stripper can be used for final cleaning.

# V-CAP INSTALLATION

Casa California<sup>®</sup>

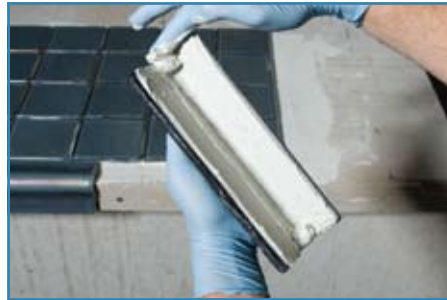
**STOP!** Follow Large Format Installation steps 1 – 4 prior to installing v-cap.



## STEP 1

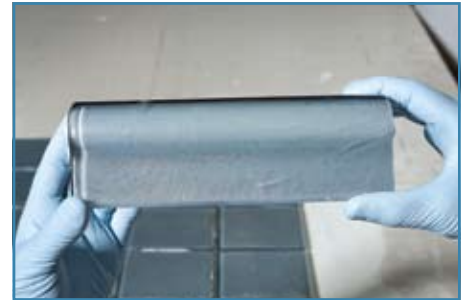
Thoroughly clean the back of the v-cap using a soft dry cloth. Back butter each tile with setting material.

**Caution:** Do not fill the radius of the tile as excess setting material will shrink and may cause cracking.



## STEP 2

Apply a small amount of setting material to the outside ends. Apply additional setting material to the top and bottom edges where contact will be established.



## STEP 3

Verify that 100% coverage has been achieved by checking the face of the tile before setting.



## STEP 4

Apply the tile into the setting bed using light, even pressure to establish contact and eliminate any voids.



## STEP 5

Remove excess setting material from the edges and space a minimum of 1/8" between tiles.

**STOP!** Allow the tile to cure a minimum of 48 hours prior to cleaning and grouting.

### CROWN CAP NOTE

► Crown cap shall be installed following v-cap steps 1-5. Do not completely fill the radius with setting material.

# GEOLOGIE™ INSTALLATION



## STEP 1

Using the flat side of a trowel to initiate the bond coat, firmly apply the setting material to the substrate.



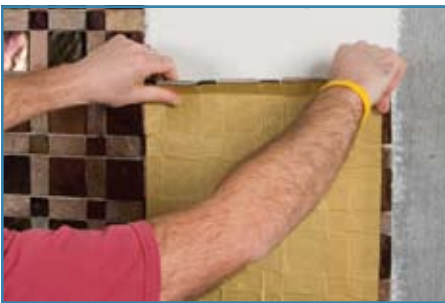
## STEP 2

With additional setting material, using a 1/4" x 1/4" square-notch trowel, comb horizontal, full notches to establish the proper depth of the setting bed.



## STEP 3

Using the flat side of the trowel, flatten the notches to achieve a smooth, consistent setting bed approximately 3/16" thick.



## STEP 4

Apply sheets into the setting bed (paper side towards you), using light even pressure to establish contact and eliminate any voids.



## STEP 5

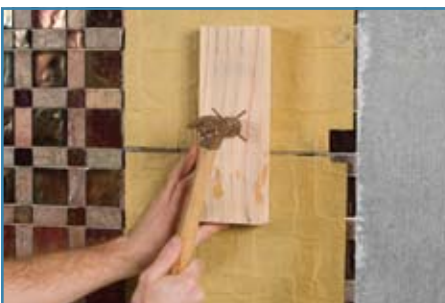
To achieve a uniform surface, tap lightly using a wooden beating block and a hammer.

**Caution:** Do not use rubber floats or steel trowels for this step.



## STEP 6

Prior to setting each sheet, check the setting bed for skinning (slight drying of the thin-set surface). If skinning occurs, remove thin-set and repeat steps 2 & 3. Apply each subsequent sheet so that grout joints line up and a consistent field is maintained.



## STEP 7

To unify the tile surface from one sheet to the next, use a wooden beating block and hammer, again lightly tapping from one sheet to the next.



## STEP 8

After 15-30 minutes (floors can be removed sooner) lightly wet paper several times over a 5-10 minute period.



## STEP 9

After water has absorbed into paper, the glue will release from the mosaics. Peel paper starting at the corner of the sheets. Removing paper while the setting material is still in a semi-fresh/flexible state allows for necessary adjustments & reinspection of color consistency.

# GEOLOGIE™ INSTALLATION



## STEP 10

Straighten individual tiles prior to final set with the goal of creating a consistent, overall field. Pay particular attention to the joints between sheets to eliminate the sheet pattern. Push in all transparent glass tiles that have not achieved sufficient contact.

**STOP!** Cure a minimum of 48 hours prior to cleaning.



## STEP 11

After waiting a minimum of 48 hours, use a nylon brush and water, scrub residual paper and glue from the tile, followed by wiping clean with a damp sponge. Allow tile to dry prior to grouting.



## STEP 12

Use standard-grade sanded grout. Mix grout per manufacturer's instructions. Apply grout with a rubber grout float, forcing the grout into the joints until full.



## STEP 13

Allow grout joints to set up (turn dull) and smooth finish with a damp sponge. After grout joints turn dull again, remove residue with a lightly damp sponge and clean water.

### TIPS

► After 48 hours of curing, a cleaning solution such as liquid dish soap and warm water or stone and tile stripper can be used for final cleaning. For sealing or enhancing recommendations contact sealer manufactures.

► ANSI Method A108.15-2005 (The Alternate Method) may also be used for installing Geologie. When installing blends with transparent or light translucent glass using the Alternate Method the setting material and grout must be the same color.

### Detail:

Bench wall: Geologie Merge Pattern in California Gold Slate and Fleet Blue Irid #027.

Fire pit walls: Geologie 1"x2" Offset Joint Pattern in Indian Autumn Slate and Cane Irid #006.

Top of fire pit: Facets 1/2"x1/2" in Fleet Blue Irid #027.

Photo: Bradley Girard



# POOL INSTALLATIONS

The following information relates to proper installation materials and techniques for pools installed over concrete tanks with Oceanside Glasstile products.

Follow the TCNA's specification for Swimming Pools TCA P601-07.

- Concrete tanks shall be watertight. Cementitious sealers are recommended for this purpose.
- Cure mortar beds a minimum of 7 days prior to setting the glass tile with one of the acceptable setting systems found on page 4 of this guide.
- The ideal setting temperature range for latex modified setting material is 50° – 90°F. Always shade the installation from direct sunlight and wind using awnings or umbrellas.
- Pools, spas and all submerged applications require a minimum 21-day cure time after grouting and before submersion or exposure to heavy water use.



## Movement Provisions

A flexible sealant, ASTM C-920 that is recommended for submerged applications, is required for pools between the tile and the decking or coping, at all inside corners and every 12'-16' on center in the grout joint.

**Caution:** Soil and corresponding engineering reports are mandatory for all glass tile pools.

# CUTTING MITERS

Oceanside Glasstile's trim pieces can be cut to meet jobsite dimensions. This includes miter cuts for inside and outside corners. Using the recommended equipment (see Cutting page 5) and standard tile cutting techniques, a professionally finished detail can be achieved. The following example is for an 8" Casa California v-cap on an outside corner countertop application.



Always use the appropriate safety equipment when cutting Oceanside Glasstile.



## STEP 1

Using a miter gauge, align the v-cap at a 45-degree angle to the blade. Position the v-cap so that the long side of the miter will be first into the blade, oriented in the same way as it will be installed.



## STEP 2

Maintain the tile position and cut slowly with steady, even pressure. Adequate water flow will cool and lubricate the cut promoting a clean edge and extending blade life.



## STEP 3

Prior to installation, smooth the cut edges with a #120 lapidary stone or 220 thru 600 PVA polishing pads.

# CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

When using cleaning products always follow manufacturer's directions and use personal protection equipment.

## New Installations

- Wait to clean new installations for a minimum of 24 hours after completing the grouting process.
- After 24 hours remove loose dirt by vacuuming or sweeping.
- Prepare a cleaning solution using warm water and a liquid dish soap or a neutral pH cleaner. Thoroughly clean the glass tile, including the grout joints, using a nylon scrub brush or nylon scrub pad.
- Rinse with clean water and towel dry. A second rinsing may be needed.

## CEMENT-BASED GROUT OR SETTING MATERIAL HAZE



Wait at least 10 days after grouting prior to applying the recommendations below.

1. Wait 10 days after the grout has been installed then use a Sulfamic Acid cleaner such as C-Clean or Custom Clean. Follow the manufacturer's directions using a nylon scrub brush or nylon scrub pad.
2. Rinse thoroughly with clean water and towel dry. A second rinsing may be needed to completely remove the cleaning solution.

### TIP

► Apply the solution and allow it to soak in for 3-5 minutes, re-apply and scrub.

## LATEX-BASED SMEARS

1. Stone and tile strippers will work to clean latex smears not removed by acid-based cleaners. Follow grout manufacturer's cure times and directions prior to use.
2. Rinse thoroughly with clean water and towel dry. A second rinsing may be needed.

## SEALING RECOMMENDATIONS

- Sealers are beneficial for grout and natural stone; however, they will not penetrate the glass tile due to the impervious nature of glass. Consult grout manufacturers for their sealing recommendations.
- To reduce the possibility of sealer smears, buff sealer off glass tile with dry, clean towels before it dries.
- Always test a product on your tile installation in an inconspicuous area before treating the entire tile installation.
- Protect surrounding non-tiled surfaces when using products recommended for tiled areas. Tile cleaning and maintenance products can adversely affect some materials such as metals, woods, and other surfaces.
- When using cleaning products always follow manufacturer's directions and use personal protection equipment.

## GENERAL CLEANING

- Warm water and liquid dish soap or a neutral pH cleaner.
- Tubs and showers: DESCUM Soap Scum Remover & Renovator.
- Pools and water features: Descale-It Pool & Spa Cleaner.



### Detail:

Elevations 1 1/4" x 10" Extrados Field in Cane Irid #006.

Photo: Morris Gindi Photography

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## Substrates

- Q:** Is plywood a good setting surface for glass tile?
- A:** No, although it is believed by some tile installers to be an acceptable substrate, plywood's high degree of expansion and contraction makes it a poor choice with Oceanside Glasstile products.
- Q:** Are drywall, sheet rock, green board or blue board acceptable setting surfaces in DRY areas?
- A:** Yes, traditionally Oceanside Glasstile recommends cementitious board units (CBU, Wonder Board, Hardi Backer) and wire-reinforced mortar beds, cured 7 days prior to installation, for most applications. For wall installations in interior DRY AREAS, drywall is widely accepted as a substrate; however, a professional evaluation should be made to ensure that the substrate is acceptable and the installation will not be subjected to moisture.
- Q:** How long should concrete cure prior to installing Oceanside Glasstile?
- A:** The tile industry minimum standard for concrete is 28 days. For cold exterior and high moisture climates the cure times can extend to 60 days or more.

## Setting Materials

- Q:** Are ceramic tile or marble mastics (organic adhesives) appropriate for installing Oceanside Glasstile products?
- A:** No, mastics result in very low bond strengths and consequently are not recommended for glass tile by most mastic manufacturers. In addition, discoloration and yellowing will occur behind Oceanside Glasstile's translucent glass tile within a short period of time.
- Q:** Can the setting material be tinted to change the overall appearance of my Oceanside Glasstile installation?
- A:** Yes, however, this recommendation must come from the setting material manufacturer as Oceanside Glasstile does not recommend altering another manufacturer's products.
- Q:** What are the advantages of flattening the notch lines in the thin-set bed as part of the setting process?
- A:** Flattening the notch lines will reduce the possibility of visible voids or air pockets in the setting bed behind the tile, and increase the overall bond strength.

## Mosaic Installation

### Tessera, Facets™, Ritual™, and Geologie™

- Q:** Why does Oceanside Glasstile recommend tapping a wooden beating block with a finish hammer on the paper faced mosaics prior to removing the paper and making adjustments instead of using metal trowels or grout floats for this purpose?
- A:** Metal trowels and rubber floats have too much flexibility, which can create an uneven surface. The wooden beating block and hammer method offers the best result for uniformity and bonding.
- Q:** How long should I wait to remove the paper?
- A:** About 15 - 30 minutes is normal depending on the climate and job site conditions. Removing the paper at this stage is very important for making the adjustments necessary to achieve the highest quality mosaic installations.
- Q:** What is the recommendation for cleaning and sealing Geologie Mosaic prior to grouting?
- A:** Clean the Geologie Mosaic using a stone cleaner, rinse thoroughly and allow to dry 72 hours prior to following the sealer manufacturer's recommendations.

**Caution:** Removing paper while the setting material is still in a semi-fresh/flexible state allows for necessary adjustments and reassures dye lot color consistency. Waiting to remove the paper until the next day prohibits making desired adjustments.

## Large Format Installation

### Casa California®, Haiku™, Elevations™, Ritual™ and Terrain™

- Q:** What is the minimum acceptable spacing between large format glass tile?
- A:** The minimum spacing is 1/8" between tiles and all abutting surfaces.

### To locate the required setting materials and recommended products please contact the manufacturers:

**Alpha Professional Tools**  
800-648-7229  
www.alpha-tools.com

**Custom Building Products**  
800-272-8786  
www.custombuildingproducts.com

**Descale-it**  
520-294-5676  
www.descale-it.com

**Flextile**  
800-699-3623  
www.flextile.net

**Hydroment Bostik**  
888-592-8558  
www.bostik-us.com

**KeraKoll**  
39/0536-816-511  
www.kerakoll.com

**Laticrete**  
800-243-4788  
www.laticrete.com

**MAPEI**  
800-426-2734  
www.mapei.com

**MK Diamond**  
800-845-3729  
www.mkdiamond.com

**National Chemical Laboratories (DESCUM)**  
800-628-2436  
www.nclonline.com

**Sikaflex**  
800-933-7452  
www.sikaconstruction.com

**TEC (H.B. Fuller)**  
800-323-7407  
www.hbfuller.com