



JohnsonTILES

**JOHNSON TILES | FREQUENTLY  
ASKED QUESTIONS**

## FAQ

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### What are the types of porcelain tiles?

There are two basic types of porcelain, glazed porcelain and full body porcelain, also known as through body porcelain.

### What finishes are available for porcelain tiles?

Polished or semi-polished: After firing this type of tile is mechanically polished to a reflective finish.

Glazed: A glaze is applied as the top layer of the tile. The finish may be smooth, matt or glossy.

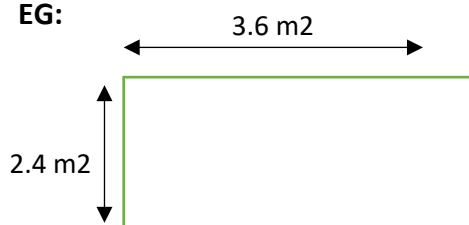
Matt or natural finish: A tile with this finish typically comes out of the kiln and does not undergo any or much further processing.

Rock or structured finish: This tile has a textured finish, with ridges and dips; they are often used in external applications because of their anti-slip properties.

### How do I know how many tiles to buy?

As long as you know the dimensions of the walls or floor that you are tiling, you can work out the amount of tiles that you need.

EG:



**NOTE:** When you are placing a tiles order, you should buy an additional 10% on what you expect to use. This can account for errors in measurement, breakages and spares for any future issues.

Floor area – Length 3.6 x Width 2.4 = 8.64m<sup>2</sup>

Add your 10% extra = 9.50m<sup>2</sup>

If the carton of tiles has 1.2m<sup>2</sup>

Divide the total floor m<sup>2</sup> by the m<sup>2</sup> in the carton of tiles.

$9.50 \div 1.2 = 7.916$  (Round up to the nearest number)

$8 \times 1.2 = 9.6\text{m}^2$

## How can I drill a hole through ceramic tile?

Use a carbide tipped masonry bit or diamond drill bit. Regular twist drill bits can't cut through the fire-hardened glaze

## What is the best way to cut a tile?

There are four easy ways to cut a ceramic or porcelain tiles.

- *Manual Tile Cutter* – Best suited for making straight cuts in ceramic or porcelain tiles. Not suited for diagonal cuts, very tiny cuts, round cuts or larger formatted tiles as they won't fit inside the cutter.
- *Tile Nippers* – Best suited for making unusual or rounded cuts in tiles. Not suited for cutting large number of tiles.
- *Diamond Hole Saw* – Best suited for making round holes in tiles. It has no other use.
- *Wet Saw* – Best suited for large tile jobs where you need to make many cuts in tiles and different types of cuts in tiles. Not suited for making curved or rounded cuts.

## How long will tiles last?

As long as you don't chip at the tile with any heavy or sharp objects, tile should last for the life of the home.

## What grout spacing do I need between tiles?

We usually recommend between 3mm and 5mm for floor tiles and no less than 1.5mm for wall tiles. Grout spacers are a fantastic way to ensure your grout lines are level and even.

## What type of tile can be used around my fireplace?

Any tile can be used on the face of a fireplace. Putting the tile directly in the firebox is not recommended, but high-fired ceramic tile is often used directly on top of and surrounding the firebox.

## How long do I wait to install tile on a new concrete slab?

New concrete reaches full strength after 21 days but it is recommended to wait the full curing period of 28 days before installing tile



**Will tile fade over time if exposed to direct sunlight?**

No. The colour of your tiles are oven-heated at temperatures exceeding 2300 degrees. As such, they are impervious to fading.

**Does the gloss level affect slip-resistance?**

High-gloss products will be more slippery than low-gloss products.

**Can I install tiles over existing ceramic tile?**

As long as the existing tile is cleaned thoroughly and sound, and the right adhesive is used, this should be fine.

**Can you use tiles outside?**

Yes, tiles for outdoor areas have been specifically designed for that purpose. Their design features cover issues such as slip resistance, water absorption and changes in temperature.

