Installation Guide

WARNING

Please read the instructions carefully prior to installing your Tile Easy.

Your warranty will be voided if any of these guidelines are not followed.

INSTALLATION

Be sure tabs are fully interlocked. When installing the Tile Easy flooring system, listen for a "click" sound to ensure the tiles are fully engaged.

It is also important to visually examine the tabs to make certain there is a complete connection.

Use only with Tile Easy – flooring system Tile Easy-grout products. Other grouts are not sufficiently flexible to handle the movement associated with a floating floor and will fail.

FLOOR

The Tile Easy flooring system must be installed over a structurally sound floor that is:

- Clean
- Dry
- Smooth
- Level within a tolerance of: (1.5 mm in 305mm) & (5.00mm in 3.0m)

To determine if a floor is suitable, use a straight edge to identify the high and low areas. The high spots (if on a wooden floor) need to be planed and low areas need to be filled with non-cracking good quality filler.

USEFUL TOOLS

- All your PPE gear, i.e. glasses, gloves, ear protection
- Stanley knife
- Straight edge
- Square
- White rubber mallet
- Wall spacers
- Tapping block
- Undercut saw
- Rubber-coated pull bar
- Wet saw (w/diamond blade)
- Angle grinder (w/diamond blade)
- Tape measure & pencil
- Tile snips

The tools Indicated on this page are helpful for a Tile Easy – flooring system installations, but, not every tool listed is necessary.
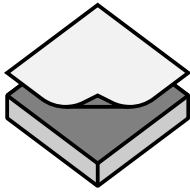
Always follow the tool manufacturer's safety requirements and keep appropriate safety guards in place.

SUITABLE LOCATIONS

- Over vinyl, wood, concrete, ceramic....almost any substrate providing its level and solid
- On Sub-floor with a thickness of 19mm or more, installed over 500mm on center. The deflection must not be greater than 0.9mm of the span when measured under a 136kg concentrated load.(See ASTM C 627).
- Sub-floor within a tolerance of (1.5 mm in 305mm) and (6.5mm in 3.0m), as defined by the TCNA* Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation. A straight-edge should be used to determine whether floor is within tolerance.
- Approved radiant heating systems. Please note, the Tile Easy – flooring system should not be installed above heating systems that may expose the grid to temperatures above 43℃ (110° F)

UNSUITABLE LOCATIONS

- On carpet or thick cushioned vinyl.
- Unstable sub-floor.
- Showers, saunas, and steam rooms. Outdoor environments. (covered in porches, verandas etc; accepted)
- Walls, counter tops and back splashes.
- Installations that expose the floor to temperatures exceeding 43℃ (110° F) (under wood-burning stoves, fireplace hearths, etc)
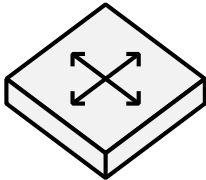
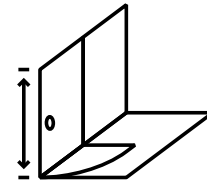**TILE EASY**
INTERLOCKING FLOOR TILES

Remove existing carpeting, underlay or quarter round mouldings. **Do not remove existing resilient floor covering if flat, smooth and in good condition.** Please refer to recommended work practices for removal of any flooring.
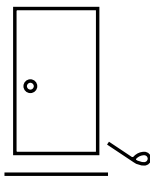
Identify high and low spots that are out of tolerance. High spots should be planed, and low spots should be filled. When levelling sub-floor, only use high quality product (such as Ardex products).
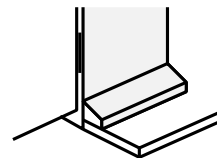
Inspect floor for movement. If movement is caused by loose boards or existing flooring surfaces, secure them. If movement is caused by deflection, consult a builder for structural repair.
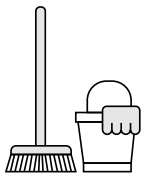
Check all door and appliance clearances as well as transition heights.

Cut or plane the bottom of doors to accommodate change in floor height. A tile with tray has a height of 15mm.

Undercut door casings and jambs. This will allow tiles to move freely while also covering the cut edges. A scrap piece of tile can be used to guide the saw blade. This will help achieve the correct height for undercutting.
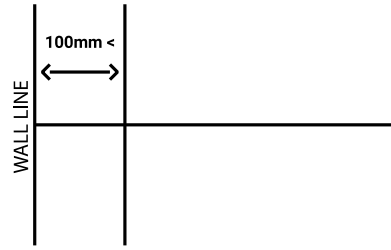
Sub-floor must be clean, smooth, dry, and structurally sound.

TILE EASY
INTERLOCKING FLOOR TILES

STEP TWO: INSTALLATION

Temperature during installation should be maintained above 5° C (60° F) and below 43°C (110° F).
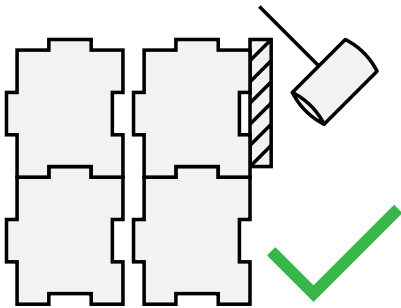

All claims for defective product must be filed before the tile is installed. A careful twisting and visual inspection should be performed prior to installation.
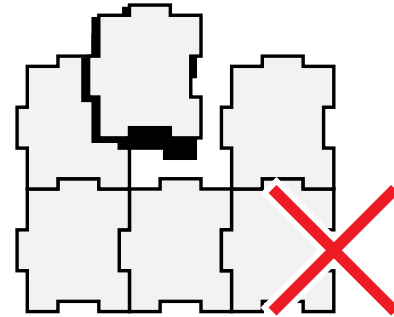

Small cut pieces (under 100mm) installed along the perimeter should be avoided, see layout advice above. If it is unavoidable, adhered small pieces under 100mm around perimeter using a premium construction adhesive
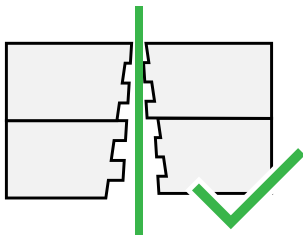
STEP THREE: ASSEMBLY

Tiles can be interlocked using a white rubber mallet and tapping block. Using a tapping block is optional.

Tiles may be installed one at a time, or in rows.

System is non-directional, and can be installed to the right or to the left.

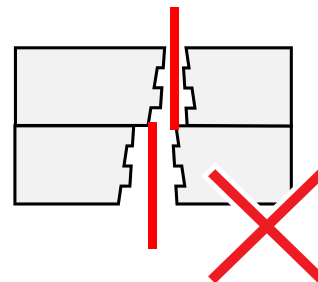A tile cannot be installed between two other tiles.

Ensure interlocking tabs are fully engaged. Grout joint intersections should form a perfect cross.

This should be checked throughout the installation, and after the field tile has been installed. Adjustments can be made by using a white-headed rubber mallet and tapping the misaligned row in the appropriate direction.

Tile rows can be shifted for perfect alignment using a rubber mallet and pull bar, or tapping block.
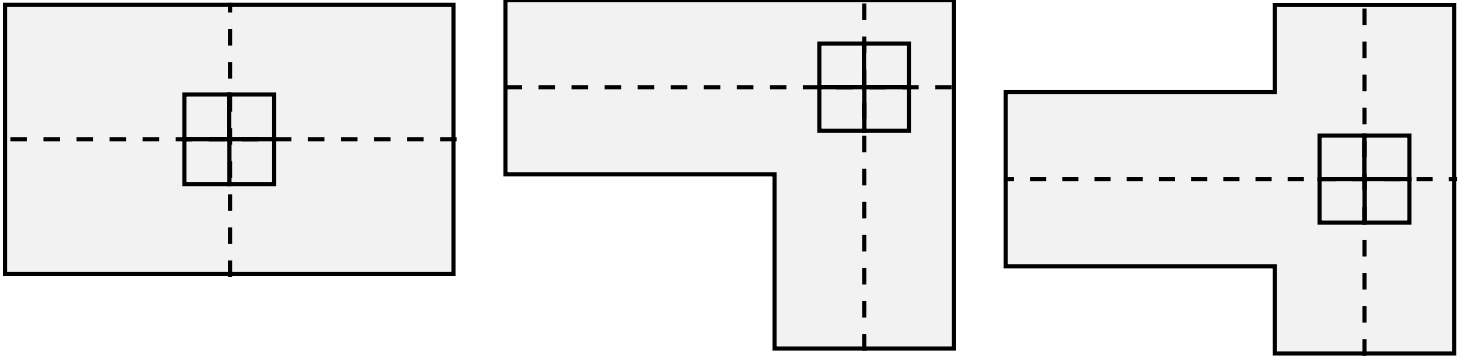
Tiles can be disengaged in 2 ways:

* By lifting one tile upward until tiles disconnect, or
* Placing the rubber-coated pull bar in the grout joint and twisting until tiles separate.
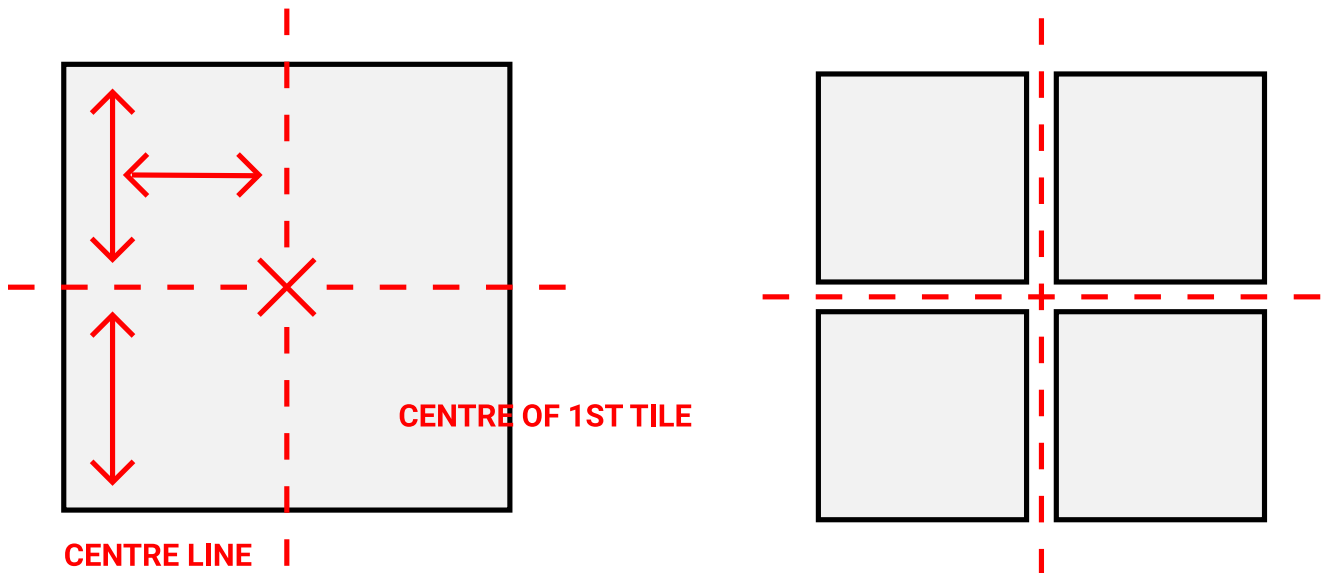
Tile Easy installs in straight, diagonal, staggered, or mixed size patterns.

For the best visual results, the installation should begin in the centre of the room. As with a traditional tile installation, the layout should be planned so the cut pieces along the perimeter appear in an aesthetically pleasing manner:

If your cut pieces along the perimeter is under 100mm, then find the centre of your first tile and use that line as your starting line point in the centre of your room. This will increase your perimeter tile size by half the size of your first tile.

CENTRE OF 1ST TILE

CENTRE LINE

When beginning an installation along a wall, (not preferred) remove the tabs to allow for the 5mm expansion gap and use 5mm spacers. To be removed when grouting. Tabs can be removed using snips.

Due to the shade variation associated with glazed porcelain tile, tiles should be mixed from cartons if installing different lot number. We recommend all jobs be installed from the same lot number.

TILE EASY
INTERLOCKING FLOOR TILES

Always follow tool manufacturer safety requirements and use appropriate eye and ear protection.
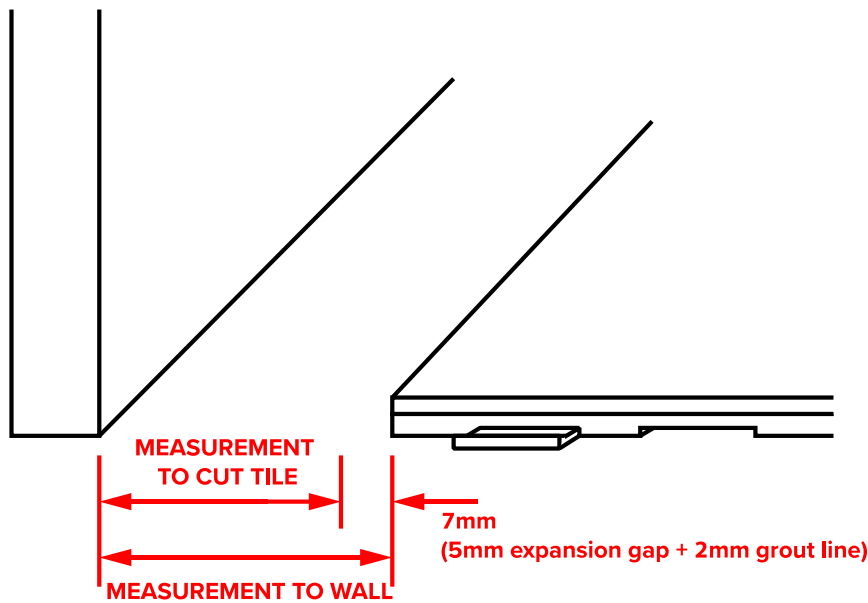
Tiles may be cut using a wet saw, or angle grinder, all with a diamond blade.

A 5mm gap is required along the perimeter to allow for expansion and contraction.

When marking cuts:

Step 1: Measure distance between wall and the field tile, then deduct 8mm .This factors in 3mm for the grout joint plus 5mm for the expansion gap.

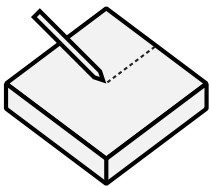**Step 2:** Mark the measurement on a tile, and proceed with the cut.

MEASUREMENT
TO CUT TILE

7mm
(5mm expansion gap + 2mm grout line)
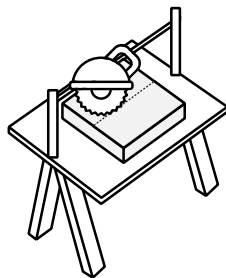
MEASUREMENT TO WALL

When using a wet saw, be sure to change the water often. Shavings from the plastic tray float, may clog the water pump.

After cutting the tile with a wet saw, set it with the cut edge facing down to allow the water to drain properly

When cutting tile use a cutter with a diamond blade, use an Angle Grinder or similar.
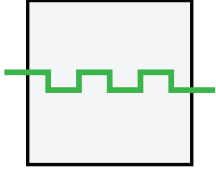

Step 1: Mark tile with pencil.

Step 2: Cut tile with saw.

- **L cuts, Curved, circular, or U cuts can be made using an angle grinder.**
- **Holes can be drilled using a high quality carbide-designed hole cutter or diamond bit.**
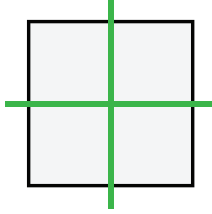- **Once cut, a tile can be installed along the perimeter using a rubber-coated pull bar.**

TILE EASY
INTERLOCKING FLOOR TILES

STEP SIX: GROUTING JOINTS
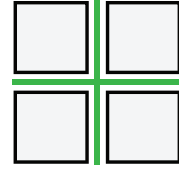
Surface Preparation

Conduct a final floor inspection, verifying:

(a) all tabs are fully engaged.

(b) all grout intersections are properly aligned, forming a grout line

(c) joints are clean, dry, and free from debris

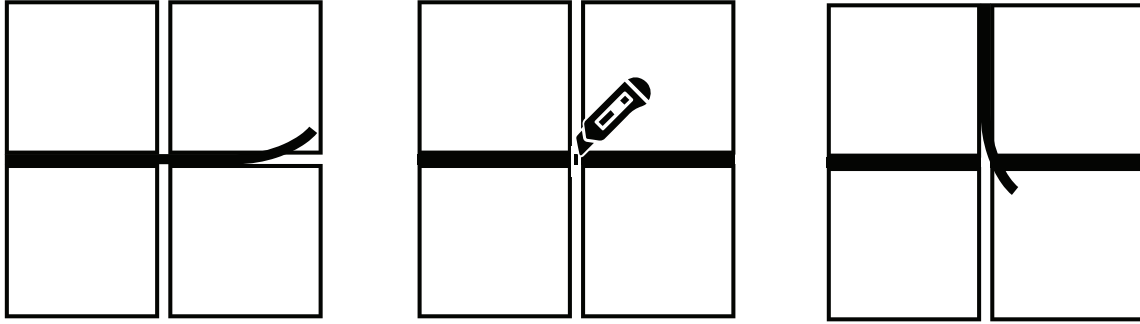There are 2 grouting systems you can use with Tile Easy Flooring;

1. Tile Easy - Strip Grout

2. Tile Easy - Grout

Using **Tile Easy - grout** systems are a critical part of installation.
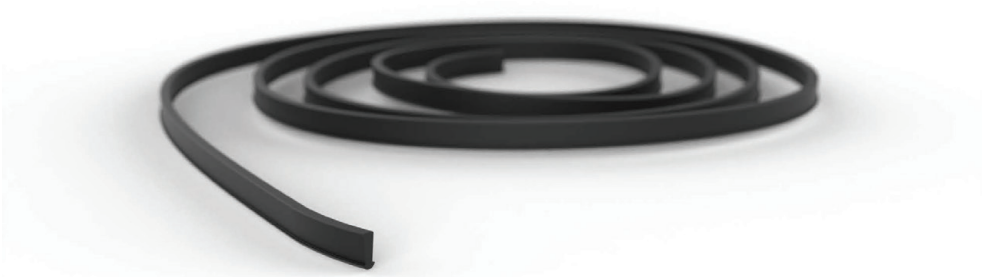
*** Using other grouts will make warranties invalid.

Tile Easy – grout systems may be applied as soon as you have finished installing your floor.

TILE EASY
INTERLOCKING FLOOR TILES

No messy wet grout, no water, no clean up afterwards and 100% sealed.

Steps:

1. Starting at one end of longest joint line, push strip grout into joint pressing down hard with roller making sure the strip has been pushed to the bottom of the joint and has a good interference fit. (hard to pull out)

2. With cutting blade shear off the top of the strip that is protruding, cut it level with the surface of tile.

3. Insert all the longest joint lines first in the one direction.

4. Then starting with all the joints running at right angles, insert the strip grout following the same procedures as before.

5. When you come to a crossroads, use a sharp blade and notch the strip in line with the tile's edge to allow a perpendicular strip of grout to pass through (see diagram below)

6. Before continuing with inserting grout strip, drop a dob of silicone (supplied) at the joint crossroads.

7. Continue to insert all grout joints running at right angles the same way and shear of using the same process with a blade.

8. If your layout pattern of tiles are in a brick bond pattern, insert the strip grout in all longest grout lines first and then cut short individual strip pieces to fit. Make sure to use silicone dobs at both ends before inserting.

9. Around the perimeter of the tile installation using a good quality colour silicone chalk to seal

TILE EASY
INTERLOCKING FLOOR TILES

Tile Easy - Grout

No hours on your knees, no buckets of water, no sponges, no clean up required afterwards.

The **Tile Easy - Grout** comes in dual cartridges with static mixing nozzle.

To save on **Tile Easy - Grout** costs, its best to use **Tile Easy Rod Grout** saver first, ask you retailor for more details

Steps:

1. After initial set up of gun applicator and cartridge, disperse approx. a 40cm line of epoxy unto cardboard / or paper to make sure of proper mixing has occurred.

2. Always use a new nozzle when starting a new tube.

3. If applying in cold weather, it may be hard to dispense, place unopen cartridge in bucket of warm water first for a 5-10 minutes for easier dispensing.

4. Using the gun applicator and mixing nozzle (cut point at 45° angle) apply the grout into the joint, making sure it overflows the top surface a little.

5. Using ball stick, run it along the grout joint pressing down. Do NOT wipe the excess overflow.

6. Leave grout to dry. (approx. 8-16 hrs). Remove excess overflow when dry with scraper blade.

7. When applying **Tile Easy - Grout** where tiles meet skirting board, painted surfaces, or metal edges. Use masking tape along these surfaces.

8. If applying **Tile Easy - Grout** to textured or rough tiles (porous) use **Tile Easy - Grout Release Agent**. Using a piece of foam apply the release agent along the top of the joint only making sure release agent does not get into the joint. Just a smear amount applied is enough. By using the release agent it will prevent **Tile Easy - Grout** from drying in to the small porous area of the rough tiles and leave a perfect clean surface.