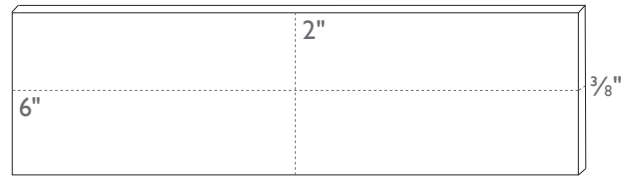
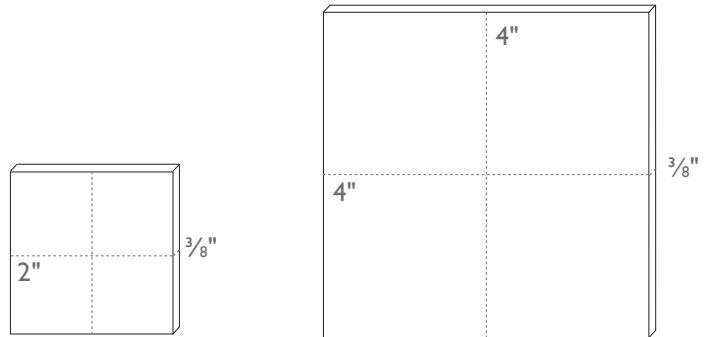


EASTERN EARTHENWARE

USAGE	Y/N
interior floor & wall	Y
exterior floor & wall	N*
residential low traffic	Y
residential high traffic	Y
commercial low traffic	Y
commercial high traffic	N
radiant heating compatible	Y
fireplace surround	Y
shower	Y
steam shower (resealing yearly)	Y
fountain	Y**
freeze thaw	N
pool	Y**
heat resistant	Y
backsplash	Y
grout type	ultracolor plus fa
grout joint size	butt joint or 1/16"
UV resistant	Y



Standard thickness for all sizes of Eastern Earthenware is 3/8".

Please note all dimensions are nominal and can vary plus or minus 1/4".

* Can only be installed on exterior walls and requires vertical weather flashing at the top and application of waterproof, penetrating sealant. non freeze/thaw locations.

** Water lines only with waterproof, penetrating sealant. non freeze/thaw locations.



EASTERN EARTHENWARE INSTALLATION

What's in our tile: clé's eastern earthenware is a celebration of the power of fire and clay and the primal transformation that occurs when the two combine. Unlike the uniform glazes of tiles fired in gas or electric kilns, eastern earthenware is heralded for its variation in color, shade and exquisite surface texture. This is the result of wood-firing where everything from the fusion of the glazes with the clay, placement in the kiln, the dispersion of ash, to the seasons and weather all serve to create an alchemy that transforms each tile into a work of art. Unlike the rest of our tile, this unique offering is sold by the kiln load.

clé has worked with our studios to provide the finest quality glazed terracotta tiles available. However, for the best installation, it is important that you hire a highly qualified tile contractor for your project.

YOUR TILE INSTALLATION IS ONLY AS GOOD AS YOUR INSTALLER.

INSPECTING YOUR SHIPMENT

- All Eastern Earthenware tiles are made by hand and feature unexpected, noticeable variations in thickness, depth, color, shade, texture, size and crazing.
- **IMPORTANT:** Due to the noticeable color and shade variations, it is very important to blend the tiles from ALL BOXES once they arrive and place them in their installation area to ensure you have the layout you want before installing. Do not install without blending tiles from all boxes.
- For the 2" x 2" mesh mounted tiles, the pieces can be lifted and moved around on the mesh in order to blend them.
- Industry standard suggests adding at least 15% overage due to tile cuts, potential breakage, or future repairs.
- Note that due to the firing methods and raw materials used to create glazed clay tiles, your order of Eastern Earthenware will have a percentage of tiles greater than 15% with cracks, crazing, edge-chipping and pits through the glaze to the clay body.

clé **WARNING:** having an installation with tiles that experience any of the above imperfections is the traditional look for Eastern Earthenware installations. Any editing of these naturally occurring imperfections from your tile shipment will greatly reduce the traditional appeal of your installation.

- If these imperfections do not fit your project's needs we recommend ordering more than 15% overage. This allows your contractor to cherry-pick these imperfections from your order.
- Dust and residue from shipping should be cleaned prior to installation. This is typically done as tile is being set with a quick dip of each tile into a water bath.

FOR INSTALLATION
GUIDELINES

- clé's guides are only to help direct you in the right path for a proper installation.
- Each project is unique and therefore requires a professional who can provide the exact specifications for your project.
- Please have your installer refer to the current edition of the TCNA Handbook for best installation results and ANSI A137.1 American National Standard Specifications for Ceramic Tile to reference for specifications.
- As is standard in the tile industry, installation deems acceptance of materials. Do not install if there are visible issues. If you have any doubts or are unsure of what qualifies as a visible issue for the tile you are installing, please reach out to us prior to installation. Our tiles are subject to variations in color, texture, size and finish. Do not install if you have any doubts about visible issues. Misuse by contractor or end-user including but not limited to negligence, physical and/or chemical abuse is not covered by clé's warranty.
- Be sure to have 95% or more adhesive on the back of the tile to ensure the best bond when setting.
- If installing 4" x 4" on a shower floor, vertical staggering of the tile layout, increasing grout joint size or opting for the 2" x 2" squares can help increase slip resistance. 2" x 6" tile can be installed in a herringbone pattern. Please refer to the grout section below for more information.
- Note that mounted 2" x 2" tile sheets are a more affordable means of setting tiles so that a tile installer does not need to install one tile at a time. This support is generally offered for tiles 3" and smaller.
- Mounted 2" x 2"s allow for contractors not to have to set individual tiles that are very small—but they still have to manage the installation from sheet to sheet—this can be done in whatever way is easiest for the contractor (dismantling a sheet so they have loose tiles that can be used to puzzle sheets together with a closer grout joint—or off-setting sheets, etc.) Mounted sheets are an assist—not a magic wand on an installation.
- Mounted tiles are a convenience for the installer and should also provide a cost savings for the client because it is faster and easier to install small tiles that are sheet mounted. However, sheet mounting does not eliminate the care and expertise required to set the sheets of tiles. Sheet mounted tiles should be considered a support and not a replacement for ensuring that the sheets are mounted carefully amongst and besides one another, just as the tile setter would carefully install the individual tiles. If you or your installer believes that sheet mounted tiles are created to perfectly align with one another, this is incorrect.
- Tiles that are sheet mounted for perfect alignment to one another are considered tile murals and would have to be ordered to fit a specific project. They would then be set to exact project measurements, sheet mounted, then cut into sheets that are numbered and lettered to be perfectly reconfigured on the job site.
- The 2" x 2" sheet mounted tiles are not tile murals. Please be clear that your contractor will need to provide a level of expertise to align each sheet in order to reduce the grout joints that would show a grid line of mounted sheets. This takes time and expertise, but is still much easier than installing small tiles, one tile at a time.
- The natural variation in thickness and size of Eastern Earthenware creates an uneven surface which can increase slip resistance because of the bare foot's ability to form around the tile.
- Trim is not part of Eastern Earthenware. Trim, in general, is not a tradition for tiles outside of the U.S. and specifically for tiles that have an ancient history.

- For jobs requiring a finished edge—we recommend the traditional craft of trimming tiles. Please see our separate [trim guide](#) illustrating how to finish Eastern Earthenware without trim.
 - For turning corners and for mud-set tiles, we recommend mitering your tiles. This provides a beautiful corner finish and in the case of a mud-set requiring a quarter round—this substitutes the quarter round finish with a squared miter finish.
 - For finishing edges on a vertical surface, we recommend either mitering the tiles to cover the edges and setting materials (as stated for turning corners and for mud-sets) or we recommend building up your sheetrock surface to allow the plane of the Eastern Earthenware to be on the same plane as your sheet-rocked wall.
- **IMPORTANT:** Eastern Earthenware tiles are not freeze thaw rated. Therefore we do not recommend and cannot warrant installing these outdoors in areas that regularly experience freezing temperatures*

* If you plan on installing these outdoors in areas that experience freeze/thaw, we cannot guarantee there won't be installation failures. Installations in freeze/thaw locations require flashing the top of vertical installations to prevent moisture from dripping behind the installation. In addition, the installation must be completely sealed and maintained with a waterproof sealant like Miracle 511 Porous Plus.

With application of Miracle Sealant, these tiles can have resistance to freeze/thaw issues. However, oftentimes there are installation failures because the specific installation guidelines and sealant maintenance is not properly followed. But if completed and maintained correctly (see manufacturer's instructions) then you can proceed WITH CAUTION.

If you can comply with all of the above and understand that without the sealant your install won't hold up - then it's up to you to proceed with installing this tile in a freeze/thaw location. We recommend your contractor reach out to both Mapei tech support for installation support and Miracle Sealant tech support on the waterproofing of the tiles.

GROUT GUIDELINES

- clé ONLY recommends [Mapei Ultracolor Plus FA](#) grout for Eastern Earthenware installations.
- Use of any other grout types can result in installation issues.
- Because all Eastern Earthenware is hand cut into individual tiles after firing, they are crafted to allow for a very tight grout joint.
- clé recommends a 1/16" grout joint or butt joint.
- Grout is customarily used to fill any gaps left by wedge spacers between tiles as well as any pits, chips or cracked portions of Eastern Earthenware.
- If installing on a shower floor, a larger grout joint can be used—3/16"—to help increase slip resistance.
- **IMPORTANT:** We recommend using a dark grout color if installing dark colored Eastern Earthenware, due to the thin crackle/hairline crazing on the tile surface that is undetectable unless a contrasting grout is used. If you choose to use a contrasting grout (i.e. white grout with black tile), you must make sure to apply a penetrating sealant or grout release prior to grouting in order to minimize the possibility of the contrasting grout curing in the inherent hairline cracks.
- Grout color selection is always up to our client and/or their design professional. However, clé is often asked for our opinion on best grout selections for our tiles. And due to the large array of grout colors that are now available, clé would like to offer this general guideline on a foolproof grout color selection for any of your clé tiles.
 - First, have your professional tile contractor complete your tile installation, except for the grout portion.
 - Next, when ready to grout, ask your contractor to bring ALL grout color charts from his preferred grout manufacturers, for your review.
 - Lastly, choose a time of day when you are most pleased with the lighting in your space (either natural lighting, installed lighting or a blend of both). During that lighting and time of day, select the grout color that best matches your tile selection.
- Note that the full Mapei Ultracolor Plus FA color catalogue contains 40 colors to choose from. Visit the [Mapei website](#) to view.
- If you are working with a highly color-variegated tile or a combination of tiles (checked or otherwise), we recommend that you follow the above recommendations - but match your grout to the color in your varied tile or tile combination that you would most like to accentuate.
- If your contractor is having any issues or questions regarding this grout, please reach out to Mapei tech support directly at 1-800-992-6273 as they are the best and fastest line of contact.

MAINTENANCE &
SEALING GUIDELINES

- clé only recommends the use of [Miracle 511 Porous Plus](#) for an invisible sealant finish.
- We recommend applying sealant or using a grout release prior to grouting if the tile has visible crazing.
- Please note, if the glazed tile is being grouted with a contrasting grout color vs. a matching one, then you should also seal before grouting because many tiles may have crazing without it being visible to the eye and would only come out with the grouting of the tiles as the invisible crazing absorbs the dye from the contrasting grout.
- Dry applications of glazed Eastern Earthenware do not need to be sealed as the final step of installation.
- In wet areas of Eastern Earthenware (backsplashes, showers, steam showers, pool & fountain water lines) grouted areas, including grouted pits and chips and areas of visible crazing must be sealed as the final step of installation. Sealant will not penetrate the glazed tile surface but it will penetrate and protect grouted areas, pits and chips and areas of crazing or etching that reaches the clay body.
- For superior water repellency in steam showers we recommend applying Miracle 511 Impregnator sealant in addition to 511 Porous Plus.
- PLEASE FOLLOW ALL MIRACLE SEALANT INSTRUCTIONS FOR BEST RESULTS as well as MAINTENANCE UPKEEP RECOMMENDATIONS.*

* **HINT:** if water or oil does not bead up on the grouted areas then the sealant was not applied properly.

CLEANING
GUIDELINES

- Eastern Earthenware tiles require minimal maintenance. Mild, pH neutral soaps should be sufficient for most cleaning—test before general use.
- Clean using soft materials, like a cloth, instead of coarse materials.
- Always avoid harsh chemicals and acidic or alkaline cleaning products.
- Immediately clean up spills—do not allow liquids to sit on the tile surface. Excess liquid and moisture can stain, pit and crack tile—even when properly sealed.
- Vacuum or sweep regularly—abrasive dirt and materials can scratch the surface.
- Non-slip mats or area rugs should be placed inside and outside entrance ways to remove abrasive materials that can scratch and dirty the tile surface.
- Mop floors when necessary with warm, clean water and pH neutral cleaner.
- Interior wall installations can be cleaned with warm water and damp microfiber cloth.
- Shower installations should be squeegeed after each use to prevent hard water stains, soap scum and mildew.
- Grout lines can be cleaned with warm water and a soft bristled cleaning brush.
- clé recommends the use of [Miracle Porcelain & Ceramic Tile Cleaner](#) to remove stubborn stains, grease build up, soap scum, hard water deposits and everyday grime.
- [Miracle Tile & Stone Cleaner](#) is effective as an ongoing maintenance cleaner and is gentle for everyday use.