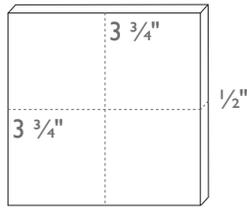


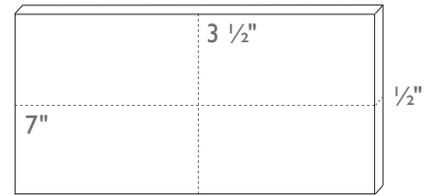
CASALE RUSTICO

USAGE	Y / N
interior floor	N
interior wall	Y*
exterior floor	N
exterior wall	N
residential light traffic	N
commercial light traffic	N
radiant heating compatible	N
fireplace surround	Y
shower	Y*
steam shower	Y*
fountain	N
freeze thaw	N
pool	N
heat resistant	N
sink backsplash	Y*
stove backsplash	Y*
grout type	ultracolor plus fa & flexcolor cq
grout joint size	varied *
UV resistant	Y

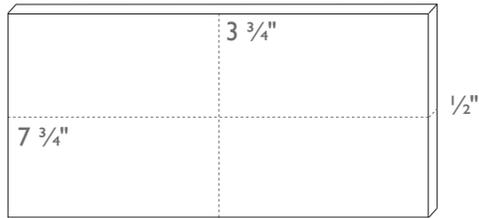
Quadrato square



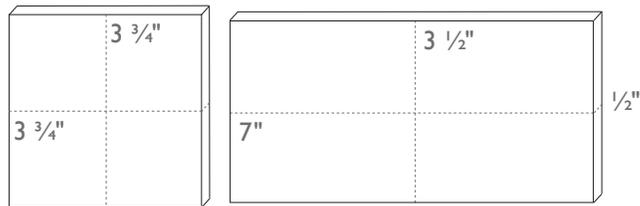
Misto rectangle



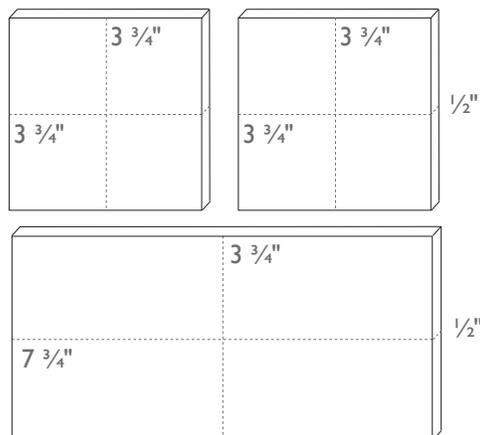
Normale rectangle



Misto bundle



Normale bundle



Standard thickness for Casale Rustico is $\frac{1}{2}"$.

Please note all dimensions are nominal and can vary $\pm \frac{1}{4}"$.

* There are specific installation requirements for this usage, read more information under the installation, sealing, and grout sections of this document.

CASALE RUSTICO INSTALLATION

Casale Rustico is an exclusive clé collaboration with Fornace Brioni. This tile features a hand-hewn Italian terracotta clay body awash with a glossy white glaze with a slight surface ripple, perfect for projects seeking the warmth of an artisan terracotta tile.

clé has worked with our team to provide the finest quality antique 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 Casale Rustico tiles are made by hand, therefore crazing and noticeable variations in thickness, depth, color, shade, and size are to be expected.
 - **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.
 - Industry standard suggests adding at least 15% overage due to tile cuts, potential breakage, or future repairs.
 - Dust and residue from shipping should be cleaned prior to installation.
-

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 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.
- Tile is merely the surface of your construction. Installation problems will arise from substrate or construction engineering and/or installation issues. Please refer to your project architect, structural engineer and/or installer to have the best results for your tile finish.
- 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.
- To ensure proper bonding when setting, we recommend lightly wiping the back of each tile if there is excessive dust.
- Be sure to have 95% or more adhesive on the back of the tile to ensure the best bond when setting.
- **DO NOT USE TAPE** during product installation, or otherwise. We cannot guarantee our products' safety against various construction tapes—INCLUDING BLUE TAPE.
- To accommodate variations in tile sizes, wedge spacers should be used when needed to keep tile lines straight.
- If installing on a shower floor, vertical staggering of the tile layout and increasing grout joint size can help increase slip resistance.

- The natural variation in thickness and size of Casale Rustico 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 Casale Rustico. 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 Casale Rustico 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 Casale Rustico to be on the same plane as your sheet-rocked wall.

- **IMPORTANT:** Casale Rustico tiles cannot be placed where heat is directed onto them (inside fireplaces, pizza ovens and oven venting). If you are wanting to install Casale Rustico behind a stove range/oven vent, we recommend that there is at least a 4" metal splash (provided by the range manufacturer) between the tile and the vent to deflect heat from directly onto the tiles.
- **IMPORTANT:** Casale Rustico 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.

GROUT GUIDELINES

- clé recommends the use of Mapei Ultracolor Plus FA grout with our Misto bundle, Quadrato square, Misto rectangle, and Normale rectangle. For our Normale bundle, we recommend Mapei Flexcolor CQ grout. Make sure to always follow the manufacturer's instructions. Letting the grout sit for even a short period of time can be problematic.
- clé recommends a butt joint for our Normale bundle, 1/8" grout joint for our Quadrato square, Misto rectangle, and Normale rectangle, and a mixture of 3/8", 1/2" and 3/4" grout joints for our Misto bundle.
- Grout is customarily used to fill any gaps left by wedge spacers between tiles as well as any pits, chips or cracked portions of Casale Rustico.
- To increase slip resistance on shower floors, we recommend broadening the grout joint size on the setting of the pan tiles.
- Please note, if Casale Rustico tiles are being grouted with a contrasting grout color vs. a matching one, then you must also 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, pits, and/or chips.

- 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 & Flexcolor CQ color catalogue contains 40 colors to choose from. Visit the [Mapei website](#) to view.
- 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 Casale Rustico tiles are being grouted with a contrasting grout color vs. a matching one, then you must also 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, pits, and/or chips.
 - Dry applications of glazed Casale Rustico do not need to be sealed as the final step of installation.
 - In wet area installations of Casale Rustico (backsplashes and showers) 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.
 - Single coat reapplication of the penetrating sealant is required once a year in shower applications due to the continuous exposure to water. For glazed Casale Rustico, this includes all grouted areas.
 - If your contractor is having any issues or questions regarding this sealant, please have them reach out to Miracle tech support directly at 1-877-385-8155, as they are the best and fastest line of resolution.
 - PLEASE FOLLOW ALL MIRACLE SEALANT INSTRUCTIONS FOR BEST RESULTS as well as MAINTENANCE UPKEEP RECOMMENDATIONS.*
- * **HINT:** if water and oil do not bead up on the surface of your tiles and/or grouted areas then the sealant was not applied properly.

CLEANING
GUIDELINES

- Casale Rustico 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.
- When necessary, sealed tiles should be mopped with clean warm water and a pH neutral cleaner or mild soap.
- 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.
- Most stains can be removed with a pH neutral dish soap, hot water and the scrub side of a sponge.
- 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.

COLOR AND TEXTURE
VARIATION

Casale Rustico tiles are rated V2, T3

Due to the handmade craftsmanship of many of our tiles and the variety of materials used, there are degrees of variation in our tiles color, shade and texture. These differences are more pronounced in certain types of tiles than others, especially in tiles from separate production lots, or “batches”.

The following is a guide for the different degrees of variation that we have assigned our tiles:

COLOR VARIATION

- V1** low variation
- V2** slight variation
- V3** medium variation
- V4** heavy variation
- V5** extreme variation

TEXTURE VARIATION

- T1** smooth
- T2** light texture
- T3** medium texture
- T4** heavy texture

