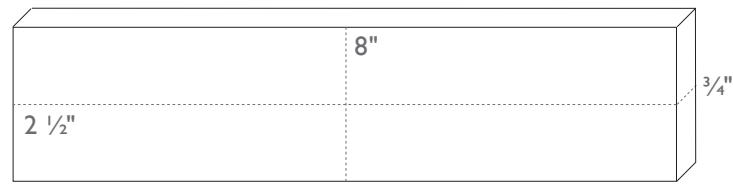
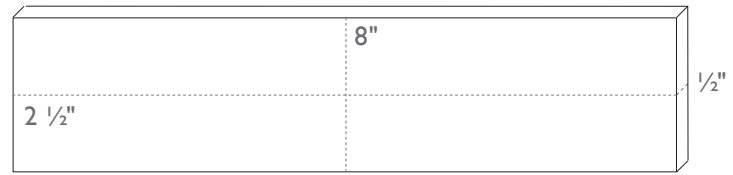


# FOUNDRY FLATS

USAGE	Y/N
interior floor & wall	Y
exterior floor & wall	Y**
residential low traffic	Y*
residential high traffic	Y*
commercial low traffic	Y*
commercial high traffic	Y*
radiant heating compatible	Y
fireplace surround	Y
shower (walls only)	Y
steam shower (walls only, resealing yearly)	Y
fountain	N
freeze thaw	Y***
pool	N
heat resistant	Y
backsplash	Y
grout type	flexcolor cq
grout joint size	3/8"
UV resistant	Y



Standard thickness for Standard Issue bricks is 1/2"\*\*\*\*\* and 3/4"\*\*\*\*\* for Forge bricks.

90° corner piece return is 3 5/8" on Standard Issue and 3 3/4" on Forge. Please note all dimensions are nominal and can vary plus or minus 1/4".

\* Cast Iron is not suitable for interior floors (including shower floors) as the brittle coating on the brick is applied after firing and can chip off over time. Sawdust, Alloy Flux and Sediment have fired on coatings that may wear down over time on floor applications. In addition, because there is surface texture, Sawdust, Alloy Flux and Sediment may create an uneven plane that may not be suitable for all floor applications—particularly ADA compliance.

For floor installations please reference the floor rating notes and floor covering installation notes.

\*\* Exterior walls require vertical weather flashing and waterproof, penetrating sealant.

Exterior floors must be installed above grade with waterproof, penetrating sealant.

For floor installations please reference the floor rating notes. Cast Iron, Sinter, Sand Cast and Alloy Flux are not suitable for exterior floors.

\*\*\* Cast Iron, Sinter, Sand Cast and Alloy Flux are not freeze thaw resistant.

\*\*\*\* With the exception of Ferrous which has a 3/4" thickness.

\*\*\*\*\* With the exception of Sawdust which has a 5/8" thickness and Factory which has a 1/2" thickness.



# FOUNDRY FLATS INSTALLATION

---

What's in our tile: We scoured the country looking for a thin brick and discovered these Foundry Flats at a family-run business with a long history of working with clay. Sourced from materials located within 25 miles of the factory, the flats are solidly made with a body that reflects a color palette that is both modern and enduring. Made from clay and water, Foundry Flats are a classic American, affordable, and recyclable product offered in an array of earthy hues ranging from a sooty, volcanic black to a mineral-flecked shade of honey.

clé has worked with our brick studios to provide the finest quality thin brick available. However, for the best installation, it is important that you hire the highest qualified and experienced natural stone tile contractor for your project.

**YOUR TILE INSTALLATION IS ONLY AS GOOD AS YOUR INSTALLER.**

---

## INSPECTING YOUR SHIPMENT

- Unglazed brick colors vary from brick to brick, some more than others. These variations are intentional, resulting from clé's particular production methods and choice of raw materials.
  - Variations in depth, thickness, size, color and shade are to be expected. When specifying unglazed bricks, if color consideration is paramount, always work from a sampling of three or more bricks, which represents the range of color you can expect on the job.
  - **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 bricks 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 installing. This can be done with a damp sponge or microfiber cloth.
- 

## 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 and the [Thin Brick Veneer technical notes](#) from The Brick Industry Association (BIA) for best installation results.
- 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.
- If installing thin brick on a floor, please have your contractor reference the separate Foundry Flats Trade Resource for "best practice" installation recommendations.

- **IMPORTANT:** Sinter, Sand Cast, Alloy Flux and Cast Iron bricks 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 and installing the tiles above grade for horizontal installations. 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 Flexcolor CQ grout for Foundry Flats installations.
- Use of any other grout types can result in installation issues.
- Due to the texture of the bricks you must apply sealant or a grout release prior to grouting to minimize risk of grout haze and to allow for an easier clean up.
- clé recommends a  $\frac{3}{8}$ " grout joint.
- 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 Flexcolor CQ 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 (checkered 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 you are using the recommended Mapei Flexcolor CQ, fill joints using a grout bag, grout gun or other grout delivery device.
- Even with a grout release, it will be nearly impossible to remove grout from the textured surface of this tile if you choose to use the traditional float method. This is another reason we recommend your contractor using a grout bag or gun.

- Flexcolor CQ is formulated to be non-staining. If you have chosen to use another type of grout we strongly recommend using a grout bag to minimize the subsequent staining.
- Working in small areas, use a grout bag to fill the joints.
- **IMPORTANT:** While applying, immediately remove any excess grout off the face of the tile with a clean, damp cloth/sponge. Do not push grout into tile texture while cleaning. Even with the use of a grout release, if grout is allowed to cure on the face of the tile it could cause grout haze and will be hard to remove due to the texture of the brick.
- Once the grout has cured per the manufacturer's instructions, bricks need to be cleaned in order to apply the final coat of sealant.
- Remove any remaining grout haze or grout spots to ensure it is not sealed into the bricks. Grout haze left by Mapei Flexcolor CQ can be removed with [Mapei Ultracare Heavy-Duty Stone, Tile & Grout Cleaner](#).
- Another way to clean the Foundry Flats surface from installation debris and grout is to brush down the surface with a bristle brush and clean water. Please see more information on how to do this under the separate Foundry Flats Trade Resource.
- There are tradespeople that would suggest cleaning with a chemical cleaner. We do not recommend this, as it has the ability to damage the bricks.
- If your contractor selects brands other than Mapei grout or Miracle sealant, please have them reach out to the respected representatives of those manufacturers for advice and support on installation failures.
- 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.
- Due to the texture of the bricks you must apply sealant or a grout release prior to grouting to minimize risk of grout haze and to allow for an easier clean up.
- However if you choose to use grout as a design element then you don't need to seal or use grout release prior to grouting. Please see more information on how to do this under the separate Foundry Flats Trade Resource.
- Although unglazed thin bricks do not have to be sealed after grouting for dry applications (interior walls, fireplace surrounds), it is recommended that they are sealed when used on wet areas like backsplashes, showers, bathrooms and floor installations.
- Grout lines and the tile surface should be sealed as the final step of installation for the above mentioned applications.
- Sealing will help maintain their appearance, prevent staining and further protect bricks in a moderate traffic area for at least a year or many years depending on usage.
- Over time, a natural patina will occur on floors as they are maintained and naturally wear.
- Depending on specific site conditions, Foundry Flats are subject to wear over time.
- To minimize sizable traffic damage, a means for people to clean abrasive materials off their shoes before walking on a Foundry Flats floor should be provided.
- For high traffic residential floor installations or areas susceptible to grease build-up we recommend three to five coats of [Miracle Mira Matte](#) top-coat sealant in addition to sealing.
- Always test sealers in a small area to ensure it provides the finish you prefer.

- If using a topical sealant, bricks will need periodic stripping and resealing. Please refer to a professional for this maintenance.
  - Single coat reapplication of the penetrating sealant is required once a year in shower applications due to the continuous exposure to water.
  - Reapplication is needed more frequently for steam shower installations.
  - For showers, opening windows/doors to help some of the moisture dissipate faster after use will help rid extra moisture.
  - For superior water repellency in steam showers we recommend applying Miracle 511 Impregnator sealant in addition to 511 Porous Plus.
  - If your contractor is having any issues or questions regarding this sealant, please have them reach out to Miracle tech support directly, 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 or oil does not bead up on the grout lines then the sealant was not applied properly.

---

CLEANING  
GUIDELINES

- Bricks and grout lines can be cleaned using mild, pH neutral soaps (like dish soap) with hot water and a bristled cleaning brush - this should be sufficient for most cleaning and stains. Test before general use.
- If this is ineffective, a poultice which dissolves the stain and pulls it into an inert material may be necessary.
- Always avoid harsh chemicals and acidic or alkaline cleaning products. Unglazed bricks can be damaged by strong acidic or alkaline substances.
- Never use muriatic acid, wire brushes or other abrasive methods to clean thin brick.
- 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.
- Vacuum or sweep regularly.
- Don't leave liquids to sit on the tile surface for extended periods of time. Excess moisture can stain, pit and crack brick—even when properly sealed.
- Shower installations should be squeegeed after each use to prevent hard water stains, soap scum and mildew.
- Miracle Tile & Stone Cleaner is effective as an ongoing maintenance cleaner and is gentle for everyday use.