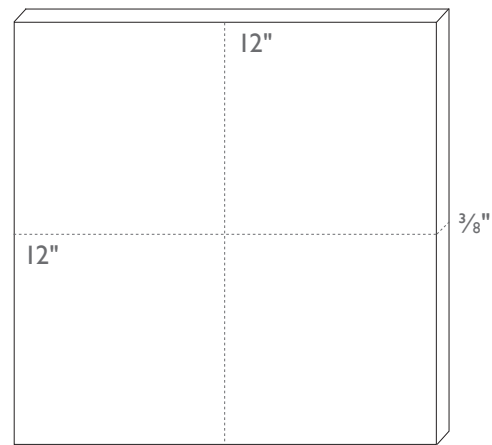


# clé LITHOGRAPHY

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



**Standard thickness for lithography is 3/8".** Please note all dimensions are nominal and can vary plus or minus 1/8".

\* Can only be installed on exterior walls and requires vertical weather flashing at the top and application of clé top coat kit, in non freeze/thaw locations only.

\*\* Shower walls only, with application of clé top coat.



# clé LITHOGRAPHY INSTALLATION

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What's in our tile: The white mineral-based tones of limestone make it an attractive choice. It is a sedimentary rock which makes it highly durable. In fact limestone has been used in construction for centuries dating as far back as the Mayans who built their pyramids with it. European castles and churches built in the Middle Ages feature limestone as do many 19th century landmarks such as Grand Central Station. It is limestone's ability to withstand exposure and its carving properties for decorative elements that have made it such a popular material in construction.

clé has worked with our tile artisans to provide the finest quality hand lithographed tiles 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.**

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## INSPECTING YOUR SHIPMENT

- Each clé lithography tile is carefully hand crafted by our tile artisans to create a decorative pattern on a smooth, honed stone surface.
  - **IMPORTANT:** 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 installing.
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## 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 natural stone installer who can provide the exact specifications for your project.
- Please refer to the current edition of the TCNA Handbook for detailed natural stone installation methods for your project's needs.
- 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.
- **IMPORTANT: DO NOT USE TAPE** during product installation, or otherwise. We cannot guarantee our products safety against various construction tapes—**INCLUDING BLUE TAPE.**
- During installation, only soft cloths are recommended for cleaning the tile surface as well as for ongoing maintenance.

- clé ONLY recommends [Mapei Flexcolor CQ](#) grout for lithography installations.
- Use of any other grout types can result in installation issues.
- For patterns lithographed on stone, a wide grout joint is NOT recommended. A tight grout joint will ensure that the artwork has a continuous design flow.
- clé recommends a 1/16" grout joint.
- Do not apply a grout release or sealant prior to grouting as it may damage the decoration.
- 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.
- We recommend your contractor carefully finger grout to keep grout in the joints and off the surface of the decorative tiles.
- It may be easiest for your contractor to employ this grouting method by using a grout bag for applying the grout into the joint and finalizing the grout finish with their finger or a soft, wet cloth.
- Once a clé tile lithography installation has been completely grouted, it is required that the installer clean any residual grout off of the surface of the tiles carefully while the grout is still wet. KEEP YOUR SURFACE CLEAN.
- Most installation issues arise when the installer has not properly cleaned the surface of the tiles after the grouting process. If the installer uses a typical grout scrub, they may remove portions of the decoration.
- If the installer leaves a significant grout film on the surface of the tiles, it will mask the decoration. A grout film will not occur if the tile installer has finger grouted, as recommended.
- 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 resolution.

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MAINTENANCE &  
SEALING GUIDELINES

- clé ONLY recommends the use of the [clé top coat kit](#) for sealing lithography tiles.
- **IMPORTANT:** Use of any other sealant may damage the decoration.
- The top coat kit should be applied to the tile surface and grout lines as the final step of installation.
- For applications in wet areas, specific waterproofing precautions need to be taken such as using a waterproof membrane under the tile and sealing the grout lines and the tile surface with the top coat as the final step of installation.
- Single coat reapplication of clé top coat kit is required once a year on grout lines and the tile surface in shower applications due to the continuous exposure to water.
- For showers, opening windows/doors to help some of the moisture dissipate faster after use will help rid extra moisture.

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CLEANING  
GUIDELINES

- As with any finely decorated stone product, clé warns against the use of any surface cleansers or scrubbing pads, especially during the installation process.
- Cleaning lithography only requires the use of mild soap, water and soft cloths in most cases.
- Lithography is chemically sensitive. Do not use any cleaners that are not pH neutral. This includes vinegar, and Simple Green brand products.
- Always avoid harsh chemicals and acidic or alkaline cleaning products.
- Showers and baths: soap scum can be minimized by using a squeegee after each use and using liquid as opposed to bar soaps.

