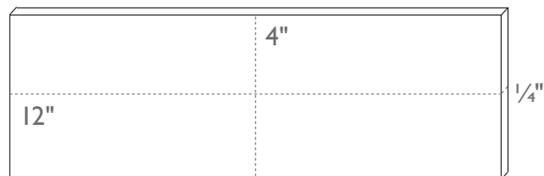
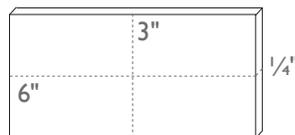
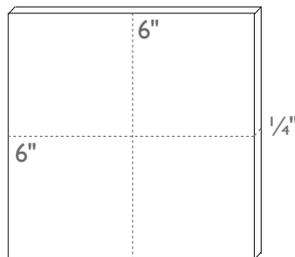


# clé BASICS CERAMIC SUBWAY TILE

USAGE	Y/N
interior floor & 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	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 & flexcolor cq
grout joint size	1/16"
UV resistant	Y



Standard thickness for subway is 1/4". Please note thickness can vary plus or minus 1/8".

\* For interior walls only.

\*\* Water lines only, in non freeze/thaw locations with application of a waterproof, penetrating sealant.

# clé BASICS CERAMIC SUBWAY TILE INSTALLATION

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What's in our tile: White subway tile have been de rigueur for tiled walls for decades now. It continues to be a staple, and here at clé we like to call it the jeans and t-shirts of tile. It goes with everything and is an absolute essential.

clé has worked with our studios to provide the finest quality subway 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.**

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## INSPECTING YOUR SHIPMENT

- Subway tiles have low color and shade variation but it is still 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. 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 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.

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## GROUT GUIDELINES

- clé recommends the use of Mapei Ultracolor Plus FA grout for gloss subway and Mapei Flexcolor CQ for matte subway.
- Use of any other grout types can result in installation issues.
- clé recommends a 1/16" 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 Ultracolor Plus FA & Flexcolor CQ color catalogue contains 40 colors to choose from. Visit the [Mapei website](#) to view.
- If your contractor selects brands other than Mapei grout or Miracle sealant, please have them reach out to the respected representatives of those manufactures for advice and support on failures.
- **IMPORTANT:** If the subway tile you have selected has visible crazing we recommend applying a grout release or sealant prior to grouting. Please note, if the subway tile is being grouted with a contrasting grout color vs. a matching one (i.e. black grout with white tile), then you should also seal before grouting because many tiles may have crazing without it being visible to the eye and would only show with the grouting of the tiles as the invisible crazing absorbs the dye from the contrasting grout.
- 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.

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MAINTENANCE &  
SEALING GUIDELINES

- clé only recommends the use of [Miracle 511 Porous Plus](#) for an invisible sealant finish.
  - Always test sealers in a small area to ensure it provides the finish you prefer.
  - Dry applications do not need to be sealed as the final step of installation.
  - In wet areas (backsplashes, showers, steam showers, pool & fountain water lines) grout lines 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 and any crazing that reaches the clay body.
  - Single coat reapplication of the penetrating sealant is required once a year on all grout lines in shower applications due to the continuous exposure to water.
  - Reapplication is needed more often if installation is in a steam shower or pool/fountain water lines. Please refer to a professional for this.
  - For steam 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 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 or oil does not bead up on the surface of your tiles then the sealant was not applied properly.

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CLEANING  
GUIDELINES

- Subway tiles require minimal maintenance. Mild, pH neutral soaps should be sufficient for most cleaning.
- Subway tiles can withstand common cleaners like bleach, soft scrub cleansers, and multipurpose cleaners. Cleaners should be tested before use, as all tiles (glazed or otherwise) can be damaged through rigorous cleaning processes utilizing harsh cleansers or scrub pads.
- Clean using soft materials, like a microfiber cloth, instead of coarse materials.
- Shower installations should be squeegeed after each use to prevent hard water stains, soap scum and mildew.
- 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.
- Grout lines can be cleaned with warm water and a soft bristled cleaning brush.