

About the product

Zellige (ziliij) are handmade clay tiles. The clay has its origin from the region Fez in Morocco.

Characteristics

Each tile is unique in both shape and colour. The clay is mixed and kneaded with water, molded by hand, dried naturally and kiln-fired. The process of firing Zellige sometimes results in cracks/bubbles in the glaze. These types of "defects" are common and should be included in the installation.

The tiles are hand-cut which can cause splinters to appear from the glaze. Zellige tiles are uneven in structure and thickness, no Zellige tiles are exactly the same. When the tiles are put in place and grouted will each tiles imperfection provide the final result with a unique and beautiful appearance.

Keep in mind that since the tiles differ in colour, any sample tiles may differ from the tiles delivered for larger orders.

What we offer

In summary our Zellige tiles are not perfect and are not meant to be. It's a handmade product, each tile is unique and personal. If you observe each tile individually, these imperfections can be bothersome, but once the tiles are in place, it is precisely these imperfections that gives the surface its character and charm.

Our Zellige tiles have a certain patina from day one and will only become more beautiful with time.

"One tile makes you crazy – a floor makes you sing"





Preparations

- Read through this guide before proceeding with the installation
- Prepare with clean tools
- Plan the right layout for the desired pattern
- Inspect each tile prior to installation to make sure there are no cracks
- Since the tiles are handmade and therefore subject to color variations we recommend that you batch mix them randomly from different boxes when installing the tiles.

Please note that this is by no means a complete guide to installation but some advice on aspects which we from our experience have found to be particularly important. For more information please consult a professional craftsman.



Installation

Make sure that the surface is prepared correctly regarding level, cleanliness, appropriate priming and perfectly dry.

Wet the backside of each tile (to achieve even coats, use a spray bottle or a paint roller). The whole tile does not need to be soaked in water. Installation requires a double spread of adhesive.

When installing, press the tiles down firmly into place and set level by hand only. Do not attempt a "Dot & Dab Method". Since Zellige tiles have uneven edges wedge spacers might be necessary.

If you are installing Zellige in a wet area or outdoors, be sure to use products designed for these types of areas.



How do I cut the tiles?

Snap with tile cutter or slice with a diamond blade if preferred.



Grouting

When the tiles are in place and the adhesives has dried, the tiles can be grouted. Grout a few tiles at the time and make sure to remove excess grout.



How wide should the joints be?

For the best result we recommend as narrow joints as possible.

Advice!

If you wish to remedy the splinters that are a natural part of Zellige tiles, we recommend to use a grout that matches the glaze of the tiles.



Care & Cleaning

Clean your Zellige tiles with a natural soap.



Complaints and claims

Please note that Marrakech Design will never assume any responsibility for faulty workmanship. No claims will be accepted once the tiles have been fixed/installed. Any advice, opinion or recommendations given in this report are given on the understanding that Marrakech Design shall not be liable either in law or in tort, for any damage or problem arising out of the use or misuse of such advice, opinion or recommendations. In all cases, local building regulations should be checked prior to installation. These instructions/guide to installation are intended to provide helpful advice and guidance only. For more information, consult a professional tile installer.