

# Natural Stone Mosaic Tile Installation Guide - Disclaimer and Recommendations

## Disclaimer:

This guide provides general recommendations for installing natural stone mosaic tiles. Due to the inherent variations in natural stone and the complexities of individual projects, this information should not be considered a substitute for professional guidance. **Kent Global Madencilik Dış Tic. Ltd. Şti.** is not liable for any damages arising from the use of this information.

We strongly recommend consulting a qualified professional installer for all natural stone mosaic tile projects. They can assess your specific project requirements, substrate suitability, and recommend the most appropriate installation methods and materials.

## Before You Begin:

- **Read and understand the manufacturer's installation instructions** for the specific mosaic tile you are using. These instructions may differ from the general recommendations provided here.
- **Inspect the tiles** for any cracks, chips, or other imperfections before installation. Damaged tiles should be replaced.
- **Gather the necessary tools and materials.** This may include a notched trowel, tile adhesive appropriate for natural stone, grout suitable for the type of stone, tile spacers, grout float, utility knife, sponges, buckets, safety glasses, respirators, and knee pads.
- **Ensure your work area is clean, dry, and free of debris.**
- **Acclimatize the tiles** to the room temperature for at least 24 hours before installation.

## Surface Preparation:

- The installation surface must be **flat, level, clean, dry, and structurally sound.** Uneven surfaces can lead to uneven tile placement and potential cracking.
- **Highly absorbent surfaces** may require a primer to ensure proper adhesion.
- **Existing flooring materials** may need to be removed depending on the project and the manufacturer's recommendations.

## Thinset Mortar Application:

1. **Mix the thinset mortar** according to the manufacturer's instructions. It should have a smooth, creamy consistency.
2. **Spread the thinset mortar** onto the prepared surface using a notched trowel. The trowel notch size should be appropriate for the size of your mosaic tiles.
3. **Apply a thin, even layer** of thinset mortar to an area slightly larger than the mosaic sheet you will be installing.

## Mosaic Tile Installation:

1. **Carefully place the mosaic sheet** onto the thinset mortar bed, starting from one corner and working your way outwards.
2. **Press the mosaic sheet firmly** into the thinset mortar to ensure good adhesion.
3. **Use a tapping block** (a small piece of wood or rubber) to gently tap the mosaic sheet to ensure even placement.
4. **Maintain a consistent grout joint width** between mosaic sheets using tile spacers.

5. **Continue laying mosaic sheets** in this manner, working your way across the installation area.

#### **Cutting Mosaic Tiles (if necessary):**

- Use a **wet saw** equipped with a diamond blade specifically designed for cutting natural stone.
- **Wear safety glasses and a respirator** when cutting mosaic tiles.
- **Score and snap** the mosaic sheet along the desired cutting line for small adjustments.

#### **Grouting:**

1. **Allow the thinset mortar to cure completely** according to the manufacturer's instructions before grouting.
2. **Mix the grout** according to the manufacturer's recommendations.
3. **Apply the grout** diagonally across the mosaic sheet using a grout float, filling the joints completely.
4. **Remove excess grout** from the tile surface with a damp sponge, working diagonally across the tiles. Rinse the sponge frequently.
5. **Buff the tile surface** with a clean, dry cloth to remove any grout haze.

#### **Sealing:**

- **Natural stone mosaics may require sealing** to protect them from stains and moisture.
- **Consult the manufacturer's recommendations** for the specific type of stone and choose a sealant suitable for natural stone applications.
- **Apply the sealant** after the grout has completely cured, following the manufacturer's instructions.

#### **Cleaning:**

- Use a **mild, pH-neutral cleaning solution** specifically designed for natural stone. Avoid harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners.

#### **Additional Considerations:**

- **Natural stone mosaics may require ongoing maintenance** to maintain their beauty and functionality.
- **Consult the manufacturer's recommendations** for specific cleaning and maintenance practices.

#### **Remember:**

This guide is for informational purposes only. For the best results and to ensure a safe and successful installation, **consult a qualified professional installer.**