



arabian ceramics  
سيراميك العربية

## COMPANY INFORMATION.



**120 000**  
sqm floor space

**50 000**  
sqm daily production

**1.700**  
sqm/h production speed

**18 200 000**  
sqm year production

**2 000 000**  
sqm storage capacity

Arabian Ceramics is one of the largest producers of Ceramic tiles and Porcelain in the Middle East.

Founded in 2006 by Sheik Khaled Bagedo, the company is located at Al Khomra District, Southern Industrial Zone of Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

Arabian Ceramics produces an exclusive range of porcelain and ceramic tiles and offers a variety of solutions, focus on the market needs, commercialized under different brands.

Arabian Ceramics experience has prepared the company for the scale, the challenge and complexities of this particular project. Arabian Ceramics have the technical experience, operational and management skills required to bid this master purchase agreement.

Experience is probably the most challenging criteria in terms of the strategic and procurement decisions but during the years the company have supplied, on time and in a flawless way, millions of sqm of ceramic and porcelain tiles to our main clients.

In addition to proven industrial capacity, Arabian Ceramics have developed extensive skills working with customers, solving situations, assuming a posture of flexibility and quick adaptation to any situation.

The company's customer satisfaction index is excellent due to our work model, quality, reliability and responsiveness.





**ARABIAN CERAMICS MANUFACTURING COMPANY**

**Address: Al Khomra, Southern Industrial Zone of Jeddah,  
52570 Jeddah, Saudi Arabia**

**Telephone: +966 12 6699792 | Fax: +966 12 6699792**

**Type of company: Corporation**

**Country of Registration: Saudi Arabia**

**Date of Registration: 15 /10/ 2003**

**Issuing Authority: Ministry of Commerce**

# INSTALLATION.

## GENERAL NOTES

### Product handling

All materials must be stored in their original unbroken cartons in a dry covered area. Additional tiles of each finish, colour and size should be ordered. This quantity of 2-3% shall be left on site for owner's future perusal.

### Installation

The contractor shall be or employ a qualified installer and shall furnish all labour, materials and equipment necessary to apply setting and grouting materials on floors and walls as denoted in the specifications and drawings. The installation shall be performed using the appropriate setting method adapted to the substrate in question. Appropriate setting materials must be chosen in compliance with ISO 13007 specifications and compatible with the substrate in question. Thin-set mortars must contain a latex additive to ensure proper bonding with low water absorbing porcelain tiles.

### Grouting materials

Appropriate grouting material must be chosen in compliance with ISO 13007 specifications and suitable for the specified application. Consult the grout manufacturer for technical information. Follow the grouting recommendation set out.

## TOOLS & EQUIPMENTS

It is suggested that the following list of equipment are adopted as a minimum requirement.

### Equipment /Tools :



SPIRIT LEVEL



RULER



NOTCHED TROWEL



LEVELING PLIER



LEVELING CLIPS



GROUT TROWEL



TILE CUTTER



RUBBER Mallet



GROUT REMOVER

### Personal protection :



Protective overalls  
Goggles or face mask  
Good quality gloves  
Safety shoes  
Safety helmet

## CUTTING TILES.



### **PORCELAIN TILES.**

A porcelain tiles is made from a uniform glass mass, making it more difficult to cut. When cutting porcelain tiles, a notched blade on an angle grinder is preferred. Before you begin, you should check that you have the right blades for the grinder.

Always wear eye safety glasses, gloves, a dust mask and earplugs.



### **CERAMIC TILES.**

Because ceramic tiles are softer, they can easy be cut with a manual tile cutter. While these aren't as good for cutting unusual shapes into a tile, such as a curve, they're the perfect thing for cutting a straight line a wall tile.

Always wear safety glasses and gloves when cutting your wall tiles.

### ***Cutting porcelain tiles.***

Step 1: Mark the tile.

First, you need to know exactly where you need to cut, so make a mark on your tile as a guide. If the line is curved, you should check and double-check your measurements to ensure they're right.

Step 2: Cut the tile.

You can begin to make a cut by turning the angle grinder on and cutting vertically into the tile. When performing circular cuts, it's a good idea to lean or tilt the blade so you're not aiming straight down.

Step 3: Check it fits and make any amends.

A tile cutter gives you a clean, straight cut, but when you're using a grinder and making circular incisions, the finish might not be as you want it. You should check that the tile fits in the intended space and make any adjustments if it doesn't.

### ***Cutting ceramic tiles.***

Step 1: Mark the tile.

Firstly, make a mark on your tile as a guide. Then, you should lay the tile cutter on a flat surface. A workbench or surface might be easiest, but you can also put it on the floor.

Step 2: Insert the tile.

Take your tile and put it into the tile cutter front/glazed face up, lifting up the cutter arm to do so. Make sure your tile is straight and in line using the guides and markings on the device. Place the cutter arm back down.

Step 3: Cut the tile.

Use the arm to cut a straight line in the tile using the blade. You should go over the same line twice, just to make sure the groove is nice and deep. Next, you should fit the breaker in place, making sure that it's resting flat against the tile. Put a little bit of pressure on the arm and the tile should snap along the groove you cut in.



## INDOOR INSTALLATION. FLOOR TILES

### **Before start installation**

Substrates must be: levelled, dry and properly cured; flat and free of cracks; clean and free of dust, debris or lumps of cement; compact and strong. We recommend to place some tiles (at least 2 m<sup>2</sup>) over the flooring surface to check the final effect, making sure you have the right tile size, shade, and quality class. Avoid marking the front of the tiles with pencils or markers. Be particularly careful with glossy, matt or lapped tiles, which should be kept covered during building work.



**1. Choose your installation pattern.** Measure to find the centre of a room on two opposite walls and use these points to snap a chalk line across the room. Do the same on the other walls to create perpendicular line, and check to make sure they are square. Start dry laying (placing tiles on the ground without adhesive purely to plan the layout) a row of tiles (including spacers) out in one direction from the centre point.

**2. Tile adhesive.** This step is more important than it may seem. Choosing the right tile adhesive will make the difference in the duration and safety of the installation. Getting the right consistency and timing is also vital, so before you begin mixing, it's important to know what open time and cure times are. Refer to manufacturer recommendations for tile adhesives and cure times.



**3. Spreading tile adhesive.** Tile adhesive is responsible for keeping your tile attached to your floor—so it's important to make sure it's done right! Once is ready, you can begin spread it to the substrate or underlayment with your notched trowel. For large-format tiles, you should also back butter the tile by applying it directly to the back of the tile.

Your notched trowel will leave grooves on the substrate and/or tile. Make sure these are all running in the same direction to achieve a consistent mortar bed beneath the tile. Hold the trowel at approximately a 45° angle as you spread the thinset to achieve a thick enough layer.

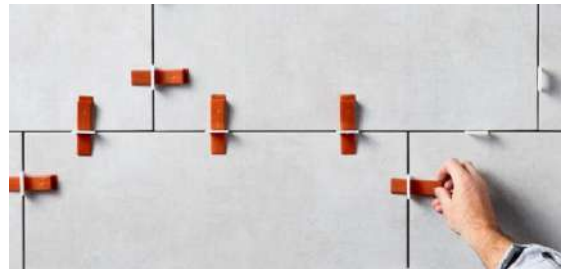




**4. Laying tile.** When you set the tile, apply firm, even pressure. Wiggle the tile back and forth a bit to allow the ridges in the thinset to break down and fill in the valleys. This achieves a solid layer of thinset beneath the tile. After you do this with your first tile, lift it back up, and check to ensure there is 80–90% thinset coverage on the back of the tile.

As you lay your tile, use plastic spacers to help ensure you have straight grout lines.

The spacers should be able to be removed after the thinset cures. Make sure to clean up any excess thinset on tiles and in between tiles as you go. The “minimum grout line” installation determines a 2 mm joint on rectified materials.



**5. Grouting.** Grout is more than just a nice line of colour between your tiles. It has the important function of bonding your tile and preventing it from cracking and chipping due to the movement of your home. Refer to any manufacturer’s recommendations for mixing your specific grout. Allow the tile to set and then grout the tile.

Fill the grout lines with the grout, removing any residue from the grout lines. Grout small areas of the surface at a time and remove excess grout with a sponge or a wet cloth (with clean water).

**6. Cleaning.** Clean the tile surface with a damp sponge and clean water. Wait 48/72 hours before walking over the newly laid tiles and proceed with the deep cleaning only after the grout is dry and seasoned

**The cleaning after installation is of fundamental importance!** The cleaning must be carried out 2- 4 days after grouting (or according to the grout specifications) and within a maximum of 10 days after grouting.

-First, remove any grease or similar substance from the floor using alkaline detergents.

-Proceed with the cleaning of the surface and rinse the floors with an abundance of water. It is always recommended to carry out a test on a sample tile (not installed), in particular in case of satin matt surfaces, glossy surfaces or polished products.

## INDOOR INSTALLATION. WALL TILES

### *Before start installation*

Make sure walls are straight and level, without any irregularities, otherwise the tiles won't stick to the wall. Additionally look for signs of mold or damage to the tiling surface. Cracks are often a sign that a wall may be weak and need to be replaced. Avoid marking the front of the tiles with pencils or markers.



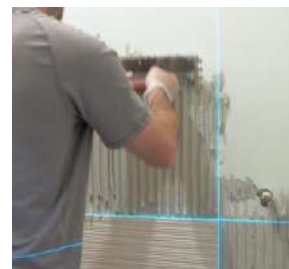
**1. Choose your installation pattern.** Measure the height of the wall or area you're tiling and divide by two. Mark this height on the wall. When you're doing a whole room, plan the layout for the entire space before fixing any tiles in place. Mark up one wall at a time making sure the base line would be identical on every wall in the room. When establishing this base line, consider the levels of window sills, door heads, bath tops and worktop levels.

**2. Installing a Level Ledger Board.** Install a batten to keep your first row straight. With everything else ready to go, you'll want to install a batten to help keep your tile rows straight. This is a piece of scrap wood or aluminium, that you use as a long straight-edge, placing the first row of tiles right against the batten.



**3. Tile adhesive.** This step is particularly important when installing wall tiles. Choosing the right tile adhesive will make the difference in the duration and safety of the installation. In the case of porcelain wall tiles, a powder adhesive with Fast setting is mandatory. Getting the right consistency and timing is also vital, so before you begin mixing, it's important to know what open time and cure times are. Refer to manufacturer recommendations for tile adhesives and cure times.

**4. Spreading Adhesive.** Tile adhesive is responsible for keeping your tile attached to your wall—so it's important to make sure it's done right! Once ready, you can begin spread it to the substrate and to ensure complete coverage it is recommended that you "back-butter" each tile by applying thinset directly to the back of the tile. Make sure that the ridges of the mortar collapse when setting the tile and give you the required 85% or more of coverage.







**5. Laying tile.** When you set a tile, apply firm and even pressure. Avoid sliding a tile more than 1/2 inch. Place your spacers between each tile as you go to ensure alignment and to make sure you will be able to grout the wall after finishing. Every 15 minutes or so, check the entire installation to make sure no tiles have strayed out of alignment.

Tap the tile surface with a mallet to make sure the tiles are embedded in the mastic and form a smooth wall surface. The spacers should be removed after the thinset cures. Make sure to clean up any excess thinset on tiles and in between tiles as you go. The “minimum grout line” installation determines a 3 to 4 mm joint on rectified materials.



**6. Grouting.** Grout is more than just a nice line of colour between your tiles. It has the important function of bonding your tile and preventing it from cracking and chipping due to the movement of your home. Refer to any manufacturer’s recommendations for mixing your specific grout. Allow the tile to set and then grout the tile.

Fill the grout lines with the grout, forcing it into the gaps between the tiles. Then come back and wipe (using the float) with the seams to remove as much excess as possible. Grout small areas of the surface at a time and After allowing the grout to set up for a few minutes, come back with a wet sponge and wipe the remaining excess off without pulling to much of the grout out of the seams.



**7. Cleaning.** After tile installation, grout residue commonly forms a white-coloured haze over the surface of the tiles. Remove this haze immediately after the tiles have been laid. Be careful to wait until the grout has cured. If you’ve left it a bit too long and it’s already dried, you can still remove it with some elbow grease.

## OUTDOOR INSTALLATION. FACADE

Installing tiles on building facades has long been considered as challenging and risky work. However, with proper adhesives and grouts, that are capable of withstanding exposure to the demanding requirements, including accommodating the extreme weather conditions and the thermal movement of different facade materials, tiles are the best solution to cover, protect and beautify facades.

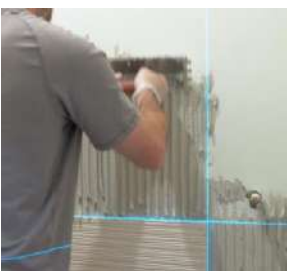
### **Before start installation**

Make sure walls are straight and level, without any irregularities, otherwise the tiles won't stick to the wall. Additionally look for signs of mould or damage to the tiling surface. Cracks are often a sign that a wall may be weak and need to be replaced.



**1. Preparing the support** . Clean it of any dust, paint, oil. Wet the support if it is exposed to sunshine and/or if it has to be very absorbent. Check the smoothness of the support with a 2 m long ruler; any differences must be less than 5 mm; if necessary fill in any gaps with mortar.

**2. Mixing Thinset.** Cementitious tile adhesive for external facade tiling must have a high polymer content to ensure accommodation of the thermal movement due to the wide and rapid temperature variations. Getting the right consistency and timing for your thinset is vital to a successful installation. Refer to manufacturer recommendations for cure times.



**3. Laying Thinset.** Thinset is responsible for keeping your tile attached to your facade—so it's important to make sure it's done right! Once your thinset is ready, spread it onto the support using a notched trowel. Use the Floating and buttering technique when the part is more than 900 cm<sup>2</sup>.

**4. Laying Tiles.** Press well the tiles using a rubber hammer to ensure full transfer of tile adhesive with the substrate and the tile, thus avoiding any gaps between the tile and support. Back-buttering method is mandatory to ensure full adhesion. Leave a minimum grouting joint width of 5 mm between the parts. The larger the size of the tile, the smaller the joint arrangement between them and, consequently, if there is any deformation, the ceramic coating wears worse.



**5. Grouting.** Grouting should be done at least after 24 hours of fixing tiles, using a flexible adhesive and a high-performance grout with for external applications.

Finally, and in case you want to do the extra mile, sealed the joints and perimeter terminations with a high performance, elastic polyurethane based sealant, which is designed for joints that must accommodate high movement and also maintain good aesthetic appearance.



## OUTDOOR INSTALLATION. FLOOR TILES

How to install outdoor tiles successfully is dependent on a few different factors, the key ones being the tiles you use, the substrate you lay them on, and the essentials used to fit them. To make choosing simple, just select our designated outdoor tiles collection. We always recommend a 1cm thick (minimum) tile for outdoors and preferably slip resistant.

### **Before start installation**

Ensure the sub-floor is dry and clean with all efflorescence, laitance, dirt and any other barriers removed using suitable mechanical methods. Make sure is straight and level, without any irregularities and look for signs of mould or damage to the tiling surface. Cracks are often a sign that a wall may be weak and need to be replaced.



**1. Preparing the support** . Clean it of any dust, paint, oil. Check the smoothness of the support with a 2 m long ruler; any differences must be minimum; if necessary fill in any gaps with mortar.

**2. Mixing Thinset.** Cementitious tile adhesive for external use tiling must have a high polymer content to ensure accommodation of the thermal movement due to the wide and rapid temperature variations. Waterproofing adhesive is ideal for use on these areas exposed to the elements and all weather conditions. Getting the right consistency and timing for your thinset is vital to a successful installation. Refer to manufacturer recommendations for cure times.





**3. Spreading adhesive.** Thinset/adhesive is responsible for keeping your tile properly laid —so it's important to make sure it's done right! Once your thinset is ready, spread it onto the support using a notched trowel. To avoid the formation of air pockets between the tile and the support, we advise using the double spreading method.

**4. Laying Tiles.** Press well the tiles using a rubber hammer to ensure full transfer of tile adhesive with the substrate and the tile, avoiding any gaps between the tile and support. Back-buttering method is mandatory to ensure full adhesion. Check planarity regularly during laying. Lay the tiles outdoors with a grout line of at least 5 mm to facilitate the flow of water and eliminate substrate tensions.



**5. Grouting.** When the tiles are laid, allow them to set for a minimum of 24 hours before grouting. Remember to use a flexible cementitious tile grout that has good mechanical and abrasion resistance. Observe the times before walking on the tiles.



# MAINTENANCE.

## ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

It is recommended to clean the floor using a neutral detergent diluted in hot water. Avoid the use of acid, alkaline, waxing and/or impregnating products. During ordinary cleaning procedures, it is recommended to limit the use of abrasive means such as scouring pads, iron and/or steel sponges. Taking this precaution is a must on glossy tiles, as they are more liable to scratching. In case of intense dirt or textured surfaces, use an alkaline detergent, rinsing the floor with an abundance of water.

## PRECAUTIONS

It is important to underline that certain types of dirt like dust or sand, increase the abrasive effect of foot traffic on the surface. The use of a door mat at the entrance can help prevent this. Remove any spills of staining liquids (like coffee, tea, red wine), caustic substances (such as oven cleaner), acids and colorants as soon as possible and rinse with water.

Never use hydrofluoric acid-based detergents or its derivatives, such as rust-preventing products or spray stain removers that often contain hydrofluoric acid.

## PERSISTENT STAINS

Persistent stains can be removed with a slightly abrasive sponge; if necessary, use a specially formulated stain remover (see table).

TYPE OF STAINS	TYPE OF DETERGENT
MOSS	Neutral/acid (diluted bleach solution)
FRUIT/JUICES/ COFFEE	Basic detergent, cream or powder
SAUCES	Basic detergent, cream or powder
GREASE	Basic detergent, cream or powder/ baking soda mixed with water
MAKE-UP	Basic detergent, cream or powder/ diluted bleach solution
PERMANENT MARKERS/INK	Acetone
RESIN/PAINT	Solvent/ acetone



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