

# PLACING SPANISH AND METRO TILES



HANDMADE QUALITY TILES  
ETHNIC VINTAGE

## SPANISH AND METRO TILES

Spanish tiles and metro tiles are often made entirely by hand. It is a unique and authentic product. Production uses tile ovens to bake the tiles. Slight differences in color, shape and pattern are inherent to the way of production and the material type (mostly clay). These slight deviations should be considered as normal. It are these characteristics that give the tiles a unique character!

Our advice is to have Spanish tiles and Metro tiles placed by an approved tile company that has experience with these specific tiles. For the best results it is important that the correct order of placement and treatment is maintained. We are happy to advise you if you have any questions!

## NECESSARY MATERIA

### For placing the tiles:

- Primer
- Tile glue / adhesive (flexible)
- Tile grout (flexible)
- Tile spacers (2 mm)
- Water-cooled tile saw
- Plasterboard, glue bucket, glue comb (6 or 8mm)

### For cleaning and maintaining your tiles:

- Azule grout stain remover (cleaning agent)
- Lint free cloth
- Bucket and sponge

Spanish tiles and Metro tiles are ceramic tiles and thus baked in a tile oven. They are easy to place. Below you find the placement instructions.

Note: For craquelé tiles, tiles with an aged surface where small cracks in the glaze can be seen, pay attention with grouting! During grouting, only grout the joints and not the entire tile surface. Otherwise, the grout will settle in the small cracks which will be visible later on. It is also possible to impregnate the tiles to make them extra resistant to external influences.



# ROADMAP

## STEP 1

Add the primer to the wall for good adhesion. Make sure the wall is even (straight), clean and dust free before you begin.

## STEP 2

Apply glue with a 6 to 8 mm glue comb on the wall. Work preferably in a surface for about 5 to 10 tiles at a time.

## STEP 3

Place the tiles without exerting too much pressure against the wall. Preferably in a clear amount and use 2 mm tile spacers. Using tile spacers you will get nice equal joints and will make sure you can align well. Placing tiles without a joint is also possible but please keep in mind that moisture will be able to penetrate through the tiny joints. This might affect the surface under the tiles. For Spanish tiles and Metro tiles, we always recommend using 2 millimeter spacers. Thicker doesn't look nice and thinner is difficult to grout.

## STEP 4

Finish your surface with whole tiles and end with the pieces that need to be sawn. Spanish tiles and Metro tiles are easy to cut with a tile saw, water-cooled tile saw or with a crochet grinder. Make sure you always have some extra tiles for the cutting loss that might occur. There are various possibilities of placing the tiles into patterns like stone, block, fishbone. The different patterns might affect a different cutting loss. Try to calculate it in advance.

## STEP 5

After the glue has dried, usually a day later, the tiles can be grouted. Even when the tiles are glued seamlessly they will need to be grouted for waterproofing the wall. Preferably use a flexible grout (grout to be made / mixed with water). The grout is best processed when it is almost liquid (tepid), apply it with a joint pellet / plasterboard. Add the grout diagonally with respect to the tiles and ensure a smooth filling of the joints.

## STEP 6

As soon as the joint begins to dry (after about 30 minutes) remove the excess residue that remains on the tiles with a dry cloth. After 24 hours, all the hardening is usually cured and the tiles can be cleaned well, best with a grout stain remover. Often this step has to be repeated several times to remove all grout residues well.

## STEP 7

For weekly maintenance, clean Spanish tiles and Metro tiles with a regular cleaning agent. The tiles and joints will be waterproof.

## TIPS

- Work clean and in a well ventilated area.
- It is best to mix tiles from different boxes. (With handmade tiles)
- Always use a thin, 2 mm joint. Thicker is ugly and shows grids, too thin is quite difficult to grout.
- Handmade Spanish tiles can show small color differences or color shades, this is inherent to the product and should be considered normal, and precisely characterize this tile type.
- Spanish tiles and metro tiles are usually applied inside and are not suitable for outdoors, in a climate where it can freeze.
- If you are unsure of the correct treatment or have questions about the treatment schedule, please contact our helpdesk. We are happy to advise you so that you are confident of a great final result.