TABARKA STUDIO

TERRACOTTA TILE INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE GUIDELINES
Please ensure you have a copy of these recommendations and that you (and your installer) are familiar with these guidelines. Contact us with any questions prior to installation.

BODY:

Our terracotta tile is handcrafted from a special mixture of clays and adhesives, making it suitable for indoor residential floors and walls. Minor imperfections such as small cracks and chips are inherent to the rustic nature of the material and are to be celebrated. These imperfections are not considered defects.

VARIATIONS:

Each tile is handmade and hand-painted. As with all artisan-crafted products, color and size variations are to be expected from batch to batch and sometimes within orders. We cannot guarantee exact color or shade matching from shipment to shipment. For any add-ons to existing orders, we recommend sending a control sample to help minimize color differences.

SUITABLE USES:

These tiles are ideal for residential floor and wall applications. Depending on the traffic level, additional care may be required.

Not recommended for:

- Kitchen countertops or work surfaces (due to potential damage from acidic spills and high heat).
- Heated flooring systems.
- Close proximity to high heat sources such as stoves or fireplaces (crazing or darkening of glaze may occur).

- Shower floors/benches/niches - Do not install anywhere that water may sit or pool on the grout line.

If used near a cooktop or stove (e.g., backsplash), exercise caution regarding heat exposure, as performance varies depending on installation distance and appliance heat dispersion. Use at your own discretion.

WET APPLICATIONS:

- **Suitable** for shower walls (begin installation at least 6” above the shower floor).

- **Not suitable** for:
  - Shower floors
  - Shower benches or niches
  - Steam showers
  - Saunas
  - Submerged water applications (e.g., pools or fountains)
  - Water lines

Always use a waterproof membrane during preparation. Tabarka Studio is not responsible for any failures resulting from defective or improperly prepared surfaces or water submersion.

EXTERIOR USE:

These tiles are **not recommended** for any exterior applications. Outdoor installations are not covered under warranty and will be at the end user's discretion.

CARE & CLEANING:

- Do not soak terracotta tiles and avoid prolonged moisture exposure as this will cause damage the glaze.
- Tiles are sealed out of the kiln—**no additional sealing is required before grouting**.
- Seal grout after installation.
- For cleaning:
  - **Floors:** Damp mop with mild soap
  - **Walls:** Use a soft sponge and mild cleaners
- **Avoid** abrasive products and harsh chemicals (e.g., bleach, ammonia, paint thinner).
- Do not scrub with rough materials or apply painter's/adhesive tape on hand-painted surfaces.

SHIPMENT INSPECTION:

It is the client's or representative's responsibility to thoroughly inspect all tile upon delivery:

- Verify product accuracy and condition before installation.
- Report any damage or discrepancies **within two (2) business days of receipt**.
- For "collect" shipments, the payer of the freight must file any damage claim.
- **Important:** Color matching claims must be made *before* installation begins.

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