

GENERAL INSTALLATION GUIDES

Always follow local OH&S Standards and refer to your local authority installation guidelines.

Concrete substrates

If you have laid a new concrete slab in your home, ensure the slab has had adequate time to dry out and lose its dampness. Allowing at least 3 months to dry and settle before tiling is recommended.

Requirements for Waterproofing Bathrooms

The building code of Australia and Australian Standards (AS3740-1994) outline the following minimum requirements for waterproofing in residential bathrooms.

- 1) Waterproof the full floor within the shower recess
- 2) Waterproof at least 100mm over the hob or step down onto the bathroom floor
- 3) Waterproof at least 1800mm up the walls inside the shower
- 4) Waterproof the entire bathroom floor if it is timber, plywood or particle board OR if it is above the ground floor of the house.

However, to provide the best insurance against water damage, it is a good idea to go beyond these requirements and ensure all walls within the shower recess are waterproofed – as well as the entire floor and walls outside the shower up to 150mm.

Some councils will require waterproofing be done by licensed waterproofing applicators, so check before attempting this work yourself.

The Process of Waterproofing

It is vitally important that when you undertake a bathroom renovation all the surfaces within the bathroom are correctly prepared and primed. Most important are any joins between the wall and the floor, between the walls themselves and around any drains in the floor. Ensure that the surfaces are smooth and free of any loose particles, which may affect the integrity of the waterproofing membrane. A polyester reinforcement mat should be fitted into all the internal corners of the shower recess, such as the junctions between wall and floor, the hob and floor and the corner formed by two walls meeting. The waterproofing membrane is then applied to all surfaces. Once the first coat has been applied, an hour or two will be required before a second coat can be applied. The second coat should be applied in a different direction to the first - for example, if the first coat was put on vertically, the second should be applied horizontal. Let the waterproofing fully cure – this can take as long as five days (depending on climate) before tiling.

LIVING AREA INSTALLATION GUIDE

a. Concrete substrate

- i. Concrete floor must be clean and dry
- ii. Ensure concrete surface is sound
- iii. Screed the floor to create perfect level surface – as required
- iv. Apply adhesive to the floor using a notched spreader or trowel (1m² at a time so it does not dry out)
- v. Lay tiles onto adhesive, pushing tile down till glue oozes around the sides (spaces, set out, planning)
- vi. Use tile spaces between each tile to ensure the correct grout joint has been left
- vii. Remove excess adhesive and leave to dry
- viii. Remove spaces prior to grouting
- ix. Grout tiles using a grout spreader, working in a diagonal motion
- x. Wipe excess grout residue off surface with damp cloth prior to drying
- xi. Once grout dried, do a proper surface clean to ensure no excess grout has been left on the tiles.

b. Timber substrate

- i. Fix a fibro cement sheeting over floor to create a solid flat surface
- ii. Follow joints in the cement sheeting and glue fix tiles
- iii. Apply adhesive to the floor using a notched spreader or trowel (1m² at a time so it does not dry out)
- iv. Lay tiles onto adhesive, pushing tile down till glue oozes around the sides (spaces, set out, planning)
- v. Use tile spaces between each tile to ensure the correct grout joint has been left
- vi. Remove excess adhesive and leave to dry
- vii. Remove spaces prior to grouting
- viii. Grout tiles using a grout spreader, working in a diagonal motion
- ix. Wipe excess grout residue off surface with damp cloth prior to drying
- x. Once grout dried, do a proper surface clean to ensure no excess grout has been left on the tiles.

c. Existing tiles substrate

- i. Ensure existing tiles and substrate is intact, level and sound (note: if there are drumy tiles, remove and fill hole/space with screed)
- ii. Screed the floor OR clean and degrease existing tiled floor and scratch surface to create a sufficient key – especially when tiling over glazed tiles.
- iii. Apply adhesive to the floor using a notched spreader or trowel (1m² at a time so it does not dry out)
- iv. Lay tiles onto adhesive, pushing tile down till glue oozes around the sides (spaces, set out, planning)
- v. Use tile spaces between each tile to ensure the correct grout joint has been left
- vi. Remove excess adhesive and leave to dry
- vii. Remove spaces prior to grouting
- viii. Grout tiles using a grout spreader, working in a diagonal motion
- ix. Wipe excess grout residue off surface with damp cloth prior to drying
- x. Once grout dried, do a proper surface clean to ensure no excess grout has been left on the tiles.

BATHROOM FLOOR INSTALLATION GUIDE

Bathroom Floors

It is best to tile the floor after bath, vanities, toilet etc have been removed. This way, any cut edges can be hidden under the bathroom fixtures and if removal of any fixture takes place in the future – the floor is not missing any tiles. Bathrooms are considered a wet area in the house and it is important that such area is waterproofed - to reduce the risk of dampness, water leaks and condensation. Waterproofing is done before any tiling or installation of fittings, but after the walls and floors have been thoroughly prepared.

a. Concrete substrate

- i. Concrete floor must be clean and dry
- ii. Ensure concrete surface is sound
- iii. Waterproof as required
- iv. Screed the floor to create perfect level surface – as required
- v. Apply adhesive to the floor using a notched spreader or trowel (1m² at a time so it does not dry out)
- vi. Lay tiles onto adhesive, pushing tile down till glue oozes around the sides (spaces, set out, planning)
- vii. Use tile spaces between each tile to ensure the correct grout joint has been left
- viii. Remove excess adhesive and leave to dry
- ix. Remove spaces prior to grouting
- x. Grout tiles using a grout spreader, working in a diagonal motion
- xi. Wipe excess grout residue off surface with damp cloth prior to drying
- xii. Once grout dried, do a proper surface clean to ensure no excess grout has been left on the tiles.

b. Timber substrate

- i. Fix a fibro cement sheeting over floor to create a solid flat surface
- ii. Follow joints in the cement sheeting and glue fix tiles
- iii. Waterproof as required
- iv. Apply adhesive to the floor using a notched spreader or trowel (1m² at a time so it does not dry out)
- v. Lay tiles onto adhesive, pushing tile down till glue oozes around the sides (spaces, set out, planning)
- vi. Use tile spaces between each tile to ensure the correct grout joint has been left
- vii. Remove excess adhesive and leave to dry
- viii. Remove spaces prior to grouting
- ix. Grout tiles using a grout spreader, working in a diagonal motion
- x. Wipe excess grout residue off surface with damp cloth prior to drying
- xi. Once grout dried, do a proper surface clean to ensure no excess grout has been left on the tiles.

BATHROOM FLOOR INSTALLATION GUIDE..... *Continued*

c. Existing tiles substrate

- i. Ensure existing tiles and substrate is intact, level and sound (note: if there are drumy tiles, remove and fill hole/space with screed)
- ii. If the existing waterproof membrane has been compromised then this must be repaired.
- iii. Screed the floor OR clean and degrease existing tiled floor and scratch surface to create a sufficient key – especially when tiling over glazed tiles.
- iv. Apply adhesive to the floor using a notched spreader or trowel (1m² at a time so it does not dry out)
- v. Lay tiles onto adhesive, pushing tile down till glue oozes around the sides (spaces, set out, planning)
- vi. Use tile spaces between each tile to ensure the correct grout joint has been left
- vii. Remove excess adhesive and leave to dry
- viii. Remove spaces prior to grouting
- ix. Grout tiles using a grout spreader, working in a diagonal motion
- x. Wipe excess grout residue off surface with damp cloth prior to drying
- xi. Once grout dried, do a proper surface clean to ensure no excess grout has been left on the tiles.

BATHROOM WALL INSTALLATION GUIDE

a. Concrete substrate

- i. Concrete wall must be clean and dry
- ii. Ensure concrete surface is sound
- iii. Waterproof as required
- iv. Screed the wall to create perfect level surface – as required
- v. Apply adhesive to the wall using a notched spreader or trowel (1m² at a time so it does not dry out)
- vi. Lay tiles onto adhesive, pushing tile down till glue oozes around the sides (spaces, set out, planning)
- vii. Use tile spaces between each tile to ensure the correct grout joint has been left
- viii. Remove excess adhesive and leave to dry
- ix. Remove spaces prior to grouting
- x. Grout tiles using a grout spreader, working in a diagonal motion
- xi. Wipe excess grout residue off surface with damp cloth prior to drying
- xii. Once grout dried, do a proper surface clean to ensure no excess grout has been left on the tiles.

b. Timber substrate

- i. Fix a fibro cement sheeting over wall to create a solid flat surface
- ii. Follow joints in the cement sheeting and glue fix tiles
- iii. Waterproof as required
- iv. Apply adhesive to the wall using a notched spreader or trowel (1m² at a time so it does not dry out)
- v. Lay tiles onto adhesive, pushing tile down till glue oozes around the sides (spaces, set out, planning)
- vi. Use tile spaces between each tile to ensure the correct grout joint has been left
- vii. Remove excess adhesive and leave to dry
- viii. Remove spaces prior to grouting
- ix. Grout tiles using a grout spreader, working in a diagonal motion
- x. Wipe excess grout residue off surface with damp cloth prior to drying
- xi. Once grout dried, do a proper surface clean to ensure no excess grout has been left on the tiles.

c. Existing tiles substrate

- i. Ensure existing tiles and substrate is intact, level and sound (note: if there are drumy tiles, remove and fill hole/space with screed)
- ii. If the existing waterproof membrane has been compromised then this must be repaired.
- iii. Screed the wall OR clean and degrease existing tiled floor and scratch surface to create a sufficient key – especially when tiling over glazed tiles.
- iv. Apply adhesive to the wall using a notched spreader or trowel (1m² at a time so it does not dry out)
- v. Lay tiles onto adhesive, pushing tile down till glue oozes around the sides (spaces, set out, planning)
- vi. Use tile spaces between each tile to ensure the correct grout joint has been left
- vii. Remove excess adhesive and leave to dry
- viii. Remove spaces prior to grouting
- ix. Grout tiles using a grout spreader, working in a diagonal motion
- x. Wipe excess grout residue off surface with damp cloth prior to drying
- xi. Once grout dried, do a proper surface clean to ensure no excess grout has been left on the tiles.

RECOMMENDED GROUT JOINTS

Always follow your local authorities standards and guidelines.

NON-RECTIFIED FLOOR:	3mm - 5mm
NON-RECTIFIED WALL:	3mm - 5mm
RECTIFIED FLOOR:	1.5mm - 2mm
RECTIFIED WALL:	1.5mm – 2mm
GLASS TILES:	2mm - 3mm
GLASS MOSAICS:	2mm – 3mm (as per space between mosaics if sheeted)