

Decorating with Tile



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Wall Tile That Will Make You Feel Awesome

By Barbara Tobiasz

I don't know about you, but I thought that I have been there, done that and got the t-shirt when it comes to wall tile. I never imagined that I would ever experience the awesome feeling of seeing something new and breathtaking in the world of wall tile. Was I living in a cave wearing blinders in the dark? Was I transported to another planet where wall tile was nonexistent? Was I stranded on an island in the middle of the South Pacific?

No, I was living in the Chicago area and the thought came to me that I should take a look to see what has happened to wall tile in the 21st century. What a splendid idea! So I did...

As I began to explore all the possibilities I began to realize that wall tile has become an amazing decorating art form that has truly evolved over the past few years. As I researched the forms of wall tile available today, each step of my search brought me into new and exciting materials, styles, colors, shapes and textures that are sure to please even the most scrupulous of individuals.

At first, I came across wall tiles that are familiar to even the most novice wall tile seeker. These wall tiles were those made of ceramic, glass, limestone, marble/granite, porcelain, slate, travertine and mosaic.

The ceramic wall tile I first came across came only in earth tone shades. The glass wall tile had more to choose from. Different shapes of glass in each tile, multi-colored tiles and an array of surface textures.

When I looked at glass tile I found that you are able to get glass tile in every color under the rainbow. The options for glass tile textures are open to exactly what you are looking for. The variety of styles is one of the largest of the tile family.

The limestone wall tile was mostly of earth tone, but offered a multitude of design patterns and borders. This made it possible to mix and match designs to create works of wall tiles art on your surrounding walls.

The marble/granite wall tile was presented mostly in shades of off-white and beige, but dark brown marble and an aqua blue granite tile are also offered. It was nothing new. This type of wall tile has been around a long time.

The porcelain wall tile came mostly in medium to dark shades of tans and browns. With the exception of Flagstone (a mosaic porcelain style) and Cognac (with a design pattern), most of your porcelain wall tile is solid color.

The slate tile in general has a mixture of earth tone colors creatively combined into each tile. With grays, tans, browns and reddish browns mixed into the display depending on what particular color combination you are looking for.

With Travertine wall tiles, you have a diverse selection of colors to choose from. From earth tones of brown and beige, from rustic walnut to golden volcano, from Egyptian Gold to Tuscany Blend, these tiles have a natural beauty that has descended through the ages.

I'm sure you are familiar with mosaic tiles. Each tile consists of small tile or stone pieces placed in some sort of geometric pattern. There are a variety of pastel colors to choose from. You can also choose from tile pieces or stone pieces with a flat or polished finish.

Now let's get to what I call the interesting wall tiles. These are wall tiles that you have to see in order to get the full impact of their unique elegance. So let's get started.

I will now take a look at what is offered in hand crafted wall tile. First I will describe the hand crafted tiles available in an array of colors such as Mojave, Dijon, Vermouth, Espresso, Savannah, Breakwater and several other artful shades.

This is the Ashbury collection. As for the textured surfaces of these tiles, they are presented in Anchor Bay, Du Bois, Ghiradelli, Montreaux, Presidio, Soledad and several other elegant textured designs. You have to see for yourself how beautiful these truly are.

Next, we will take a look at the Classic Shapes Collection. Here we have classic shades of beige tones with elegant shapes called Mini Acanthus,

Acanthus, Dot and Dash, Acropolis, Crown and Stop Corner, Peter's Lattice and Sonia's Flower. To see the articulate detail of these pieces, you have to examine them online.

The Artisan-Heritage Collection consists of Country Hen, The Rooster and Plentiful Platter. The title of each of these pieces does describe what is present on the tile, but does not express the detail these beautiful tiles will bring to your kitchen decor. You truly have to see these exquisite pieces for yourself to feel the charm and warmth that radiates from each piece.

Before I move on to Modern Wall Tile, I would like to delve into the Olde California Collection. This collection consists of multi-colored designs fired into these tiles making them a desirable addition to any room in which they are displayed. With titles such as Adobe, Patio, Plaza, Benecia, Clara, Diego, Mojave, San Gabriel, San Luis Rey and Vallejo, you just have to see the rich Spanish heritage devoted to these extraordinary works of tile art.

Other collections in the handcrafted tile category are the First Choice Collection, the Casual Elements Series, the Confetti Collection, the Campagna Collection and the Heritage Pecos. Take a few minutes and explore these and all the others I mentioned. You will discover how you can create an enchanted atmosphere in the comfort of your own home.

Now it is time to take a look at modern wall tile. This version of tile is creating a new frontier that will pave the way to future generations of artfully expressive fashion.

I will start with tile categories. Here you will find modern wall tiles in topics such as Glass Tile, Tile Blends, Ceramic/Porcelain Tile, Cork tile, Pebble Tile, Steel Tile, Brio, Lush, Mod Dots and Mod Rocks. Now I will attempt to provide you with some basic information on each of these. Remember, this is all Modern Tile.

For modern glass tile you have Mosaic, Blends, Square, Subway, Recycled and Tattoos. Out of all of these modern glass tiles, I thought I would give you an idea of the styles of Glass Tattoos offered. You have Sailor Girl, Compass Blue, Anchor, Compass Red, Koi, Swallow, Dagger Heart and Mom Heart. If you are familiar with regular tattoos, then you will have an idea of what these glass tiles look like. Otherwise, just go online and have a look at these and all the modern glass tiles that I have mentioned.

Moving over to Modern Tile Blends. This is just exactly what it sounds like. These tiles are made with blends of different tile materials. Here you can pick from stock blends that are tile blends that the manufacture has already catalogued, or you can put together your own custom blended tiles with unlimited possibilities.

Now we will discuss Modern Ceramic/Porcelain wall tiles. There are 2 main styles to choose from when it comes to modern Ceramic/Porcelain tiles. First you have your Mod Dots. These are glazed porcelain penny rounds. With a variety of colors to choose from, you can mix and match color dots for a modern look to any wall indoors or outdoors.

The other style of Modern Ceramic/Porcelain wall tiles is called RAW tiles. RAW Tiles are derived from fabric designs and graphics. The process for making these tiles was first used by Persians and over the years the technique was introduced to California from immigrating Spaniards. The modern version introduces patterns or designs on the tile that match well with contemporary decor.

Next we have Modern Cork Tile. This cork tile follows in the footsteps of Mod Dot tile. This is a cork mosaic in a penny round style. You have the option to stain the cork rounds to any color of your choice or using wood stain you may retain the natural color of the cork. Before grouting the cork tile a sealer must be applied. You have to see examples of the finished product in order to fully appreciate the beauty.

Our next example of Modern Wall Tile is Pebble Tile. These are natural polished pebbles. They are now available in six color combinations. These tiles are mesh mounted and are shaped in an interlocking pattern. With outstanding durability, these tiles can be applied indoors or outdoors.

So now we have come to Stainless Steel Tile. This tile is constructed with a heavy porcelain base and a 1mm stainless steel overlay. This tile is ideal for kitchen backsplash applications. Not recommended for standing water applications, such as spas or pools. With six styles to choose from, you're sure to find a style to match your application.

For those who wish to go green, most all of the Glass Modern Wall Tile that I have gone over is also available in recycled material. All of these products are environmentally safe and are generally easy to apply.

If you are ready to make a striking and dramatically pleasing appearance to one or more rooms of your home, then you should seriously consider wall tile. You will see how an ordinary room will suddenly turn into a masterpiece.

Barbara Tobiasz is an expert in interior/exterior decorating. Along with her husband Joe, they own and operate Wall-Decor-Concepts.com. For more information on Wall Tile, go to: [<http://www.wall-decor-concepts.com>]

Article Source: http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=Barbara_Tobiasz

Tiles Varieties - Find Out the Advantages and Disadvantages of Different Tiles

By Harry Lennon

Tiles come in many shapes and sizes. They can be used for the floor, for walls, in the kitchen for things like benches and splash backs, even for roofs. They come in all shapes, sizes, colors and textures. No matter what the need there will be a tile for the job. But how do you know which tile is the right tile for the job? Read on to learn about the different types of tiles in Perth, their advantages and disadvantages and what they are commonly used for.

Ceramic

Let's start with the most common tile that everyone will be familiar with. Ceramic tiles Perth are usually seen and used in bathrooms and showers. They are very hard, waterproof and easy to clean and in Perth can be purchased for as little as \$30 per square meter.

Within the ceramic tile range, there are tiles that are made for walls and there are tiles that are made for floors. Wall tiles nearly always have a gloss (shiny) finish and are thinner and lighter than floor tiles. This allows for easier installation.

Floor tiles are thicker and heavier than wall tiles. Because people will be walking on them and furniture can be stored on them, they need to be very strong. Floor tiles can also have a gloss finish and this is often the case for living areas. However if you are using a ceramic tile in a wet area like the bathroom, it is suggested that you do not use a gloss finish. A gloss finish means the tiles will be slippery and dangerous when they get wet.

Ceramic tiles are a great all-purpose tile. They resist water can withstand very high heat and are relatively easy to install. Be careful though because ceramic tiles are very brittle so if you drop them or drop something very hard on to them they can crack and even shatter.

Ceramic tiles are installed on top of a tile adhesive with a small gap in between each tile. The gap is then filled with a tile grout that can come in various colors but it is usually white. These tiles also come in a variety of sizes. Everything from a small 100mm x 100mm square tile, to a large

600mm x 600mm square tile. There is a wide range of sizes in between these to suit your needs and give the right look. They also come as rectangle sizes like 100mm x 200mm.

Stone

Stone tiles are very similar to ceramic tiles except they are made from natural stone rather than 'manufactured'. Stone tiles are usually very heavy, very strong and also able to withstand a lot of punishment and traffic. They can be made from marble, slate, sandstone, travertine and various other natural stones.

They either come in a natural finish or a machined finish. A machined finish means the top of the tile has been cut back to give a flat surface in the same way that ceramic tiles are flat. A natural finish means the top of the tiles has only been roughly cut and they will have natural dips, grooves and bumps. Which ones you use comes down to personal choice and the look you are going for. Both can be very beautiful and effective.

Unlike ceramic tiles, stone tiles absorb water. This means they will not be as slippery when wet, but also means they need to be sealed to prevent stains. If you spill some red wine on a stone tile that has not been sealed -- it will be there forever.

Stone tiles Perth are more expensive than ceramic tiles and therefore are not as common. Because they are more expensive and not as common, stone tiles can really stand out and have an impact on the look of your house. They will also add value to your house if you are looking to sell - especially in the competitive Perth market.

Stone tiles are slightly more difficult to lay than ceramic tiles because of their extra weight. They are very strong and heavy so it also makes cutting the tiles harder. Otherwise they are laid in pretty much the same manner as ceramic tiles.

Cork

Cork tiles Perth are usually 300mm x 300mm and as the name suggests, are made from cork. Cork tiles are popular for use on floors in general living areas. They are much warmer than ceramic tiles and also much quieter.

Another advantage to cork tiles is that they are softer than ceramic tiles. This means they are more comfortable to walk on, but also if you drop a glass or something similar it is less likely to break if you have a cork floor. Cork tiles need to be sealed to protect them. Depending on the variety they may come already sealed or they may need to be sealed after installation.

Similar to ceramic tiles, cork tiles are laid on a special adhesive. The difference however is that cork tiles are butted right up against one another. There is no gap left in between each tile. This not only saves installation time and makes the job easier, but when a complete floor is laid, you can not see that it was done using tiles. Instead the floor will look like one piece of cork and this can be quite effective.

The downside of cork tiles is that they are not as hard wearing and durable as ceramic or stone tiles. In heavy wearing areas they will need to be replaced, or at least refurbished after 10 - 15 years. In Perth be careful about laying cork tiles in an area that gets high amounts of sun. The harsh Perth sun can quickly fade cork tiles - even if they have been sealed. Upfront they are a cheaper alternative to something like stone, but over many years they will need to be replaced and can end up costing even more.

Carpet

Similar to cork tiles, it is possible to get carpet tiles that come in approximately 300mm x 300mm squares. The end result is also similar in that a complete floor will look like one piece of carpet and not tiles.

One advantage of carpet tiles over normal carpet is that you can replace individual tiles if they get damaged or stained. This is a great way to keep your floor looking brand new for years to come. Carpet tiles are also easier to handle than trying to get in a bit roll of carpet.

If you have a very big area that you want to carpet it may be that it is not possible to get a roll of carpet big enough. In this case - carpet tiles are the perfect solution. Carpet tiles in Perth are more common in large areas like halls, office buildings and business premises. This does not mean you can not use them for your home. They come in many designs and are usually very easy to clean. Great for a large kids room or activity area.

Vinyl

Vinyl flooring was traditionally only available in a sheet, however it is now possible to get vinyl tiles. This is similar to cork or carpet tiles. Vinyl tiles are very cheap, hard wearing and warm and soft underfoot. You can get various designs to match whatever look you are after. You can even get vinyl that has a timber look to it.

Modern vinyl is suitable for use in any area, including wet areas like bathrooms. It is a great alternative to more expensive tiles like natural stone and give any area a great face lift. The use of vinyl tiles in Perth bathrooms can sometimes have a negative impact on the resale value of your home. The Perth market sees them as a cheap option. If you are not considering selling in the near future they are a fantastic and much cheaper alternative to ceramic and very easy to lay.

Rubber

Rubber tiles have only recently started being used around the home. They are very hard wearing, slip resistant, extremely quiet and are nice and soft to walk on.

The color range is limited and they probably will not suit many styles but are still an option that should be considered. Rubber tiles are cheap to lay and cheap to buy. They are a great discount tile for the Perth area but may be hard to find because they are still not very common.

A perfect location for rubber tiles Perth would be an outdoor shower near a pool or spa.

The author has been working with tiles in Perth for many years and is trying to give a bit back to the Perth community. The author's site provides information on purchasing, installing and removing tiles. It is based on Perth, Western Australia but the information applies to any location. You find out more about tiles at these websites:

[<http://www.tiles-perth.com.au>]

[<http://www.tiles-perth.com.au/tiles-perth/paintingtiles-perth-your-how-to-guide>]Article Source: http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=Harry_Lennon

The Advance of Porcelain Tiles

By John Bridge

Ceramic tile. Now there's a term for you. When hearing or reading it, most people think of the highly glazed "bathroom" tiles of years gone by or of decorative tiles which are used to dress up otherwise plain tile installations. After all, aren't there many different kinds of clay tiles? Aren't ceramic tiles just a small part of the field?

Actually, no. The term "ceramic tile" covers almost every clay product produced and used within the tile industry. In addition to four-and-a-quarter-inch bathroom tiles and colorful "decos," there are "monocottura" or single-fired floor tiles, 1-inch and 2-inch "mosaic" tiles mounted on sheets, double-, triple-, and even quadruple-fired tiles decorated in dozens of different ways, and large format porcelain tiles which are used on floors and walls. It is this last category of tiles that we will concern ourselves with here. There is a great deal of confusion concerning the status of porcelain tiles, most of it generated within the tile industry itself.

Sales of floor tiles in the U.S. and Canada have doubled in slightly over a decade, and the popularity of tiled floors continues to increase at a dramatic rate. The rise in tile sales can be attributed to two factors primarily: a determined and well-thought-out effort developed and sustained by marketing and sales forces within the industry; and by constant and significant improvements achieved by tile manufacturers over the past couple of decades. In slightly over twenty years we've come from fairly soft "knob-back" floor tiles made from terracotta-like clays to extremely dense dust pressed porcelains that are all but indestructible. Walk into any tile salesroom today, and you will find mostly porcelain tiles displayed.

Ask a tile sales person whether porcelain tiles are stronger and more durable than ceramic tiles and in most cases the answer will be yes. But although porcelain tiles are indeed strong and durable, that answer is essentially incorrect. As I stated above, porcelain tiles ARE ceramic tiles. Porcelain is simply a type of ceramic clay. Porcelain tiles are those which have the lowest absorption rates of all the ceramic tiles available. To be classed as "porcelain," a tile cannot absorb more than .5 percent of it's total mass in water. Many porcelain tiles absorb less than that -- down to as little as .1 percent. In the industry, these tiles are called "impervious."

There is no confusion on this matter among installers. We call ourselves ceramic tile setters, not porcelain tile setters. It's just that as it turns out, most of the floor tiles we install nowadays are made from porcelain.

But the misinformation continues. The Porcelain Enamel Institute rates glazed floor tiles as to their resistance to abrasion. Glazed tiles are those to which a decorative layer has been applied over the clay body of the tile. Glazes are rated 1 through 5 with 5 being the highest or most durable grade. Many, if not most, porcelain tiles are not glazed, yet ask your tile sales person about the PEI rating of the porcelain tile you are examining in the showroom. It's very likely you'll hear something like, "Oh, this is a grade 5 porcelain tile. You could lay this baby in a car factory."

I certainly don't aim to demean tile sales people. We need them and love them. Without them we'd be out of work. I do wish they'd get themselves a little better informed, though, so they can better inform the buying public about the virtues of ALL ceramic tiles.

John P. Bridge is the author of three books on tile setting: Ceramic Tile Setting, McGraw-Hill, 1992; Tile Your World, Mistflower Press, 2003; The Kerdi Shower Book (eBook), Mistflower Press, 2005. Bridge also operates the John Bridge Ceramic Tile Forums on the Internet.
<http://www.johnbridge.com/vbulletin/index.php>

A veteran of 33 years in the tile business, John is a residential tile contractor in Houston, Texas, where he resides with his wife Patti.

Article Source: http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=John_Bridge

Article Source: <http://EzineArticles.com/75686>

Glass Mosaics Tile

By Mike X Smith

Glass mosaics tile can be used for decorating various areas of the house. It you to make the areas look very attractive. Glass mosaics tile are used to make mosaic arts, mosaic pools etc. Due to various types of colors these tiles are considered to be master piece. There are various types of designs in glass mosaics. Swirled, metallic etc are some of the designs that are used in glass mosaics. These tiles are long lasting. These tiles are multipurpose. These tiles would help you to give a unique look to your house.

There are various types of designs, shapes and color in glass mosaics tile. You can use different shapes and designs according to your need and demand. These tiles are used for flooring or for showers. Ceramic and other types of materials are used in mosaics tiles Vitreous - glass tiles ceramic tiles and stand - glass tiles are different types of mosaic tiles Vitreous glasses are plain but these glasses are not clear. It is easy to cut and clean these tiles Mostly, ceramic tiles are used for architectural purpose. These tiles are found in the hardware shops and these tiles are hard to cut. Most of these tiles have edges. These tiles are easy to stick. Stone and ceramic are ticker then the glass tile.

These tiles have flat face. If you want to arrange mosaic tiles then you have to cut them properly. It is very difficult to cut them into small pieces. You have to be careful while cutting these tiles because you should cut it according to the size of the design. You can cut these tiles with the help of mosaic glass cutter. If you want to arrange these tiles in grid then it is important for you to attach these tiles with the help of fiberglass. Fiberglass is the material that would help you to fix these tiles If you want to remove these tiles then you must soak them in warm water. Hot water would help you to remove these tiles.

There are various ways of measuring glass mosaic tile. But different industries have a standard way of measuring these tiles They cannot use their own measuring methods for measuring these tiles Iridescent glass tiles are the tiles which can be removed easily. The size of these tiles is constant. If you want to remove these tiles then you have to soak them in hot water.

Italian mosaic glasses are considered to be the best tile. These tiles can resist the hot temperature. Mineral salt is used to give it shimmering quality. These tiles are long lasting. These tiles are found in various colors. While metallic glass mosaic tiles are made of flakes and these flakes are found throughout the glass. These tiles are found in various colors and designs. You can use design and color of your own choice. These tiles can be molded individually. You can mould them without cutting. Thus these tiles would help you to give a unique and exclusive look to your house.

Mike X Smith is a leading writer and businessman in the field of glass Mosaic tile. Check out the new line of Mosaic tile! Many colors to choose from!

Article Source: http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=Mike_X_Smith

Tile For the Home

By Carly Hilios

Start a Tile File

If you are thinking that the tile in your home is looking a little outdated, grungy or not the color it originally was, it might be time to start a tile file. Technophobes have no fear, I simply mean that the first step to shopping for new tile is to store away "files" in your mind of flooring that catches your eye in friends' homes, pictures online and wherever else you come across tile flooring. It is easy to stick with the tile that came with your home when it was purchased, however re-tiling can make a lasting difference in the style and feel of your home.

Where Does Tile Go?

Tile is used in many rooms throughout the house. Most traditional it is found in bathrooms, showers, kitchens, mud rooms, entry ways, counter tops and back splashes. Advantages of using tile are that it is easy to clean, is fairly durable and gives a stylish look to the home. Tile is also used outdoors on the side of houses, patios and decoratively throughout yards.

Tile Color and Shades

Tile is sold in many different colors, giving shoppers the flexibility to find the "perfect" match for the style of any room. Tile color can be solid, textured or have added details and designs. There are different ways to make tile color work to your advantage. For example, white tile, if properly cared for, can give bathrooms a fresh and clean look. On the other hand, tiling a busy walkway with neutral brown marble tiles can hide dirt well until swept. Dark tile is popularly used a back splash in kitchens, adding depth and an elegant style to the cooking area.

The Shape of Your Tile

Tile comes in most basic shapes including squares, rectangles, hexagons, diamonds and triangles. Each shape gives a distinctive look to the floor it is covering. Smaller squares are typically found in bathrooms, rectangles can

give a retro look to kitchens, large square tiles fit nicely into entry ways, but in the end your style preference will drive your shape choice.

Tiles also come in large and small shapes. Things to consider when choosing tile size is that larger tiles are generally easier to lay and take less time while smaller tiles take more time and care to lay.

Tell Me What it's Made of!

Tile is made from a variety of materials. Some of the more popular materials are:

- Porcelain
- Stone
- Eucalyptus
- Marble
- Slate
- Glass
- Ceramic
- Vinyl
- Linoleum

Material will affect the texture, weight and coloring of your tile. Some materials, such as slate, appear more matte in color while porcelain and stone can be polished to shine. Eucalyptus is a great eco-friendly option for tile flooring. One of the deciding factors when choosing the material of your tile will be the amount of durability you require and your budget.

Shall we Glaze?

About half of the tiles sold in the United States are glazed. Glazed tiles repel water to a certain extent, but become slippery when they are wet. Glazed tiles are most commonly used for walls and counter tops as opposed to floors to avoid accidents of someone slipping. Always check manufacturer care tips, whether tiles are glazed or not to prolong the life of you tiling.

What is Holding us Together

Grout is the material that holds the tiles together. Grout is also available in a range of colors and should complement the color and style of your tile. Light

beige and ivories are common grout colors, but for a bolder appearance dark and unusual colors can be used. Grout is very porous and therefore it is important to seal it.

There are two common ways to seal grout, with a seal spray or applicator. The applicator method is much more tedious, but leaves less room for error, so is the best option for grout that is used between tile materials that stain easily (natural materials) or are difficult to clean. The spray sealer is a simpler option, but you will most likely have to clean the excess off the tiles after the sealant has dried.

Sometimes Change is Good

Different tile materials, including porcelain, slate and more, will have a variation in the colors and shades between individual tiles. These variations are due to natural variations in the material used to create the tiles. Normally the variation adds to the natural look of the tile and is not considered a deterrent from purchasing natural material tiles.

To Seal or not to Seal

It is important to seal tile that is made from natural products. Many times the tiles are pre-sealed, but it is important to re-seal if necessary because tiles can easily be stained by water and other spills. Sealing is a great way to protect outdoor tile from the elements as well. However, not all tile needs to be sealed, such as ceramic and porcelain, but you should always check manufacturer details.

This is just a basic overview of tile for your home - stay tuned for more specific articles and in the mean time, start your tile file (in your mind, of course) and you will be on your way to beautiful new tiling in your home!

C. Hilios write for ATG Stores an online retailer that sells a variety of products for the homes. Check out ATG Stores selection of tile at Floor and Surfaces.

Article Source: http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=Carly_Hilios

Type of Tiles Used in Homes and Businesses

By David E McBrayer

Types of Tile to Choose From

Tiles are considered a cost-effective flooring choice that's also environmentally friendly. You can use tiles that are made from natural stone, or man-made materials. The manufacturing of tile does not use heavy chemicals and harmful substances that you find in other flooring options. Tile also generally carry a longer life span than other flooring option like wood flooring. Here are some popular tile options that you can choose from for your next project.

Ceramic Tile: is used in more than just the kitchen now a days. Ceramic tile is a versatile and adaptable material that can be used in a number of settings. Ceramic tile low-maintenance which give it added appeal. The kitchen and bathroom are great locations to use ceramic tile, as well as all the living areas, hallways, foyers, and porticos. The design of Ceramic tile offer limitless possibilities. Ceramic tiles come in a number of shade of colors and size variations. Ceramic tile can be used to create ceramic accents in back splashes, counter tops, and shower stalls.

Porcelain Tile: is a type ceramic tile that is very popular. The difference between ceramic and porcelain is the temperature it is fired at when being made. The higher temperatures used to make Porcelain tile makes it more resistant to moist conditions, less porous, and more stain-resistant. Porcelain tiles can be used for indoor and outdoor installations. Porcelain tile is more expensive than Ceramic tile due to the cost of labor to have them cut. Porcelain is a harder and more dense material that is hard to cut, so the cost and labor involved goes up. You can find Porcelain tiles in matte, un-glazed or a high-polished finishes.

Mosaic Tile: is generally under six square inches and made out of porcelain or clay material. Tile mosaics give you the ability to be very creative when designing your project. You will see Mosaics most often in smaller areas like bathrooms, kitchen back splashes, and small counter space areas. Most are shaped like a square, octagon, or hexagon. Theses tiles can be bought on pre-mounted paper or fabric mesh sheets.

Natural Stone Tile: is a product made by nature, no two stone tiles will look exactly alike. Stone tiles are a natural solid formation of one or many minerals that have formed over millions of years through pressure. As the Earth's crust began to expand and erode through time heat and pressure pushed the solid minerals to the Earth's surface, which formed colossal rock beds all over the world. This has created thousand of types of stone that have been quarried over the centuries. These quarries are located all around the world. The majority of natural stones come from the United States, Canada, Spain, Turkey Italy, France, Greece, India, China, Taiwan, Mexico, and Brazil. There are 3 popular types of tile used today.

Travertine Tile: comes in natural beige stone shades, and is commonly used in the Kitchen on the counter tops and the back splashes. Travertine is also great to use for bathroom counter tops, shower area and on the floor.

Marble Tile: is a natural stone that has been used for hundreds of years in residential homes and commercial buildings to create a luxurious look and feel. There are many variations in the color of each and every tile, so it creates a one-of-a-kind design that can not be naturally duplicated. Marble is porous tile that must be sealed.

Granite Tile: has been used on kitchen counter tops for many years. It has also been used in bathrooms on the shower walls and counters. Granite tiles are provide a natural antibacterial surface that is not damaged by water contact. This is why Granite is a popular choice for kitchen and bathroom tile installations.

Slate Tile: is a natural material that's comes in many different shades of colors like blues, purples, and grey to black shades. Slate can be used for exterior projects as well as inside the home because of the many different looks and colors you can pick from. Slate tiles have become more popular today than ever before because of their versatility.

Quarry tile: is a ceramic tile that is un-glazed. This type of tile is a cost-effective and durable product. Quarry tile is less likely to chip or scratch. You can find grades of this tile that will stand up to extreme cold weather conditions, as well as the hot climates. This tile is a sound choice for your home or business projects because it can be used for both indoors and outdoors. Quarry tile is porous and can become stained, so it is generally covered with a glaze seal or wax finishing to protects it from staining and

chipping. This type of tile only comes in a few color selections, but you can find different shades of each color. The most common colors of Quarry tile are brown, red, orange, and grey. Due to the fact this type of tile is less slippery than most other selections, you will most often see it used in hallway floors, kitchen floors, and pool areas. Be sure to use as little water as possible until you have properly grouted, glazed, and sealed this tile. You run the risk of mold growth and water damage to un-glazed tile.

<http://www.ClaytonStoneSurfaces.com> in Phoenix Arizona provides complete installation services for tile flooring, wood flooring, kitchen & bathroom tile installation & carpet installation.

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Decorating with Tile



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