



DIY Installation Guidelines
for **DRYTILE** floor tiles.

DRY**L**ILE



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Areas of application

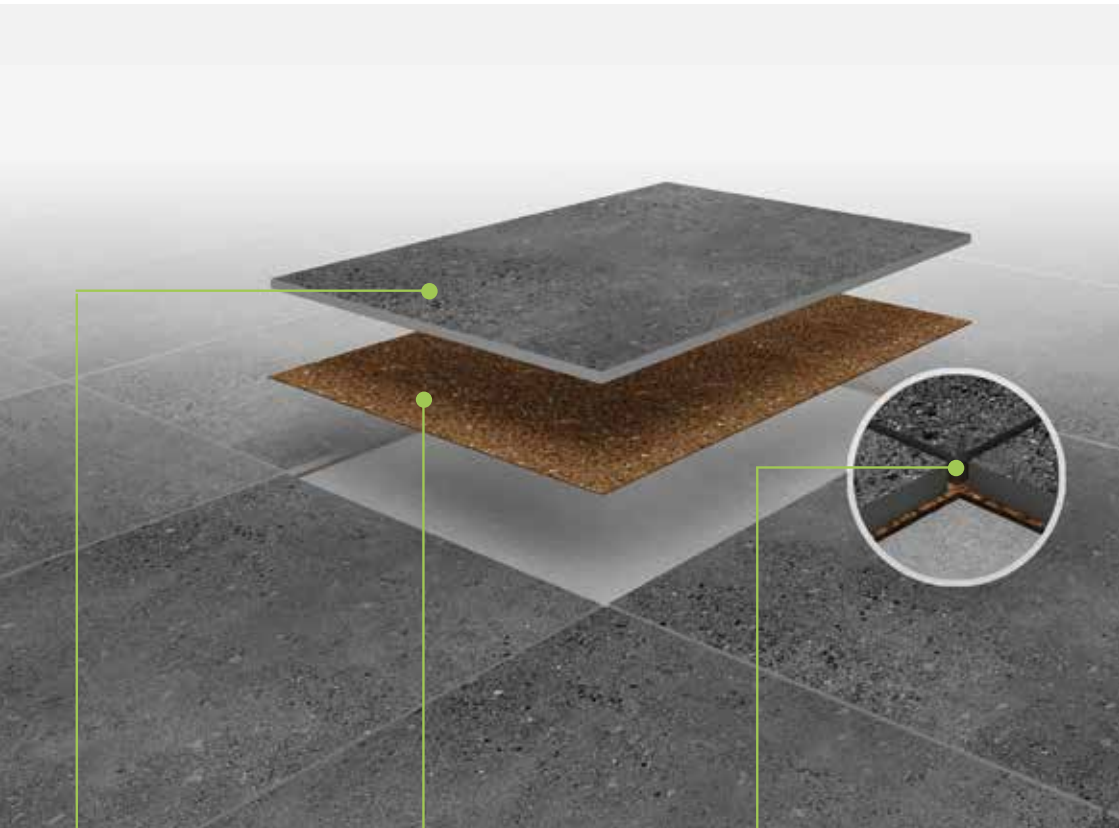
Following these installation instructions, you can use Drytile (our combination of ceramic floor tile, cork underside, and system joint) to easily and swiftly lay floor tiles entirely without tile adhesive. This not only has sustainable benefits, but also results in advantages during installation.

With Drytile, you can lay your tile floor yourself very quickly. Simply lay tile to tile, without tile adhesive. With the cork underside, the Drytile tile lies non-slip while also reducing impact sound. Then grout and you're done. With significantly less dirt and dust than using tile adhesive and mortar, Drytile can also be easily laid during everyday living. It is perfect for renovation projects and the ideal flooring for underfloor heating. Drytile can be installed in all living areas including kitchens, utility rooms, entrance areas, guest toilets as well as bathrooms without floor drain, with bathtub without shower, and with shower tray including shower partition. Stairs and ramps are excluded, as are all outdoor areas and floor surfaces in rooms with floor-level showers. For all other areas, e.g. commercial areas, offices and business premises, as well as more heavily frequented and high-load floors such as in car dealerships and traffic structures, we refer to the technical data sheet DT01 (QR code for this can be found on page 8). Installation in these other areas must be carried out by a certified specialist company.

Underfloor heating

Drytile is eminently suitable for use on an underfloor heating system, regardless of the system involved.

Product structure



Ceramic floor tiles

Absolutely light-fast, UV-resistant and odour-neutral; heavy furniture does not leave any pressure marks (meets the requirements of load group 1 according to the ZDB leaflet "Ceramic coverings subject to high mechanical loads").

Cork layer on underside

Applied using a special process, this ensures that the tile is firmly suctioned to the prepared floor. Free of PVC, chlorine and plasticizers.

System joint

The precise and clean joint is created by the all-round edge. Grouting may only be carried out with the corresponding system joint.

List of tools

We have compiled a list of the tools you will need to install Drytile tiles. It looks like a lot at first, but most are available in almost every household.

Preparing the surface

- Straight edge or spirit level (min. length 2 m)
- Trowel
- Hammer (to check the floor)
- Angle grinder, if necessary, to sand off any raised areas in the substrate
- Sweeping brush
- Vacuum cleaner

Installation

- Folding rule or measuring tape
- Rubber mallet
- Tile cutter (can be hired from DIY stores)
- Suction lifter
- Angle grinder with suitable cutting blade for fine stoneware tiles
- Cutter blade
- Mounting adhesive (for fixing the base)
- Silicone gun
- Silicone (for possible expansion joints and/or wall connection joints)

Grouting

- Trowel / Plasterer's trowel
- Measuring jug
- (Kitchen) scales
- Bucket
- Cordless screwdriver or drill for mixing the grout
- Whisk for mixing the grout (approx. 80 mm diameter)
- Rubber grouting board for e.g. plastic grouting (no foam rubber!)
- Washing set/washing boy for grouting

Installation

Please read carefully and completely before installation and watch the accompanying DIY installation film. See QR code for film! Please also note the QR code to our technical data sheet DT01, especially if you want to install Drytile in commercial areas.



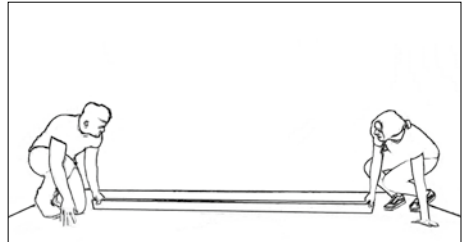
Film



Technical data sheet DT01

PREPARING THE SURFACE

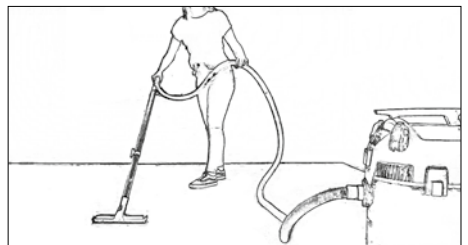
- 1| Check and localise the floor area for unevenness.



- 2| Level out any unevenness by sanding or filling.

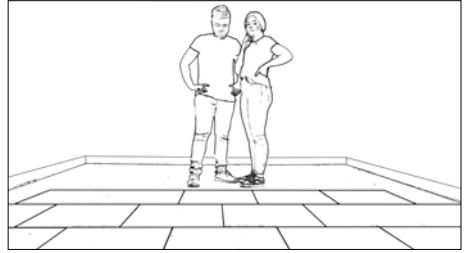


- 3| Vacuum the entire area to remove all dust.

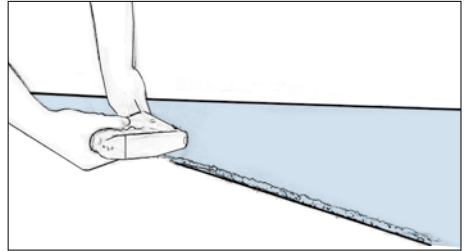


INSTALLATION

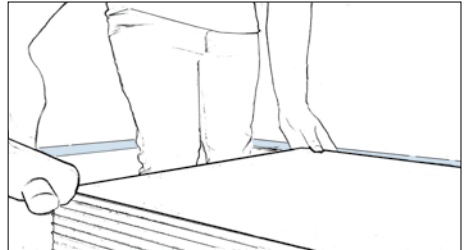
- 4| Measure the room and determine the tile layout, taking care not to create too small border pieces.



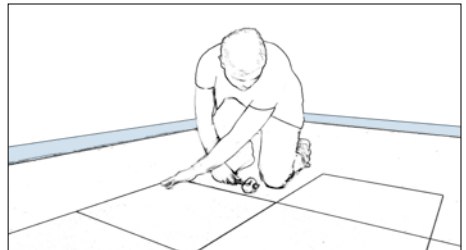
- 5| Apply edge strips to all rising building components to ensure that the minimum distance of 8 mm is maintained and to prevent the system joint from running into the edge area when grouting.



- 6| The tiles sometimes stick tightly together due to the suction effect of the cork layer. Loosen the tiles with light blows using a rubber mallet or use a trowel that you carefully slide in under the cork layer. Minor break-offs of the cork overhang do not pose a problem.



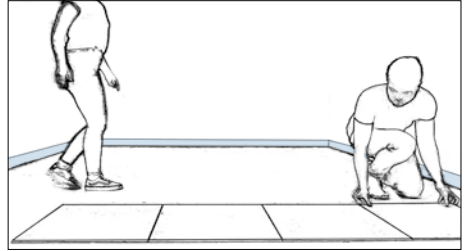
- 7| Depending on the individual layout, lay the first row. Simply lay the tiles with the cork overhang firmly against each other to automatically create the joint spacing. Joint crosses are therefore not necessary.



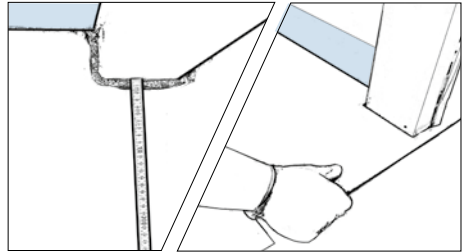
THE INSTALLED TILES CAN BE WALKED ON IMMEDIATELY!

INSTALLATION

- 8| Lay all full tiles out on the surface, row by row.

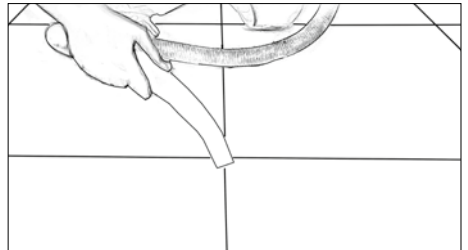


- 9| Make cuts or notches in the edge area and lay them out.

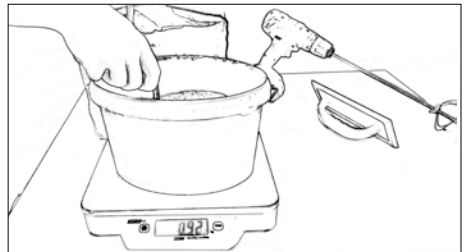


GROUTING

- 10| Thoroughly vacuum the tiles now laid again before grouting.

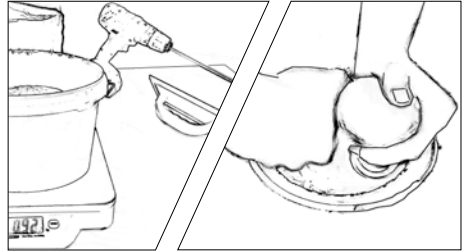


- 11| When mixing the system joint, the **mixing ratio of 1 kg system joint + 150 ml clean water** must be observed. Recommendation: Start with one kilogram and then mix max. 2 kg at a time. Ideally, grouting should be done by two persons working together.

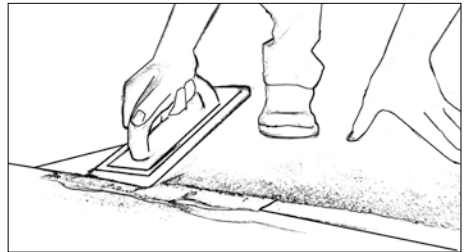


GROUTING

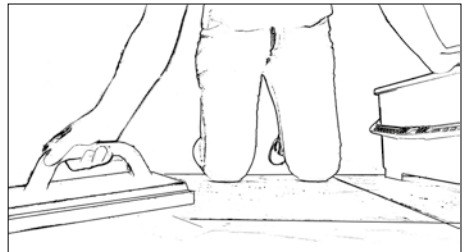
- 12|** Measure out the water and pour it into a clean container (bucket). Next, pour the previously weighed system joint into the water and mix with a stirrer for approx. 3 minutes to form a lump-free mass. The joint compound is ready for use immediately and does not require any maturing time.



- 13|** Now use a hard rubber board (available as an optional accessory incl. wash bucket) to work the joint compound into the open joints. Proceed row by row.



- 14|** Immediately afterwards, wash off with a damp sponge board in circular movements and under light pressure. Do not use too much fresh water for this and make sure that no water gets into the still open joints.

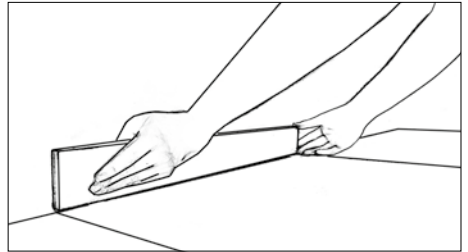
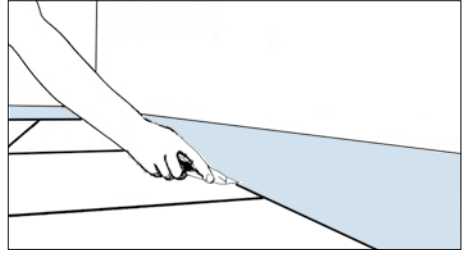


Once the entire surface has been grouted, it must not be walked on for at least 12 hours!

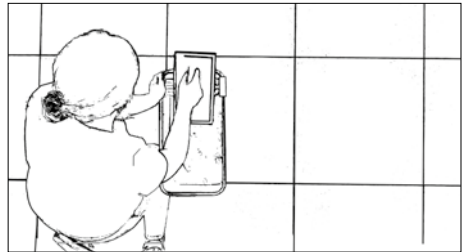
COMPLETION / CLEANING

- 15|** Now cut off the protruding edge strip and attach individual skirtings (wooden, PVC, tile skirtings etc.).

Finally, seal expansion joints and edge joints with silicone if necessary.



- 16|** Use clear water for final cleaning. For additional information, see the care instructions on the adjacent page.



The surface is fully resilient after 24 hours.

Requirements on the substrate

- The basic prerequisite for laying Drytile is a firm, clean, dry and even substrate.
- Unevenness of more than 3 mm per 1 metre must be levelled using a suitable levelling compound.
- When installing on old wooden floorboards and installation boards, loose boards must be screwed to the substructure.
- Carpeting is unsuitable as a subfloor for reasons of strength and hygiene, and must be removed.
- Installation on existing PVC, CV and linoleum coverings can only be carried out if these floors are firmly glued down and have no loose spots.
- The readiness of the subfloor for laying must be checked on the basis of the screed manufacturer's instructions and complied with accordingly.

Care instructions

Ceramic tiles perform excellently in comparison to many other flooring materials, not only in terms of design but also from the point of view of cleaning and maintenance. Their lasting beauty, ease of cleaning, and high functionality are decisive criteria in both private and public areas.

When using cleaning agents, follow the instructions for use and the hazard warnings provided by the respective manufacturer. It goes without saying that Drytile Ceramics GmbH cannot assume any liability for damage incurred by non-compliance with these instructions and this information. Cleaning agents which contain hydrofluoric acid or compounds thereof (fluorides) must never be used.

Basic information on cleaning agents

Cleaning a tile surface depends, on the one hand, on the surface condition of the tile and, on the other hand, on the type of soiling.

The decisive factor in selecting a suitable detergent is its pH value, which provides information on whether it is acidic, neutral or alkaline. The scale of the pH value ranges from 0 (acidic) to 14 (alkaline).

In most cases, longer impact times and mechanical support by brushing can improve cleaning results. Alkaline cleaning agents can be recommended for regular routine cleaning as they are best at removing everyday dirt. Depending on the hardness of the water, it may be necessary to alternate with acidic cleaning agents.

As a general rule, the following procedure has proved its worth:

- Dilute the cleaning agent (depending on the degree of soiling) and pour over the surface.
- Allow to take effect for approx. 15 minutes while aiding the chemical cleaning process by mechanically brushing with nylon brushes (without abrasive grain).
- Remove the loosened dirt using sufficient amounts of water or rinse it off.
- Thoroughly rinse the covering.

Combined preparations for cleaning and care are not necessary. On the contrary: they can even be problematic in the long run as sticky grease, wax and synthetic layers may form on the surface, which have a negative influence on the visual, hygienic and non-slip properties, while also making the surface more difficult to clean. Disinfectants must be thoroughly removed from the surface after the impact time. Otherwise, they can react with moisture to form a smear layer which impairs non-slip safety.

Hytect technology involves significantly less cleaning effort as well as having an antibacterial effect and dissolving unpleasant odours. It is not susceptible to attack by either strongly acidic or strongly alkaline cleaning agents. But we do not recommend using combined preparations for cleaning and care in this context either as the ensuing film not only impairs non-slip safety – it also has a negative effect on the coating function. Once the film is thoroughly removed, Hytect reveals its full effectiveness once again.

DRY|ILE

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