Tech Notes

Continued beauty & performance of your Seneca Tiles is assured by following these simple guidelines:

Ordering: All Handmold tiles are nominally sized - this means a 6” x 6” tile will be 5 5/8” x 5 5/8” design size, all tiles sold assuming a 3/8” grout joint. Because of the handcrafted nature of our tiles, all dimensions given are approximate.

Tiles may exhibit variations from samples and within a shipped lot. Variations may include, but are not limited to, size, color, texture, & shading etc.

For additional slip and/or wear resistance on Handmold glazed tiles, an optional abrasive finish is available.

Most Handmold tiles are packaged 10 square feet to the carton including a 3/8” grout joint. Trim and decorative tiles are packaged per piece.

Installation: Techniques for installing Handmold tiles are much the same as those used in standard practice with quarry tile. Specifications for every situation can be found in the Handbook of Ceramic Tile Installation published by the Tile Council of North America.

Because our tile is handcrafted, it is not possible to install Handmold tile with the precision normally practiced with machine made tile. In fact, your installation’s non-uniform appearance and surface variations will contribute to the warmth, charm, and character created exclusively with the use of Handmold.

Not intended for exterior use where freezing temperatures may occur. Glazed tiles are not recommended for exterior horizontal use.

Maintenance: Regular cleaning is easy - just sweep regularly and damp mop as necessary, using warm water and a neutral cleaner. To clean stubborn spots or grout joints, use a stiff, natural bristle brush.

NOTE: The unique nature of the Reflections Collection colors are such that we recommend a minimum of two, thorough coats of Aqua Mix Sealers Choice Gold 15 penetrating sealer, or an equivalent, be applied to the tile and grout joints as soon as possible after grouting. This will help prevent liquids from penetrating the glaze or body of the tile.

Important: In regularly wet areas, such as a shower, it is common for some Reflections tiles to darken and lighten as they become wet and then dry. In cooking areas, around a stove on counters and backsplashes, cooking oil splatters should be cleaned up as soon as possible, as oils may permanently darken some tiles. It is suggested that you resell these areas of Reflections tiles periodically to help maintain their resistance to liquid penetration. Still, some spotting from liquid penetration may be possible.

LEED & Green Information: We are proud of the way we treat the environment by using clays sourced within 100 miles of our facility that are then minimally processed from their natural state through to the finished product. This fact may aid in LEEDS points awarded for regionally manufactured materials. (LEED Categories 5.1 &/or 5.2) Ceramic tiles by their very nature are inert, non-combustible, non-toxic and are completely free of any volatile organic compounds.

Further, ceramic tiles allow for the use of low VOC adhesives & grouts that will not reduce indoor environmental air quality. We recycle a waste product of coal-fired electricity production into the body of many of our unglazed tiles.

Additionally, we reclaim our own liquid waste glaze residue and our scrap clay and put it back into our clay body, which makes our already dense clay body all the more durable. Heat captured from our kilns is used to dry our tiles prior to firing, as well as heat much of our plant during cooler months. These measures not only help maintain the environment, but eliminate several items from the waste stream.

Even our off grade tiles are stacked in our yard and picked over endlessly by residential and commercial users alike to create their own individual masterpieces so they never end up in a landfill. The recycled use of post-industrial materials in our tiles, the low impact manufacturing methods we use, products we make with abundant, local raw materials, and the reclamation of much of our own waste help us achieve our goal to help keep our environment clean and safe.

Seneca Handmold conforms to ANSI 137.1 as Special Purpose Tile. Our tiles are produced, graded and packed to our stated specifications. When requested by the purchaser prior to production, a Master Grade Certificate may be issued certifying compliance with properties mutually agreed upon by purchaser and Seneca Tiles Inc.