



ALLOY

METAL MOSAIC + TILE INSTALLATION GUIDE



PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY PRIOR TO LAYING ALLOY TILES

Thank you for choosing ALLOY solid metal tiles.

As a specialised metal tile product, we recommend that a professional, experienced mosaic tiler is sought to install ALLOY metal tiles. For the very best result, please ensure that the Installation Guide is strictly adhered to. Like all high quality finishes, ALLOY metal tiles should be treated with reasonable care and maintained regularly to look their best.

ALLOY tiles are a high quality, solid metal product; they are FACE MOUNTED and 1.5mm-1.6mm thick, depending on the material. They are thinner than conventional glass, ceramic or porcelain tiles, so the sheets require a different method of installation.

Equipment you will need:

- ALLOY One Pack Mastic Tile Adhesive (AOPM) or Laticrete Latapoxy 300 Adhesive or Megapoxy PM or Megabond Adhesives
- Laticrete 600 Series unsanded grout (Aust)/ Laticrete 1600 Series unsanded grout (USA)
- 1mm V Shaped notched trowel, squeegee, buckets, mixer, sponge, clean cloth, gloves, Stanley knife blade, heat gun (optional)

■ MOST IMPORTANTLY

APPLY A THIN, EVEN LAYER OF ADHESIVE AND AVOID ADHESIVE SQUEEZING BETWEEN THE TILE GROUT SPACES.

The tile sheets are face mounted and have a protective plastic sheet which can only be removed once the adhesive has dried. If the layer of adhesive on the substrate is too thick then this will fill the grout gap, stick to the plastic and create a bad result.

ALWAYS USE THE RECOMMENDED NON-SANDED, NON-GRIT GROUT.

This will ensure you avoid scratching the tile surface. If scratching occurs, the tiles may need to be replaced and re-installed.

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO CUT THE TILES ON SITE.

ALLOY tiles are solid metal and cannot be easily cut on site without damaging the tile. If the installation requires that the tiles sit flush with the edge, check that the correct ALLOY finishing pieces have been ordered.

See overleaf for the available finishing pieces.

Particular caution with mild/raw steel tiles and excessive moisture which can cause rusting of the steel and delamination of mill scale surface finish.



Installed: ALLOY Dollar tile in mirror polished stainless steel



A. SURFACE PREPARATION

The substrate/surface to be tiled **MUST** be, smooth, flat, square/in plumb, solid, dry and clean. We suggest the use of cement sheeting where possible to guarantee good results. A very thin layer of adhesive is required for installation and this is subject to Australian Standard AS3958.1. Workmanship must be carried out in a tradesman like manner as per Australian Standard AS3958.1, 1991.

B. LAYING METHOD

- Use ALLOY OPM (One Pack Mastic) adhesive that exceeds Australian Standards AS 2358-1990

OR

Latapoxy 300 Epoxy Adhesive or Megapoxy PM or Megabond Adhesives.

www.laticrete.com
www.permatech.com.au

- Mix adhesive in accordance with instructions printed on the product packaging.

■ IMPORTANT

To ensure optimum results and avoid adhesive 'squeezing' through grout spaces, apply a **VERY THIN EVEN LAYER** 0.5-1mm (resembling the same evenness and thinness as a thick layer of paint) of adhesive to wall/floor substrate using a 1mm V-Shaped notched trowel that lays a ribbed bed of adhesive (coverage 1kg of AOPM = 2m²).

- Apply the mosaic sheet with the face-mounted, clear industrial plastic tape facing the installer. When applying the sheets, make sure the distance between the mosaic sheets is the same as the grout joints on the sheets.
- Press the tile sheet firmly onto the bed of adhesive so the back of the tile is in good contact with the adhesive, and no voids exist. We suggest gently and evenly pressing a squeegee trowel against the tile sheeting.
- For wall tiling, it may be required to pin the sheets to prevent sagging or downward movement. If the adhesive is mixed correctly, it should hold the sheets firmly in place.

- Once the adhesive has dried (6-12 hours), peel off the clear plastic tape which will also remove, at the same time, the protective white PEC film to reveal the face of the tile.
- For easier removal of both layers of plastic film from square shaped and rectangle tiles, we suggest cutting the clear plastic into strips with a blade (be careful not to scratch the face of the tile) in 3-4 tile rows wide.
- Some of the white protective PEC film may stay adhered to the tile which is due to variable adhesion qualities of the clear tape and temperature of the air and surface. Stubborn film can be removed with a heat gun, a small amount of solvent and a soft cloth.

C. INSTALLATION PIECES

- For convenience and to deliver a uniform quality and look, ALLOY provides many sizes and shapes of pre-punched installation pieces to use where a full tile will not fit (see overleaf for shapes and sizes available).



- Depending on the ALLOY tiles selected, it is strongly suggested the proposed site be measured to calculate if any installation pieces are required. These installation pieces can be ordered from your ALLOY retailer or through ALLOY directly.
- ALLOY Copper and Brass tiles are inherently a softer metal and can be cut on-site. However it must be noted the tile edge if 'cut' (and not ALLOY supplied) will exhibit a burr and a very sharp top edge. The top edges will not be consistent with the remaining tiles that have ALLOY's unique, slightly chamfered edge feature.

D. GROUTING

- Colour - we suggest light grey grout for stainless steel, black also looks great with all materials (brushed, mirror and 2b stainless steel, copper, brass and raw steel, titanium series). If the tiles are not in a wet area and are for purely a visual effect grouting may not be necessary.

Particular caution with mild/raw steel tiles and excessive moisture which can cause rusting of the steel and delamination of mill scale surface finish.

■ IMPORTANT

Particular care should be taken to use a grout that is a non-sanded non-grit grout to avoid surface scratching of the metal. ALLOY recommends Laticrete 600 (Aust)/1600 (USA) Series unsanded grout.

- Grouting should not begin until the adhesive has firmly set. Spread the wet grout mixture across the tile surface using a squeegee or firm rubber float. Compact the grout firmly into the joints. Remove surplus grout from the surface of the tiles as much as possible as acids can't be used on metal to remove excess later. Allow grout to firm in the joints.
- Clean the tile surface very lightly with a damp (not wet) sponge or soft cloth. It is very important to use a minimum amount of water during cleaning. Excess water, or over working the joints, can cause water float and or shade variation.
- When the grout is dry, the tile surface can be polished with a soft dry cloth to remove all the remaining traces of dry grout powder. Any remaining powder on metal surface after grout has completely dried can be washed with warm soapy water and a soft sponge.

E. MAINTENANCE

Stainless Steel + Titanium Plated Tiles

Generally, using warm soapy water with a soft sponge on ALLOY tiles is enough to maintain a beautiful finish. We also recommend environmentally friendly Enjo mitts for cleaning and maintaining stainless steel tiles.

With stainless steel, depending on the type of surface contamination, a number of other cleaning agents can be used. Generally, a good quality stainless steel cleaner will work well or multi-purpose household and glass cleaners. Avoid any acid based cleaners as they may cause pitting or corrosion of the metal surface.

Copper + Brass Tiles + Raw Steel

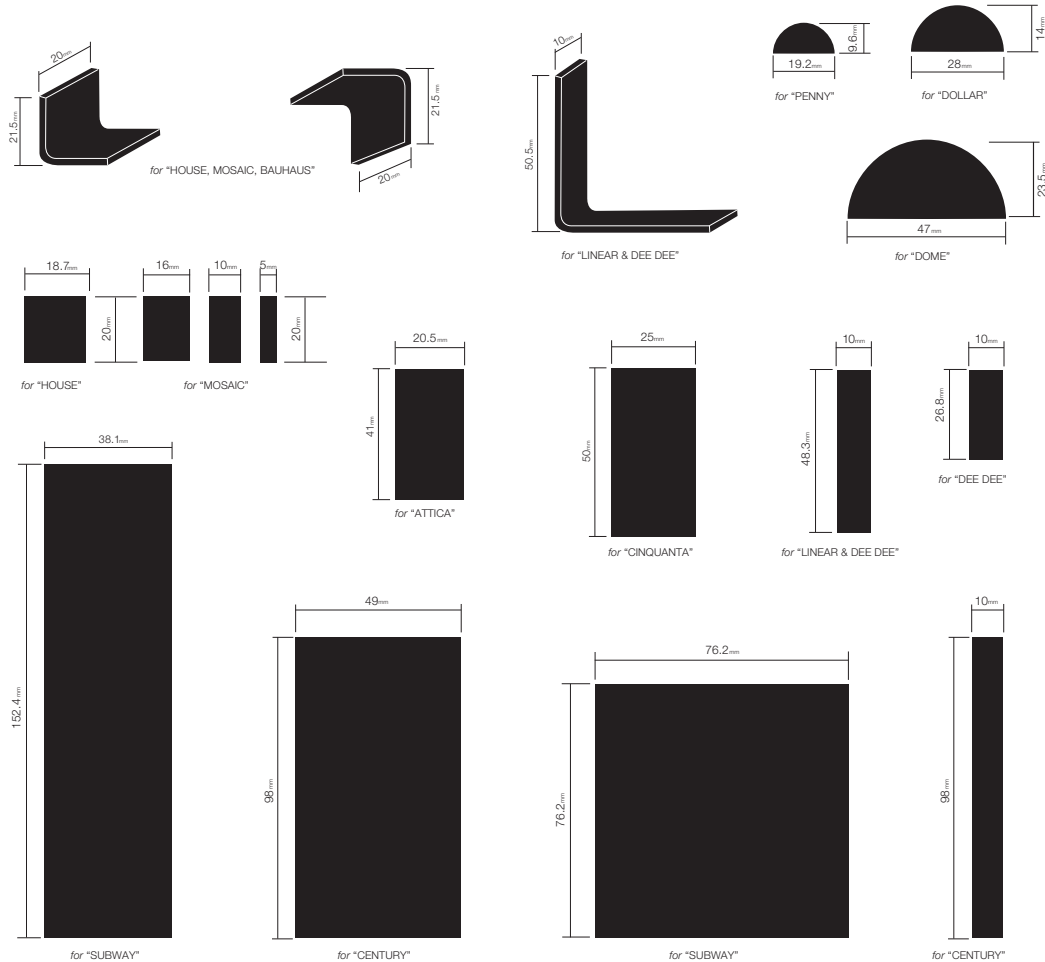
The use of soap based cleaning products on copper and brass tiles may accelerate oxidization and the natural patina - if this is the look that is sought.

To return luster and sheen to copper and brass tiles ALLOY suggests the regular use of Flitz Liquid Polish - a high performance metal cleaner and polish available for purchase through ALLOY.

Raw Steel tiles can be sealed with ALLOY Wax to prevent rusting. DO NOT USE WATER on face of the tiles.

ALLOY TILE INSTALLATION PIECES

ALLOY installation pieces are pre-punched for convenience and designed to ensure a perfect, consistent finish to your tile installation when a full tile won't fit. Installation pieces are available for all tiles and metal finishes in the ALLOY range and are listed below. Prior to ordering tiles, we recommend measuring the proposed tile installation site and calculating whether finishing pieces are required. If the finishing pieces have not been pre-ordered, they can be ordered direct from ALLOY or your ALLOY retailer.



ALL TILES CAN BE BENT TO SUIT

NOT TO SCALE

Sleek. Solid. Unique.

ALLOY metal tiles + mosaics are the authentic solid metal tile. Carefully designed, then machined in ALLOY's Australian factory using only the highest quality metals to create an unsurpassed finish, ALLOY tiles are hardwearing, long lasting and designed to maintain their integrity for a lifetime.

This guide and installation video can be downloaded from alloydesign.com.au. For more information or assistance please contact ALLOY directly.

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 **ALLOY**

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