

# Period floor tiles – please read

Victorian/Edwardian floor tiles / period tiles or Minton tiles (brand name from the past) as they are often called are classed as dust pressed floor tiles, they are made of clay that is pressed into moulds under high pressure; the tiles are dried and fired in a kiln at extremely high temperatures and then allowed to cool. As the clay is not glazed nor has a “cushioned edge” It is normal for some points/edges (triangles in particular) to have slight chips and the very tips not quite sharp but once laid and grouted these are not apparent under normal circumstances. If you find any badly chipped we are happy to exchange them prior to fixing (these will need packing and returning to us) – extra should be purchased in any case as **a small proportion of chipped tiles is classed as normal**. There is often shade variation within the order, this is normal – the tiles should be mixed prior to laying to enable even distribution of shades throughout the floor. The tiles can vary in size slightly, this is more noticeable with chequer board patterns (2 or 3 different colours), joints may need to be altered or “tiled by eye” to accommodate size fluctuations. Sections of the tiling should always be loose laid to familiarise yourself with the pattern and joint widths first, joints often need to be opened or closed slightly to make borders and patterns work together. Some tiles can be slightly bent or bowed, but if you have any that are very bowed please contact us and we are happy to exchange them for you.

These tiles have excellent strength and are very hard wearing provided they are fitted correctly with a solid bed of adhesive and sealed with a suitable sealer. The tiles are suitable for inside and outside in heavy wear areas including most commercial applications. We recommend the tiles are sealed before grouting and again once the grouting is complete and clean. Cleaning with plain hot water is best but if you want to use a chemical please ask about this. It is possible to mark these tiles as they are unglazed however most marks will come off – often using a splash of sealer on a clean cloth. Of course designs with lots of White will need more care and cleaning & show dirt more easily.

When calculating quantities it is difficult to judge exactly how a tiler will lay the pattern, border / fill tiles and how successfully the cuts around the floor will be achieved, we always allow extras when we calculate quantities. There may be a few tiles left at the end, this is to be expected as there are so many components involved and so many variations of the exact layout that do not become evident until it is being tiled. It is wise to keep these as spares should they be ever required. We can take some items back – depending on what they are and as long as within 28 days of purchase. We will need the original receipt and the tiles to be in as new saleable condition of course, you will have to cover the cost of getting the tiles to us.

**These tiles work very well with under-floor / under-tile heating. If you have issues with damp please bear in mind using these tiles will not necessarily cure this. Any doubts always seek more advice.**

We hope your floor gives you many years of pleasure, please contact us for further information or advice should you require it.

## **Materials recommended:-**

Good quality tilers primer (prime floors prior to tiling) such as Tilemaster SBR Primer

Good quality flexible leveller such as Rapid Level 30 or Tilemasters External Leveller if to be used outside

Single part flexible – polymer modified tile adhesive such as Tilemasters Setaflex S1 flexible adhesive

Single part flexible Grey grout such as Kerakoll Fugabella 08 Grey Grout

LTP Colour Intensifier & Stain-block is a superb sealer for indoor or outdoor use sold in 500ml and 1Ltrs

**All timber floors should be made as rigid as possible then overlaid** using a cement fibre board glued down with adhesive and screwed – joints taped, levelled then tiled using single part flexible adhesive & grout.