

# ZEZE INSTALLATION GUIDE

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The Zeze tiles have a glaze that is influenced by the traditional Raku glazing technique from Japan. This unique glazing technique creates a phased transition between two contrasting colours, whereby the colours fuse into each other creating an eye-catching effect.

When viewed at 90 degrees, this glaze technique creates a subtle variation of intensity that brings the tiles to life. However, when viewed at a more acute angle (between 20-40 degrees) an effect can take place that can cause sheets to appear slightly different to each other.

In order to counteract this effect, we have created the following installation guide to help your tiler.

## SUITABILITY

Our Zeze mosaics can be used on all internal wall areas including wet zones, such as shower walls. The tiles are bonded to a mesh-backing that is designed to evenly space the individual mosaics. However, as a hand-produced product, it is worth checking that the individual mosaics are correctly aligned on the sheet as they are installed, in case any have slipped slightly during production.

As with all glazed tiles, we do not recommend these tiles are used for external mitres. The mosaics do have a coating of clear glaze on their sides, but the colour is not carried, so we would recommend using trims to cover any corners/ exposed edges.

The most important factor in achieving a good finish is to use a tiler with proven experience of installing mosaic tiles, as the wrong application method can significantly affect the overall appearance

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## PRE-INSTALLATION PROCESS

When you receive your order, please check that you have received all of your tiles and that they are in good condition. Report any breakages as soon as possible, so that replacements can be swapped before installation. Any installed product will be deemed as accepted condition.

## INSTALLATION PROCESS

Your tiler will need to correctly prepare the tiling substrate to ensure it is flat, level, solid and dust-free before they start installing the tiles. In wet areas, the substrate must be suitably water-proofed with tile backer board or a waterproof membrane in-line with recent legislation.

We recommend planning the layout of the sheets to avoid cuts of less than 15mm where possible. In most cases, the mesh backing can be cut to size with a knife/scissors. If the tiler has to cut the tiles, they should use a water-cooled flat-bed tile cutter, or (depending on skill set) a smooth profiled, unslotted and fine-cut handheld wet cutter. Any slight chipping from being cut can be smoothed with a suitable tile rubbing pad/stone/file.

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If you require any further assistance, or have any queries regarding the installation of Zeze tiles, please contact us at [enquiries@claybrookstudio.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@claybrookstudio.co.uk)



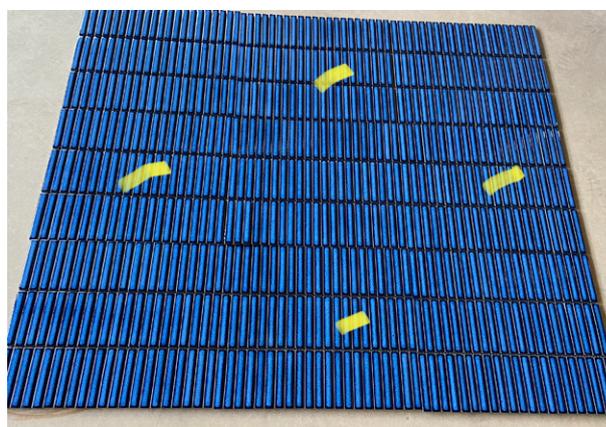
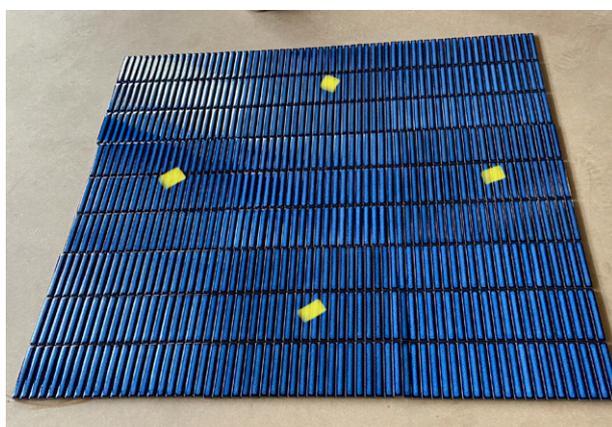
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If the tiles are to be viewed at an angle (i.e. between 0 degrees and 45 degrees to surface) then we recommend dry laying the sheets on the floor to confirm they are all in the same direction. The images below illustrates this directional effect.

In this image the yellow highlighted sheets have been purposely spun through 180 degrees as they were taken out of the box, As you can see the highlighted sheets appear darker -



To counter-act this effect the tiles just need to be spun 180 degrees (image shown above right) to ensure they are all aligned in the right direction -

### CUTTING

Where possible, try and arrange set-out to fall on whole individual mosaics especially on vertical cuts, so the tiler only needs to cut the mesh backing. If a vertical cut has to be carried out, then the cutter will need to cut wide of the required mark and then use a non-mechanical rubbing/sanding block to achieve the required cut/finish.

On horizontal cuts, please ensure the sheet is cut glaze face up, with a clean fine edge, unslotted and untextured diamond blade on a water-cooled flat-bed tile cutter. Any exit chipping can be reduced using a non-mechanical rubbing/sanding block. Do not leave the sheet on the wet-deck of the cutter, as the individual mosaics may separate from the mesh backing.

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## FIXING

The Zeze mosaics have been set on mesh with a grout joint of 3mm, so this needs to be the same between the sheets. We recommend the tiler uses Ardex Standard Set Flexible Tile Adhesive OR Ardex Microtec Adhesive to fix these sheets to the wall. This should be applied across the substrate using a 3mm notched trowel to ensure good contact, whilst avoiding too much adhesive coming through to the face of the tiles.

The sheets should be laid in an overlapping manner to help blend any subtle variation, adjusting any individual mosaics that may have moved out of alignment on the sheets during production. The surface should then be gently stamped with the flat face of a rubber grout float, to ensure they are square, flat and even.

Using cardboard from the box the sheets arrived in can help with alignment, though is not essential. Once any adhesive has been removed from the face and the adhesive allowed to set, the tiler can commence grouting.

## GROUTING

We recommend the Ardex FS format grout is used for the Zeze mosaic, as it is a fine grade suitable for grout joints 1-4mm. The grout should be applied across the surface with even pressure, using a rubber faced grout float at 45 degrees to ensure the grout has reached the back of the joint.

Due to the high sheen glaze, this tile does not require sealing before grouting, even if using a contrasting colour in Ardex FS, though it is worth highlighting that contrasting colour grout will show any variance in the grout joint width, so be mindful of this when choosing the colour scheme.

If not using the recommended adhesive and grout above, then please test your chosen products on the tile prior to installation to check compatibility.

## FINISHING

Once the excess grout has been cleaned-down and the joints have been smoothed with a tiling sponge, the grout can be left to completely dry. Any remaining fine residue can normally be buffed away with lint-free cloth such as micro-fibre. If a heavy residue has been left on the surface, then this can be removed with a scrubbing pad and EcoProTec Cement, Grout & Salt Residue remover. Be careful to use the correct dilution, so that the surface of the grout is not affected.

## ONGOING MAINTENANCE

For everyday domestic installations, use EcoProTec Stone & Porcelain Aftercare Cleaner or a pH neutral cleaner for everyday cleaning.

For commercial settings, or areas that will require constant cleaning, the use of Fila FugaProof to seal the grout and Fila Fuganet to clean the tiles will keep both the mosaic and grout in their best condition.

