

Vitrified Tile laying checklist

Checklist to help you cover essential cores for tiling flooring in any room.

Vitrified tile is a tile produced using vitrification. Vitrified tiles are used as an alternative to marble and granite flooring. Vitrified tiles in India come from Morbi, Ahmendnagar, Rajasthan and few places. You have Vitrified tiles imported from different countries like China, Korea, Italy, etc.

Basic Principles to installing vitrified Floor Tiles

BEFORE INSTALLATION

Installing new floor is a part of construction project. Also sometime, installation materials can produce strong odors not good for health. If renovating and staying in same house, plan your flooring work to minimalize any disruption.

Underneath Surface

Today Vitrified tiles are preferable used as flooring. But to install flooring the below surface on which tiles are going to be laid must be appropriately prepared. It must be levelled, sound, clean, dry and free from grease or any other material.



Things to consider before you lay tiles

- Brick masonry and plaster work of all the room are complete.
- Very Important – make sure all the waterproofing work is complete.
- Make Sure the underneath layer must be levelled, sound, clean, dry and free from grease or any other material.
- Make sure all the all the loose and hard cement or plaster is cleaned.
- Check that the plaster is cut 9 inches above the slab level for skirting.
- Make sure all the Electric Wiring, points, etc. are laid before plastering work is complete.
- Preferably complete painting and plastering work before laying the floor tiles.
- Level the flooring underneath surface. Also make sure for apt slopes towards the drain point in rooms like kitchen, bathroom and toilet.
- Make sure there is sufficient space below the door and flooring for it to swing gently.

Things to consider while buying Tiles

- Even before you go to shop for tiles, make sure which rooms require which finish tiles.

- Calculate the quantity of tiles required for each room and total.
- Always purchase 10%-15% additional tiles than actually required. There could be cuts and breakage during transportation or in future. So to avoid and tile or shade variation we suggest you to buy extra boxes.
- Before you take away tiles, Open a few boxes while before buying to see for no shade variation in tiles and also that the tiles are not bent that usually happens during manufacturing process.
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Things to consider while laying of tiles

- Make sure electricity and water are easily available in work area.
- Have correct tiles arrived on site.
- Make sure tiles are kept on water for atleast 2 hours before installation every time.
- Incase of tile installation with cement mortar bend, a coat of neat cement slurry shall be applied at 2 kg of cement spread over an area of 1 sq.mt to ensure good bond.
- If chemicals or adhesive is used for tile installation, follow manufacturer's instructions.
- Ensure the floor wetting process before installation of tiles.
- If room dimension is not Proper Square of regular dimension, get cut pieces of tiles installed in areas where furniture is planned over it to hide the asymmetries.
- Tile Joint patterns of tiles executed as per drawing.



Bear in mind that you cannot use the floor of that particular room while flooring work is going on. It usually takes 2-3 days to install a new floor, depending on subfloor conditions. To allow time for the floor to cure, you won't be able to walk on it for 24 hours after installation.

Things to consider If Staying in Same House

- Cover the necessary areas and vents to avoid dust and particles to settle.
- Store materials at easily accessible areas.
- Cover furniture's, walls (if any design detail), and floor alongside the working path, and area near to the installation. If possible move furniture out of the room that will receive new floor.
- Empty your cabinets and furniture, etc.
- Move breakable items like lamps, wall-hangings, etc. from area of work.
- Make sure all electronic equipment's are disconnected.

Things to look for post-Tile-Installation

- Ensure proper grouting done. But special precautions must be taken as these are the main areas and reasons for leakage.
- Check for true line and level.
- Check the slope by dropping some water on floor. The water shall flow in direction of slope i.e. towards the drain point.

Tips to buying Tiles

1. **TILE FINISH** - Vitrified tiles are available in different finish like glossy and matt finish. The tile finish varies with type of room. Therefore it's very essential to know for which room you buying tiles. Like Matt finish floor act have rough finish. They act like anti-skid tiles and so are best for bathroom and kitchen. While Glossy finish floor tiles are preferred in other rooms like living room, bedroom, guest room, etc. These are smooth finish tile that get slippery when wet.
2. **TILE COLOR / SHADE** - Light color tiles be it flooring or wall will make your room bigger and brighter. Nonetheless be adventurous by using colored tiles in specific areas to create unique effect/focal point.
3. **TILE SIZE**– Choose the right size tiles for your flooring. To huge tiles can make you room look smaller, while too small can make it look shabbier due to several tile joints. You could decide on size with guidance of the dealer or sales person who are knowledgeable enough.
4. **ADD DRAMA TO YOUR WALLS** - You can add design to you walls especially in kitchen and bathrooms by having border tiles or design tiles. In this modern world, there are tiles available in various designs and style to bets suit different rooms of your house.

Do not get cheated - Here is Essential feature to look before you buy tiles.

But it's always good to check a tile (be it branded or non-branded) while finally buying with a shopkeeper. Like especially for glazed tiles, it must be vacuumed first to get rid of dirt and then mopped with warm water. Similarly, one shall check for any cracks or shade difference or any broken tiles while buying.

Top brands - Vitrified Floor Tiles

In Mumbai tile market, one can choose from branded tiles like Johnson, Kajaria, Nitco, RAK, and many more.

Cost of Tiles

The Cost of tile varies from Rs.50 to Rs.200 and above. The cost of tile varies with size. You have tile available in different size like Tile size upto32" and tiles bigger than 32".

The cost of tile varies with design, style and brand too.



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