

ZELLIGE MATERIAL GUIDELINES

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Handmade, glazed terracotta tiles.

COMPOSITION/PRODUCTION

Product components: clay, glazes, pigments

Our zellige tiles are handmade in Marrakech, Morocco respecting ancient craft techniques that date back centuries. That said, we have introduced production process and materials improvements to ensure a quality product that is safely produced. Our zellige tiles are made of clay extracted from the north of Morocco, which is then filtered to reduce impurities, namely mineral deposits. The clay is then mixed with water, molded into blocks, dried in the sun and kiln fired. These first-fired, unglazed tiles are called biscuit, which is then glazed and kiln fired a second time. Finally, a skilled artisan hand chisels the glazed tiles into the desired shapes.

popham design's range of zellige glazes are free of lead and other heavy metals.

PRODUCTION TOLERANCES

Zellige tiles are handmade and hand chiseled, a celebration of ancient techniques that endures today. Variations in size, thickness and flatness, as well as glaze intensity and saturation are to be expected with this handmade product. Chipped edges, surface irregularities, including pitting, cracking, planarity and iron spots, are inherent to the beauty of this artisanal tile. If that's not what you are looking for, then zellige is not for you.

Please consult the photos on our website and explanations about variation to understand our production tolerances.

Expect variations in thickness, flatness and size of +/- 6mm (.25")

RECOMMENDED USES

The following locations are suited to zellige:

<u>Interior:</u> residential and light-traffic commercial floors and walls, shower walls and floors*, backsplashes, fireplace surrounds, bathroom countertops

<u>Exterior:</u> ** walls and floors (bejmat format recommended), pools and fountains (glazed tiles only). Pool chemicals may etch the glaze.

- * The surface irregularities of zellige protect against slip on shower floors; larger grout joints are also recommended and smaller sized tiles (i.e., 2"x 2" square also improve slip resistance as they have more grout lines.
- **For exterior applications, zellige is only recommended in non freeze-thaw environments.

INSTALLATION

A good installation relies on a professional installer with experience installing handmade artisanal tiles. Please see our Installation Guidelines for more information.

RECOMMENDED INSTALLATION PRODUCTS

Grout: Maipei Flexcolor CQ grout; we recommend a grout joint of 1-2mm (1/16") For pools and fountains, we recommend Maipei Ultracolor Plus FA.

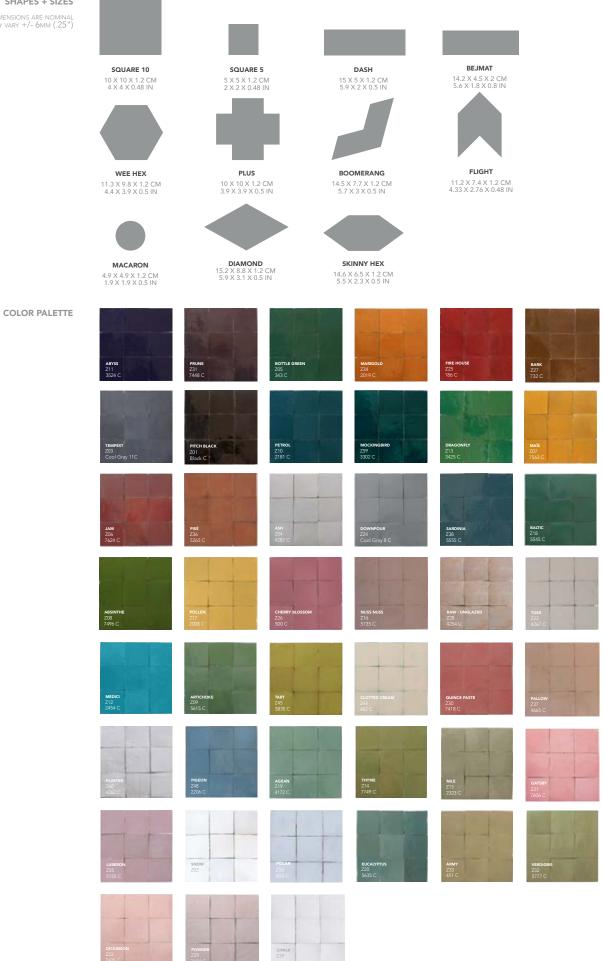
Contrast grout, which can be lovely, should be undertaken carefully. Contrast grout can fill the pits and cracks inherent to the zellige tile, marring the look of the install. When used, we advise order additional tiles to pick the ones with the fewest pits and cracks.

CARE + MAINTENANCE

After installation, zellige tiles should be cleaned with a damp cloth and gentle, pH neutral cleaner formulated for stone, tile and grout maintenance. Zellige tiles are not acid resistant. Avoid chemical cleaners and harsh brushes, which risk damaging the tiles.

Updated 5/10/2023 pophamdesign.com

* please note all dimensions are nominal and sizes may vary +/- $6 \text{mm} \ (.25\text{"})$



LEAD TIMES

For our stocked zellige program, lead times are 1-2 weeks. For custom orders, lead times vary depending on our container schedules to Europe and the United States. Expect 6-8 weeks for Europe and 8-10 weeks for the US.