

LEATHER TILES with GRES BACKING

Laying on cement soil

01

LAYING TOOLS AND PRODUCTS

The tiles must be laid down on a mechanical resistant surface, perfectly straight and flat, with no trace of micro humidity. In a renovation situation, after having pull-off the existing floor, there is no need to remove the concrete soil, if it is still in good conditions and suitable for a new installation. In case it will not be absolutely flat, a self-levelling mortar must be used.

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INSTALLATION

The tiles must be installed by using a flexible cement glue, smoothly spread. A 8-10 mm teeth spatula has to be used.

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LAYDOWN INSTRUCTIONS

Laydown carefully each single tile, putting down first a whole edge. Avoid to dirty the leather surface.

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KNOCKING

Don't use rubber head hammer for knocking the tiles. A gentle uniform pressure on the leather surface is enough.

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SHADE

Pick-up the tiles from different boxes; mix them up before fixing. In this way, the colour shadow variation of the leather will be highlighted

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CUT

Cut the tile in two times:
a) first, cut the porcelain body, smachine;
b) then turn the tile and cut the leather by using a professional cutter large blade. change often the blade, in order to get a perfect cut.

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SURFACE SETTING

Tiles must be installed one next to the other, beginning always from a whole side and then laying the tile. In this way risk of the cement glue resurfacing will be avoided.

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JOINTS

No joint is required. Tiles must be installed edge TO edge.

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SURFACE FINISHING & MAINTENANCE

Don't step on the leather surface until the cement glue will be perfectly dry. Then, clean the leather surface with cleaner, following the users instructions written on the packaging. Let the leather floor dry well after the cleaning. Once the leather floor is dry, gently brush Maintenance Moisture on it. Let it dry: hydrated, nurrished, natural elegant soft look of ther leather floor will be the result.

Laying of floors and walls

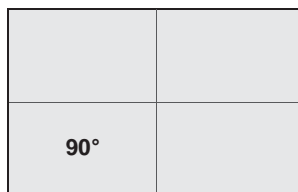
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Remove the tiles from the box at least

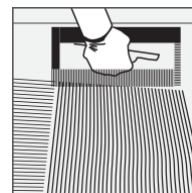
24 hours before starting installation and lay them out neatly on a flat surface in the room where they will be installed. It is important to install the tiles with room temperature at least 15°C, following the instructions carefully.

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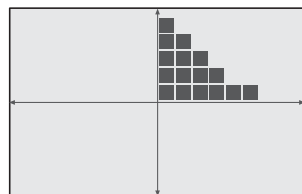
Divide the room into four sections, marking out two perpendicular lines that meet at the centre of the floor or wall.

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Spread the adhesive out evenly in quantities of about 250g/m², using a fine toothed spatula (1mm). proceed in this way in meter square sections. respect the gumming time indicated in the specifications of the adhesive used. Insufficient gumming time may cause bubbles to form. excessive gumming time may reduce the adhesive's sticking capacity.

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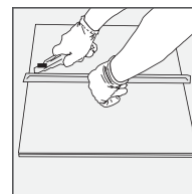
Lay the tiles neatly next to one another, starting from the centre point of the perpendicular lines, ensuring that adhesive does not come out, thus preventing adhesive getting onto the leather. do not create joints between tiles. The tiles must be laid butt-jointed alternately at 90° angles.

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Apply manual pressure, using a rubber beater block to assist adhesion and level the joints.

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To cut tiles, use an aluminium rule twice the length of the tile that requires cutting. Lean on the ruler and cut through the surface using a sharp cutter.

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do not walk on the tiles for 48 hours after installation.

Suitable Adhesives

- **two-part epoxy resin, polyurethane adhesive**
suitable for tile installation in rooms with heavy footfall traffic and/or humidity. spread using a fine toothed spatula.
- **emulsion or aqueous dispersion adhesive**
sticking power is influenced by the evaporation of water. spread normally using a fine toothed spatula.

We can supply suitable adhesive for installation of leather floor or wall coverings with pVc backing upon request.

Using Primer

Primer promotes adhesion by improving sticking properties on different surfaces, considerably reducing the risk of pieces becoming unstuck over time. There is no need to apply primer to the pVc backing on the leather tiles, whereas it is advisable to apply primer to all substrates upon which the tiles are to be installed.

Suggestions for preparing the substrates

The following advice is not a substitute for the ability and quality of workmanship provided by a professional firm, which takes responsibility for doing the job by accepting the task of laying the tiles. These instructions are intended as suggestions on how to best lay pVc-backed tiles on different substrates.

NEW CEMENT SOIL

The cement soil must be mechanically resistant, perfectly level and dry. There must be no capillary humidity. 1 cm thick screed requires on average a week to dry properly. The cement soil must have a humidity level no greater than 3% by weight. If humidity exceeds 3%, it is advisable to increase the drying time by 50%.

A layer of leveller must be applied on all surfaces to create a perfectly level finish. clean the surfaces thoroughly with a brush and use a vacuum cleaner to clear away any remaining dust.

If there are expansion joints, the flooring must stop at the edge of the two sides of the joint. The space that is created will later be filled using strips of material, without however fixing them on both sides.

BASE SURFACES WITH UNDERFLOOR HEATING

For heated base surfaces, the drying time of the screed must be respected. The underfloor heating system must therefore be switched on and left to run normally for four weeks, then switched off 24 hours before laying the tiles. Floor temperature must be < 28°C.

existing base surfaces

Carpet: we recommend that carpet is removed.

parquet flooring: we recommend that parquet flooring is removed if it is not ventilated. If parquet flooring is in poor condition, we recommend covering the surface with fibre panels, secured in position every 10 cm. Any holes must be filled with special mastic. Dust and/or grease must be carefully removed.

Foam-backed vinyl flooring: we recommend that the surface layer is taken up and neoprene sheeting is laid, allowed to dry, then sanded to a smooth finish before the adhesive is spread.

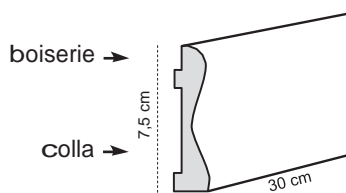
Laying boiserie panels

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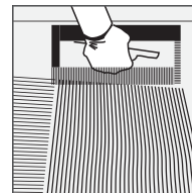
Remove the elements from the box at least 24 hours before starting installation and lay them out neatly on a flat surface in the room where they will be installed to allow the elements to adapt to the temperature and humidity level of the room.

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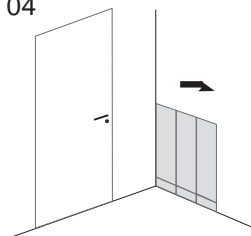
Check the level of the floor against the walls to be tiled. An average level difference of $\leq 7\text{mm}$ is preferable. If the level difference is within this range, begin by glueing the skirting board in position, with its bas-relief section. This section helps keep pieces level and square during installation.

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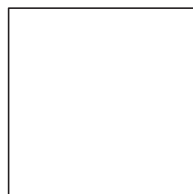
Spread adhesive (Ms polymer-based Isobond 5) evenly on the surface to be tiled (brick, wooden or plasterboard wall, etc) using a fine toothed spatula (1 mm). spread the adhesive using circular movements.

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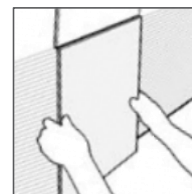
The ideal starting point for installation of the tiles is a corner, ideally square. stick the product to the wall without creating joints: boiserie and mosaic tiles must be laid butt-jointed .

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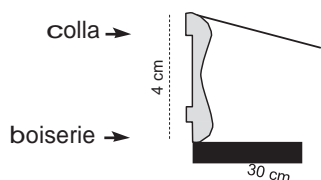
using a rubber beater block, tap the tile surface gently, especially on corners and joints, to assist adhesion and level the joints.

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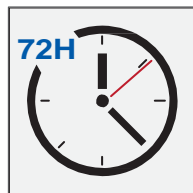
Install the elements, ensuring that adhesive does not come out, thus preventing adhesive getting onto the leather. If adhesive comes out, clean it off immediately using a clean, dry cloth. Alternatively, wait until the adhesive is completely dry (3 days) and remove with your fingers, ensuring mechanical detachment.

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Once the wall is finished, apply the toreello tiles along the top edge of the boiserie. The toreello tiles also have a bas-relief section to help align the tiles perfectly, especially if there are asymmetric areas.

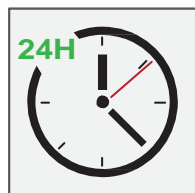
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The adhesive is dry to the touch in 3 hours, although the complete chemical reaction requires 3 days.

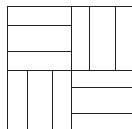
Laying mosaic tiles

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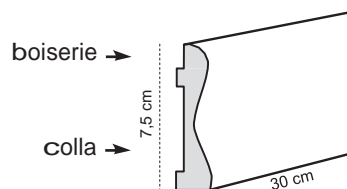


Remove the elements from the box at least 24 hours before starting installation and lay them out neatly on a flat surface in the room where they will be installed, to allow the elements to adapt to the temperature and humidity level of the room.

check the back of each single piece and follow instructions on them if any are present. If there are no markings, tiles can be installed in any configuration. For mosaic strips, we recommend installing the elements, positioning the strips at 90° angles as shown in the following diagram:

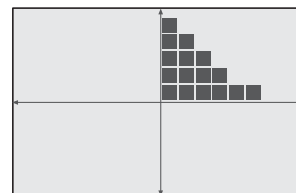


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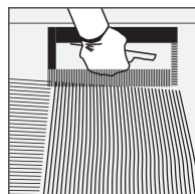
Check the level of the floor compared to the walls that are to be tiled. An average level difference of $\leq 7\text{mm}$ is preferable. If the level difference is within this range, begin by glueing the Leathers skirting board in position, with its bas-relief section. This section keeps pieces level and square during installation.

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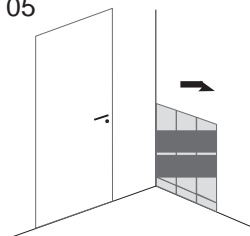
If your order does not include skirting board and torello tiles, the quality of the finished tiling installation will depend on the skill of the tiling expert. In this case, we recommend dividing the room into four sections, marking out two perpendicular lines that meet at the centre of the wall and to lay the mosaic tiles neatly next to one another, starting from the centre.

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Spread adhesive (Ms polymer-based Isobond 5) evenly on the surface to be tiled (brick, wooden or plasterboard wall, etc) using a fine toothed spatula (1mm). spread the glue using circular movements.

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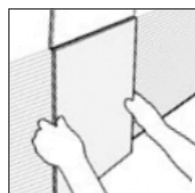
The ideal starting point for installation of the tiles is a corner, ideally square, chosen at the tiling expert's discretion. stick the product to the wall without creating joints: boiserie and mosaic tiles must be laid edge to edge.

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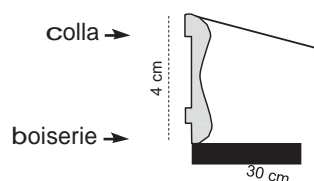
Using a rubber beater block, tap the tile surface gently, especially on corners and joints, to assist adhesion and level the joints.

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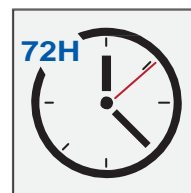
Install the elements, ensuring that adhesive does not come out, thus preventing adhesive getting onto the leather. If adhesive comes out, clean it off immediately using a clean, dry cloth. Alternatively, wait until the adhesive is completely dry (3 days) and remove with your fingers, ensuring mechanical detachment. (as with silicone).

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Once the wall is finished, apply the torello tiles along the top edge of the mosaic tiles. Torello tiles also have a bas-relief section bed to help align the tiles perfectly, especially if there are asymmetric areas.

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The adhesive is dry to the touch in 3 hours, although the complete chemical reaction requires 3 days.

Suitable adhesives

Ms polymer-based Isobond 5

Adhesive suitable for installation of leather tiles backed with pVc, wood and HpL plastic laminates. Apply using a superfine toothed spatula.

Using Primer

Primer promotes adhesion by improving sticking properties on different surfaces, considerably reducing the risk of pieces becoming unstuck over time.

There is no need to apply primer to the HpL plastic laminate backing on the leather tiles, whereas it is advisable to apply primer to all substrates upon which the tiles are to be installed.

Suggestions for cutting HPL laminate and leather

Cutting with handheld electric saw

circular or other saws can be used with good results. use a guide rule to make straight cuts. position the laminate leather side down, laid on a clean surface and protected by felt cloth.

Cutting with a benchtop circular saw

The following are indispensable for good results:

- a) A precise guide
- b) The tile, positioned with the leather side up, must be subjected to heavy pressure, using a vice screw or, more ideally, an adjustable height benchtop vice, at the point where the blade cuts into the leather
- c) correct blade overhang

The high-speed steel (Hss) circular saw blades must not be subjected to vibrations.

- Tooth height less than 10mm
- cutting speed 20-50 m/s according to tooth size
- saw advance speed maximum 30 m/min.

Segmented circular saw blades have a noticeably longer service life. They must nevertheless be handled carefully as they are sensitive to shocks and contact with metal surfaces.

- 10-15 mm spacing between teeth
- cutting speed 70-100 m/s according to tooth size
- saw advance speed maximum 15- 30 m/min.

We do not recommend using blades thinner than 2mm since in most cases these are not rigid enough, vibrating and cutting with jagged edges.

Cutting with a cutter blade

Position the laminate with the leather side facing down, resting on a clean surface protected by felt cloth. clamp a guide rule in place where the tile will be cut. score the surface with the cutter blade down to the leather. Turn the panel over and cut the leather, entering the same cut made on the HpL side.

If the cutting edge is not smooth, sand down with a fine abrasive pad, angling the pad so as to avoid scuffing the leather surface.

Drilling holes in HPL laminate and leather

Drill bits for plastics are the most suitable bits for drilling holes in laminates. These are spiral bits with a point angle between 60° and 80° (as opposed to 120° in metal drill bits) and which have a high spiral angle (rapid tilt) with a wide space for shavings (wide groove). We recommend a relief angle of 7° and an angle of attack of 8°.

drilled holes up to 15mm in diameter can be drilled with a spiral bit. Drill bits that can be expanded with one or two cutting blades with a reference pin must be used for holes 15-40mm in diameter. Holes over 40mm in diameter require adjustable circular cutting blades with a reference pin. In the latter case, the hole must be drilled from both sides of the tile where possible.

Bit penetration speed must never be forced to the point of causing the leather and laminate heat up, thus damaging them.

Using a solid wood base helps preventing the material from splintering as the bit exits. Better results can be achieved if drilling a series of shapes by fitting clamps on both sides, in order to block the part that needs drilling together tightly.