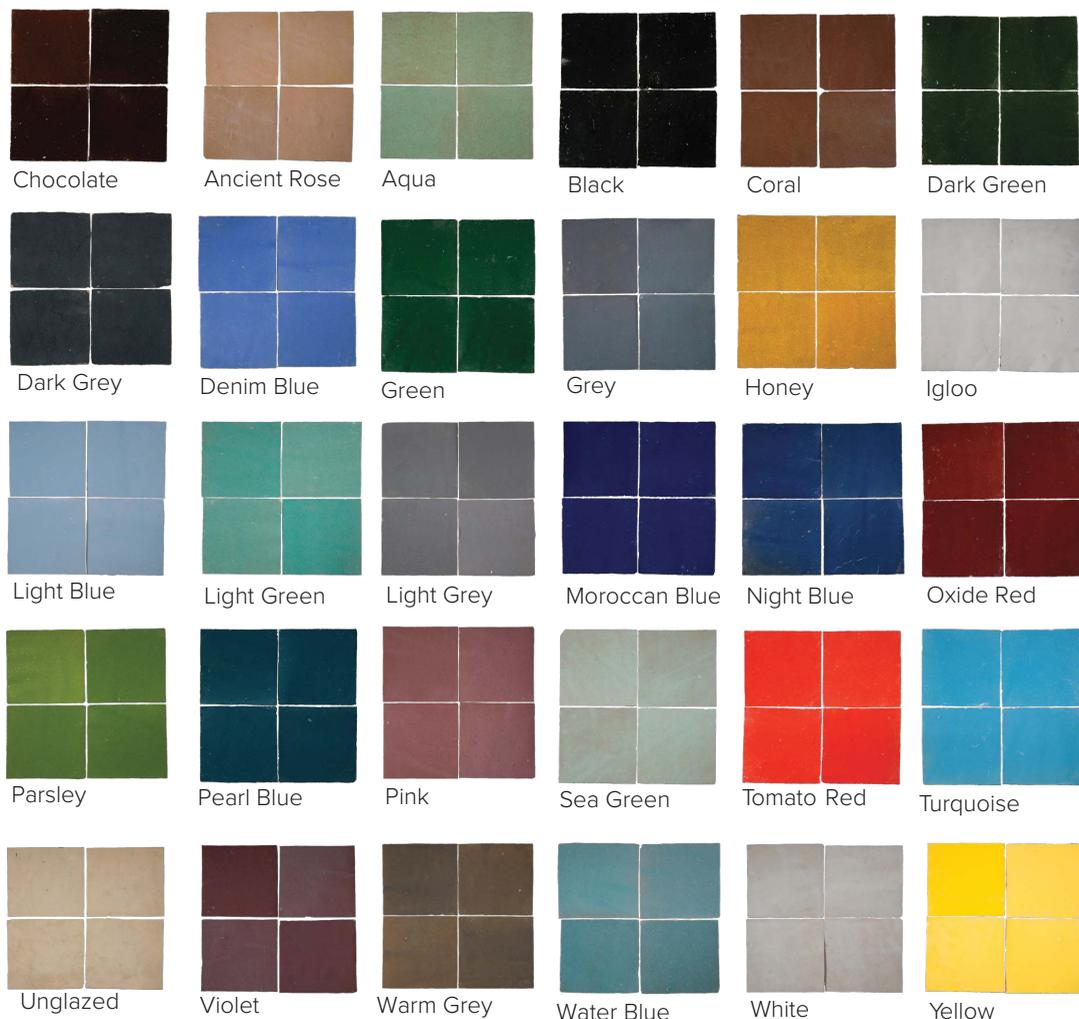


ZELLIGE

Zellige tiles are produced in the foothills outside of Fes, Morocco. The tradition dates back over 500-years with skilled craftsmen still making them in the original manner: hand-formed, hand-cut, beehive kilns and traditional finishing. Since each piece is unique to the artisan who chipped away at it, there are no two alike and your installation will reveal the workmanship details inherent in this natural product.

These tiles are suitable for commercial and residential applications, and they can be used outside in areas not subject to freeze-thaw cycles. They are appropriate for swimming pools and fountains as well. All colors are offered in the traditional sizes of 4x4, 2x6 Bejmat and 4" hexagons. Single color mosaic patterns are easily produced as well. All of our traditional geometric, multi-colored patterns are made-to-order and have extended lead times.



LOS ANGELES

Usage:

All indoor Commercial and residential projects. Commercial floors with moderate or above traffic use should only use the thicker Bejmat material. Light duty floors can be installed commercially with the mosaics as they have an epoxy backing that increases the breaking strength. The DCOF rating on this material will vary due to size of the material (more appropriately, the more edges and grout the more resistant).

Freeze-Thaw conditions: We do not recommend zellige to be used outdoors in regions where routine freeze-thaw conditions apply. This product is absorptive and subject to spalling within the body and glaze after routine cycles of freezing and thawing.

Pools + fountains: Zellige has been used in pools, fountains, and baths for centuries. It is perfectly suitable for these applications. Again, no freeze thaw conditions. We do recommend Dry Treats 40SK sealer as a consolidator in these environments. We do not recommend zellige in hot saunas. Technical Installation Advice:

Technical Installation Advice:

When in doubt, referring to the Tile Council of North America Handbook in any situation is the best advice an installer can receive. However, here are some time-honored tips for working with the material.

1. Know your material: do not just pull this out of the box and expect to go. We will promise you that you will find tiles of different surface dimensions and thicknesses; you will also find edges that are not square; tiles with facial blemishes – even small lime pops at times, and finally, again, no two tiles are alike. You should understand the totality of the material prior to installing anything.
2. Trim: There is no trim. Traditional artisans use mitre returns or complete the space.
3. Zellige tile must be soaked for a minimum of 5-minutes prior to installation. Because of the absorbency of the material, you do not want it to hydraulically pull too much moisture from the mortar prior to the mortar bed beginning to cure.
4. Forget about spacers. as you will fight this more than you must. Traditionally, zellige was set fresh and installed and grouted all in one application. It is also intended to be set very tightly jointed. If you need something to keep a line straight because of the sizing. We recommend a round toothpick. Simple, cheap, and effective for keeping a line straight enough. If you feel more comfortable with spacer use a thin edge spacer.
5. Lippage: You will have some, so do not worry about it. The easiest way to avoid excess lippage is in the inspection process. If you find pieces or groups of pieces that are thicker, isolate them and use them for cuts, their own row, or any area where the thickness is taken out of play.
6. Pre-grout sealing: zellige tiles can have crazing in the glaze. It is normal and expected. Pre-sealing the tile prior to grouting will reduce the clean-up effort and keep the craze joints from becoming stained.
7. Grouting: traditionally, zellige is grouted with a white or off-white grout. Remember, until recently – the second half of the last century, pre-made grout did not exist. It was set with neat cement and grouted all at once. Colored grout is non-existent in traditional zellige.
8. Maintenance: Aqua Mix's Sealer's Choice Gold is a terrific sealer for the finished product. For routine cleaning we subscribe to the theory of PH balance cleaners. Our thought is if you would not wash your hands or face with it, it does not belong on your material. A capful of Dawn Liquid Soap in a bucket of warm water will not only clean the material, but it will also remove body oils, soap and lotions from the surface.

Concluding thoughts: if you have made the decision to install zellige tile on your project, embrace it for what it is: a natural, handmade, authentic material, and the only perfection it seeks is in its totality. Enjoy it. Professionally installed, it can be still there in a century.