

Installation instructions for glass mosaics and borders

Glass mosaics and glass borders are as easy to lay as ceramic tiles and natural stone.

Please note the following installation instructions:

Preparing the base

The quality of the base is decisive if the glass mosaics and borders are to be laid correctly. The base must be levelled out to ensure that it is flush or vertical so that the mosaic has an even surface and jointing can be completed properly.

To prevent any disturbing shadow being created by the base, the installation area should be scraped with a spatula or painted with an undercoat to ensure it is white.

Installation

The ideal temperature when laying a mosaic is 20 °C. It is laid using a white, flexible, plasticised adhesive for non-absorbent materials.

The white adhesive is spread using a suitable toothed trowel (3 mm to 4 mm) and smoothed immediately afterwards. This permits the mosaic to be laid without any air bubbles. The mosaic piece is then laid in the adhesive bed and tapped into place with the grout float (hard rubber float).

When the next mosaic pieces are laid, it must be ensured that the gap between the pieces matches the joint width of the particular mosaic piece. When the mosaic sheets which are to be laid are arranged, it must be borne in mind that for production reasons it is impossible to avoid minor inaccuracies in the joint and these belong to the desired characteristics of small mosaics (natural appearance). It may be necessary to remove the adhesive which has been pressed into the grout chamber to create a joint of uniform colour.

We recommend that adhesive mortars based on reaction resin should be used to glue and joint areas which are exposed to a high level of moisture.

You can obtain information on suitable adhesives from, for example:
PCI, ARDEX, MAPEI, WEBER & BROUTIN

Jointing

After the cementitious mortar has hardened and any residue of the adhesive has been removed from the grout chambers, a rubber slide is used for jointing. Excess material is removed from the surface using a sponge board or a hand sponge.

To prevent disturbing light refraction it must be ensured that the joints are completely filled.

In the case of a classical glass mosaic (GL-K) with an embossed surface, we recommend that you clean the mosaic after approx. 20 minutes. The surface should only be washed with a moist cloth diagonally to the joint. A fleece cloth can be used for final cleaning.

When selecting the colour of the grout it must be borne in mind that light materials emphasise the contrast and the brilliance of the mosaics.

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Cutting

- Use a glass cutter with diamond wheels.
- Apply a little oil or turpentine to the diamond wheels.
- Make the cut on the front of the glass.
- Separate the two pieces you have cut by gently tapping the front of the glass.

Drilling before installation

Use a drill with a diamond crown which is suitable for glass.
Begin drilling on the rear and then complete the drilling from the front.

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Cleaning

Use a standard glass cleaner and a clean, soft cloth.
Please do not use any alkaline cleaning agents, cleaning agents with abrasive components (scouring milk, etc.) or a high-pressure cleaner.