

**SECTION 09 30 13**  
**CERAMIC/PORCELAIN TILING**

**PART 1 - GENERAL**

**1.1 DESCRIPTION**

This section specifies ceramic, porcelain and quarry tile, waterproofing membranes for thin-set applications, crack isolation membranes, and tile backer board.

**1.2 RELATED WORK**

- A. Sealing of joints where specified: Section 07 92 00, JOINT SEALANTS.
- B. Color, texture and pattern of field tile and trim shapes, size of field tile, trim shapes, and color of grout specified: Refer to Drawings.
- C. Metal and resilient edge strips at joints with new resilient flooring, and carpeting: Section 09 65 19, RESILIENT TILE FLOORING.

**1.3 SUBMITTALS**

- A. Submit in accordance with Section 01 33 23, SHOP DRAWINGS, PRODUCT DATA, AND SAMPLES.
- B. Samples:
  - 1. Base tile, each type, each color, each size.
  - 2. Porcelain tile, each type, color, patterns and size.
  - 3. Wall (or wainscot) tile, each color, size and pattern.
  - 4. Trim shapes, bullnose cap and cove including bullnose cap and base pieces at internal and external corners of vertical surfaces, each type, color, and size.
- C. Product Data:
  - 1. Ceramic and porcelain tile, marked to show each type, size, and shape required.
  - 2. Cementitious backer unit.
  - 3. Elastomeric membrane and bond coat.
  - 4. Reinforcing tape.
  - 5. Leveling compound.
  - 6. Latex-Portland cement mortar and grout.
  - 7. Organic adhesive.
  - 8. Waterproofing isolation membrane.
  - 9. Fasteners.

D. Certification:

1. Master grade, ANSI A137.1.
2. Manufacturer's certificates indicating that the following materials comply with specification requirements:
  - a. Cementitious backer unit.
  - b. Elastomeric membrane and bond coat.
  - c. Reinforcing tape.
  - d. Latex-Portland cement mortar and grout.
  - e. Leveling compound.
  - f. Organic adhesive.
  - g. Waterproof isolation membrane.

**1.4 DELIVERY AND STORAGE**

- A. Deliver materials in containers with labels legible and intact and grade-seals unbroken.
- B. Store material to prevent damage or contamination.

**1.5 APPLICABLE PUBLICATIONS**

- A. Publications listed below form a part of this specification to the extent referenced. Publications are referenced in text by basic designation only.
- B. American National Standards Institute (ANSI):
  - A108.1A-11.....Installation of Ceramic Tile in the Wet-Set Method with Portland Cement Mortar
  - A108.1B-11.....Installation of Ceramic Tile on a Cured Portland Cement Mortar Setting Bed with dry-Set or latex-Portland Cement Mortar
  - A108.1C-11.....Contractors Option; Installation of Ceramic Tile in the Wet-Set method with Portland Cement Mortar or Installation of Ceramic Tile on a Cured Portland Cement Mortar Setting Bed with Dry-Set or Latex-Portland Cement Mortar
  - A137.1-12.....Ceramic Tile
- C. American Society For Testing And Materials (ASTM):
  - A185-07.....Steel Welded Wire Fabric, Plain, for Concrete Reinforcing
  - C109/C109M-11.....Standard Test Method for Compressive Strength of Hydraulic Cement Mortars (Using 2 inch Cube Specimens)

- C241-09.....Abrasion Resistance of Stone Subjected to Foot Traffic
- C348-08.....Standard Test Method for Flexural Strength of Hydraulic-Cement Mortars
- C627-10.....Evaluating Ceramic Floor Tile Installation Systems Using the Robinson-Type Floor Tester
- C954-11.....Steel Drill Screws for the Application of Gypsum Board on Metal Plaster Base to Steel Studs from 0.033 in to 0.112 in in thickness
- C979-10.....Pigments for Integrally Colored Concrete
- C1002-07.....Steel Self-Piercing Tapping Screws for the Application of Panel Products
- C1027-09.....Determining "Visible Abrasion Resistance on Glazed Ceramic Tile"
- C1127-09.....Standard Guide for Use of High Solids Content, Cold Liquid-Applied Elastomeric Waterproofing Membrane with an Integral Wearing Surface
- C1178/C1178M-11.....Standard Specification for Coated Glass Mat Water-Resistant Gypsum Backing Panel
- C1325-08.....Non-Asbestos Fiber-Mat Reinforced Cementitious Backer Units
- D4397-10.....Standard Specification for Polyethylene Sheeting for Construction, Industrial and Agricultural Applications
- D5109-99(R2004).....Standard Test Methods for Copper-Clad Thermosetting Laminates for Printed Wiring Boards

D. Marble Institute of America (MIA): Design Manual III-2007

E. Tile Council of America, Inc. (TCA):  
2007.....Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation

## **PART 2 - PRODUCTS**

### **2.1 TILE**

- A. Comply with ANSI A137.1, Standard Grade, except as modified:
1. Inspection procedures listed under the Appendix of ANSI A137.1.
  2. Abrasion Resistance Classification:
    - a. Tested in accordance with values listed in Table 1, ASTM C 1027.
    - b. Class V, 12000 revolutions for floors in Corridors, Kitchens, Storage including Refrigerated Rooms

- c. Class IV, 6000 revolutions for remaining areas.
- 3. Slip Resistant Tile for Floors:
  - a. Coefficient of friction, when tested in accordance with ANSI A137.1, required for level of performance:
    - 1) Equal to or greater than 0.42 for interior tile floors when wet.
  - b. Tile Having Abrasive Grains:
    - 1. Unglazed Ceramic Mosaic Tile: Abrasive grains throughout body of the tile.
  - c. Porcelain Paver Tile: Matte surface finish with raised ridges spaced uniformly over tile surface.
- 4. Mosaic tile may be mounted or joined together by a resinous bonding material along tile edges.
- 5. Do not use back mounted tiles in showers unless certified by manufacturer as noted in paragraph 1.3.D.
- 6. Factory-Applied Temporary Protective Coating:
  - a. Protect exposed face surfaces (top surface) of tile against adherence of mortar and grout by pre-coating with a continuous film of petroleum paraffin wax, applied hot.
  - b. Do not coat unexposed tile surfaces.
  - c. Pre-wax tiles set or grouted with latex modified mortars.
- B. Glazed Wall Tile: Cushion edges, glazing, as specified in Section 09 06 00, SCHEDULE FOR FINISHES.
- C. Porcelain Paver Tile: Nominal 5/16 inch thick, with cushion edges. Porcelain tile produced by the dust pressed method shall be made of approximately 50% feldspar; the remaining 50% shall be made up of various high-quality light firing ball clays yielding a tile with a water absorption rate of 0.5% or less and a breaking strength of between 390 to 400 pounds.
- D. Trim Shapes:
  - 1. Conform to applicable requirements of adjoining floor and wall tile.
  - 2. Use slip resistant trim shapes for horizontal surfaces of showers overflow ledges, recessed steps, shower curbs, drying area curbs, and seats.
  - 3. Use trim shapes sizes conforming to size of adjoining field wall tile unless detailed or specified otherwise in Section 09 06 00, SCHEDULE FOR FINISHES.

4. Internal and External Corners:

- a. Square internal and external corner joints are not acceptable.
- b. External corners including edges: Use bullnose shapes.
- c. Internal corners: Use cove shapes.
- d. Base to floor internal corners: Use special shapes providing integral cove vertical and horizontal joint.
- e. Base to floor external corners: Use special shapes providing bullnose vertical edge with integral cove horizontal joint. Use stop at bottom of openings having bullnose return to wall.
- f. Wall top edge internal corners: Use special shapes providing integral cove vertical joint with bullnose top edge.
- g. Wall top edge external corners: Use special shapes providing bullnose vertical and horizontal joint edge.
- h. For unglazed ceramic mosaic and glazed wall tile installed in Portland cement mortar setting bed, use cove and bullnose shapes as applicable. When ceramic mosaic wall and base tile is required, use C Series cove and bullnose shapes.
- i. For unglazed ceramic mosaic and glazed wall tile installed in dry-set Portland cement mortar, latex-Portland cement mortar, and organic adhesive (thin set methods), use cove and surface bullnose shapes as applicable.

**2.2 CEMENTITIOUS BACKER UNITS**

- A. Use in showers or wet areas.
- B. ASTM C1325.
- C. Use Cementitious backer units in maximum available lengths.

**2.3 JOINT MATERIALS FOR CEMENTITIOUS BACKER UNITS**

- A. Reinforcing Tape: Vinyl coated woven glass fiber mesh tape, open weave, 2 inches wide. Tape with pressure sensitive adhesive backing will not be permitted.
- B. Tape Embedding Material: Latex-Portland cement mortar complying with ANSI A108.1.
- C. Joint material, including reinforcing tape, and tape embedding material, shall be as specifically recommended by the backer unit manufacturer.

## **2.4 FASTENERS**

### **A. Screws for Cementitious Backer Units.**

1. Standard screws for gypsum board are not acceptable.
2. Minimum 7/16 inch diameter head, corrosion resistant coated, with washers.
3. ASTM C954 for steel 0.033 inch thick.
4. ASTM C1002 for steel framing less than 0.0329 inch thick.

### **B. Washers: Galvanized steel, 1/2 inch minimum diameter.**

## **2.5 GLASS MAT WATER RESISTANT GYPSUM BACKER BOARD**

Confirm to ASTM C1178/C1178M, Optional System for Cementitious Backer Units.

## **2.6 SETTING MATERIALS OR BOND COATS**

### **A. Conform to TCA Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation.**

### **B. Portland Cement Mortar: ANSI A108.1.**

### **C. Latex-Portland Cement Mortar: ANSI A108.1.**

1. For wall applications, provide non-sagging, latex-Portland cement mortar complying with ANSI A108.1.
2. Prepackaged Dry-Mortar Mix: Factory-prepared mixture of Portland cement; dry, redispersible, ethylene vinyl acetate additive; and other ingredients to which only water needs to be added at Project site.

### **D. Organic Adhesives: ANSI A108.1, Type 1.**

### **E. Elastomeric Waterproofing Membrane and Bond Coat:**

1. TCA F122-02.
2. ANSI A108.1.
3. One component polyurethane, liquid applied material having the following additional physical properties:
  - a. Hardness: Shore "A" between 40-60.
  - b. Elongation: Between 300-600 percent.
  - c. Tensile strength: Between 40-60 psig.
  - d. No volatile compounds.
4. Coal tar modified urethanes are not acceptable.

F. Waterproofing Isolation Membrane:

1. Sheet System TCA F122-02.
2. Optional System to elastomeric waterproof membrane.
3. Composite sheet consisting of ASTM D5109, Type II, Grade I Chlorinated Polyethylene (CM) sheet reinforced on both sides with a non-woven polyester fiber.
4. Designed for use in wet areas as an isolation and positive waterproofing membranes for thin-set bonding of sheet to substrate and thin-set bonding of ceramic and porcelain tile or marble to sheet. Suited for both horizontal and vertical applications.
5. Conform to the following additional physical properties:

Property	Units	Results	Test Method
Hardness Shore A	Points	70-80	ASTM D2240 (10 Second Reading)
Shrinkage	Percent	5 maximum	ASTM D1204
Brittleness		No crack remains flexible at temperature -25 degrees F	ASTM D2497 1/2-inch Mandrel Bend
Retention of Properties after Heat Aging	Percent of original	80 Tensile 80 Breaking 80 Elongation	ASTM D3045, 194 degrees F for 168 hours

6. Manufacturer's standard sheet size with prefabricated or preformed inside and outside corners.
7. Sheet manufacturer's solvent welding liquid or xylene and edge sealant.

## 2.7 GROUTING MATERIALS

A. Coloring Pigments:

1. Pure mineral pigments, limeproof and nonfading, complying with ASTM C979.
2. Add coloring pigments to grout by the manufacturer.
3. Job colored grout is not acceptable.
4. Use is required in Commercial Portland Cement Grout.

B. Latex-Portland Cement Grout: ANSI A108.1 color as specified.

1. Unsanded grout mixture for joints 1/8 inch and narrower.
2. Sanded grout mixture for joints 1/8 inch and wider.

## **2.8 PATCHING AND LEVELING COMPOUND**

- A. Portland cement base, polymer-modified, self-leveling compound, manufactured specifically for resurfacing and leveling concrete floors. Products containing gypsum are not acceptable.
- B. Shall have minimum following physical properties:
  - 1. Compressive strength - 3500 psig per ASTM C109/C109M.
  - 2. Flexural strength - 1000 psig per ASTM C348 (28 day value).
  - 3. Tensile strength - 600 psi per ANSI 118.7.
  - 4. Density - 1.9.
- C. Capable of being applied in layers up to 1-1/2 inches thick without fillers and up to four inches thick with fillers, being brought to a feather edge, and being trowelled to a smooth finish.
- D. Primers, fillers, and reinforcement as required by manufacturer for application and substrate condition.
- E. Ready for use in 48 hours after application.

## **2.9 MARBLE**

- A. Soundness Classification in accordance with MIA Design Manual III Groups.
- B. Thresholds:
  - 1. Group A, Minimum abrasive hardness (Ha) of 10.0 per ASTM C241.
  - 2. Honed finish on exposed faces.
  - 3. Thickness and contour as shown.
  - 4. Fabricate from one piece without holes, cracks, or open seams; full depth of wall or frame opening by full width of wall or frame opening; 3/4-inch minimum thickness and 1/4-inch minimum thickness at beveled edge.
  - 5. Set not more than 1/2-inch above adjoining finished floor surfaces, with transition edges beveled on a slope of no greater than 1:2. On existing floor slabs provide 1/2-inch above ceramic tile surface with bevel edge joint top flush with adjacent floor.
  - 6. One piece full width of door opening. Notch thresholds to match profile of door jambs.

## **2.10 WATER**

Clean, potable and free from salts and other injurious elements to mortar and grout materials.

## **2.11 CLEANING COMPOUNDS**

- A. Specifically designed for cleaning masonry and concrete and which will not prevent bond of subsequent tile setting materials including



patching and leveling compounds and elastomeric waterproofing membrane and coat.

B. Materials containing acid or caustic material not acceptable.

## **2.12 FLOOR MORTAR BED REINFORCING**

ASTM A185 welded wire fabric without backing, MW3 x MW3 (2 x 2-W0.5 x W0.5).

## **2.13 POLYETHYLENE SHEET**

A. Polyethylene sheet conforming to ASTM D4397.

B. Nominal thickness: six mils.

C. Use sheet width to minimize joints.

## **PART 3 - EXECUTION**

### **3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS**

A. Maintain ambient temperature of work areas at not less than 60 degrees F, without interruption, for not less than 24 hours before installation and not less than three days after installation.

B. Maintain higher temperatures for a longer period of time where required by manufacturer's recommendation and ANSI Specifications for installation.

C. Do not install tile when the temperature is above 100 degrees F.

D. Do not install materials when the temperature of the substrate is below 60 degrees F.

E. Do not allow temperature to fall below 50 degrees F after fourth day of completion of tile work.

### **3.2 ALLOWABLE TOLERANCE**

A. Variation in plane of sub-floor, including concrete fills leveling compounds and mortar beds:

1. Not more than 1 in 500 (1/4 inch in 10 feet) from required elevation where Portland cement mortar setting bed is used.

2. Not more than 1 in 1000 (1/8 inch in 10 feet) where dry-set Portland cement, and latex-Portland cement mortar setting beds and chemical-resistant bond coats are used.

B. Variation in Plane of Wall Surfaces:

1. Not more than 1 in 400 (1/4 inch in eight feet) from required plane where Portland cement mortar setting bed is used.

2. Not more than 1 in 800 (1/8 inch in eight feet) where dry-set or latex-Portland cement mortar or organic adhesive setting materials is used.

### **3.3 SURFACE PREPARATION**

#### **A. Patching and Leveling:**

1. Mix and apply patching and leveling compound in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.
2. Fill holes and cracks and align concrete floors that are out of required plane with patching and leveling compound.
  - a. Thickness of compound as required to bring finish tile system to elevation shown.
  - b. Float finish except finish smooth for elastomeric waterproofing.
  - c. At substrate expansion, isolation, and other moving joints, allow joint of same width to continue through underlayment.
3. Apply patching and leveling compound to concrete and masonry wall surfaces that are out of required plane.
4. Apply leveling coats of material compatible with wall surface and tile setting material to wall surfaces, other than concrete and masonry that are out of required plane.

#### **B. Mortar Bed for Slopes to Drains:**

1. Slope compound to drain where drains are shown.
2. Install mortar bed in depressed slab sloped to drains not less than 1 in 100 (1/8 inch per foot).
3. Allow not less than 2 inch depression at edge of depressed slab.
4. Screed for slope to drain and float finish.
5. Cure mortar bed for not less than seven days. Do not use curing compounds or coatings.

#### **C. Cleavage Membrane:**

1. Install polythene sheet as cleavage membrane in depressed slab when waterproof membrane is not scheduled or indicated.
2. Turn up at edge of depressed floor slab to top of floor.

#### **D. Walls:**

1. In showers or other wet areas cover studs with polyethylene sheet.
2. Apply patching and leveling compound to concrete and masonry surfaces that are out of required plane.

### **3.4 CEMENTITIOUS BACKER UNITS**

- A. Remove polyethylene wrapping from cementitious backer units and separate to allow for air circulation. Allow moisture content of backer units to dry down to a maximum of 35 percent before applying joint treatment and tile.
- B. Install in accordance with ANSI A108.1 except as specified otherwise.

- C. Install units horizontally or vertically to minimize joints with end joints over framing members. Units with rounded edges; face rounded edge away from studs to form a V joint for joint treatment.
- D. Secure cementitious backer units to each framing member with screws spaced not more than eight inches on center and not closer than 1/2 inch from the edge of the backer unit or as recommended by backer unit manufacturer. Install screws so that the screw heads are flush with the surface of the backer unit.
- E. Where backer unit joins shower pans or waterproofing, lap backer unit over turned up waterproof system. Install fasteners only through top one-inch of turned up waterproof systems.
- F. Do not install joint treatment for seven days after installation of cementitious backer unit.
- G. Joint Treatment:
  - 1. Fill horizontal and vertical joints and corners with latex-Portland cement mortar. Apply fiberglass tape over joints and corners and embed with same mortar.
  - 2. Leave 1/4 inch space for sealant at lips of tubs, sinks, or other plumbing receptors.

### **3.5 GLASS MAT WATER-RESISTANT GYPSUM BACKER BOARD**

- A. Install in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. TCA Systems W245-01.
- B. Treat joints with tape and latex-Portland cement mortar or adhesive.

### **3.6 MARBLE**

- A. Secure thresholds and stools in position with minimum of two stainless steel dowels.
- B. Set in dry-set Portland cement mortar or latex-Portland cement mortar bond coat.
- C. Set threshold to finish 1/2 inch above ceramic tile floor unless shown otherwise, with bevel edge joint top flush with adjacent floor similar to TCA detail TR611-02.

### **3.7 CERAMIC TILE - GENERAL**

- A. Comply with ANSI A108 series of tile installation standards in "Specifications for Installation of Ceramic Tile" applicable to methods of installation.
- B. Comply with TCA Installation Guidelines:

C. Installing Mortar Beds for Floors:

1. Install mortar bed to not damage cleavage or waterproof membrane; 1-1/2 inch minimum thickness.
2. Install floor mortar bed reinforcing centered in mortar fill.
3. Screed finish to level plane or slope to drains where shown, float finish.
4. For thin set systems cure mortar bed not less than seven days. Do not use curing compounds or coatings.

D. Setting Beds or Bond Coats:

1. Where recessed or depressed floor slabs are filled with Portland cement mortar bed, set ceramic mosaic floor tile in either Portland cement paste over plastic mortar bed or latex-Portland cement mortar over cured mortar bed except as specified otherwise, ANSI A108-1C, TCA System F121-02 or F111-02.
2. Set floor tile in elastomeric bond coat over elastomeric membrane ANSI 108. 13, TCA System F122 where scheduled.
6. Set wall tile installed over concrete backer board in latex-Portland cement mortar, ANSI A108.1B, RA System W244.
7. Set tile installed over gypsum board and gypsum plaster in organic adhesive, ANSI A108.1, TCA System W242-02.
8. Set trim shapes in same material specified for setting adjoining tile.

E. Workmanship:

1. Lay out tile work so that no tile less than one-half full size is used. Make all cuts on the outer edge of the field.
2. Set tile firmly in place with finish surfaces in true planes. Align tile flush with adjacent tile unless shown otherwise.
3. Form intersections and returns accurately.
4. Cut and drill tile neatly without marring surface.
5. Cut edges of tile abutting penetrations, finish, or built-in items:
  - a. Fit tile closely around electrical outlets, piping, fixtures and fittings, so that plates, escutcheons, collars and flanges will overlap cut edge of tile.
  - b. Seal tile joints water tight as specified in Section 07 92 00, JOINT SEALANTS, around electrical outlets, piping fixtures and fittings before cover plates and escutcheons are set in place.
6. Completed work shall be free from hollow sounding areas and loose, cracked or defective tile.

7. Remove and reset tiles that are out of plane or misaligned.
8. Floors:
  - a. Extend floor tile beneath casework and equipment, except those units mounted in wall recesses.
  - b. In areas where floor drains occur, slope to drains where shown.
9. Walls:
  - a. Cover walls and partitions, including pilasters, furred areas, and freestanding columns from floor to ceiling, or from floor to nominal wainscot heights shown with tile.
  - b. Finish reveals of openings with tile, except where other finish materials are shown or specified.
  - c. At window openings, provide tile stools and reveals, except where other finish materials are shown or specified.
  - d. Finish wall surfaces behind and at sides of casework and equipment, except those units mounted in wall recesses, with same tile as scheduled for room proper.
10. Joints:
  - a. Keep all joints in line, straight, level, perpendicular and of even width unless shown otherwise.
  - b. Make joints 1/16 inch wide for glazed wall tile and mosaic tile work.
  - c. Make joints in Paver tile, porcelain type; maximum 1/8 inch wide.
11. Back Buttering: For installations indicated below, obtain 100 percent mortar coverage by complying with applicable special requirements for back buttering of tile in referenced ANSI A108 series of tile installation standards:
  - a. Tile wall installations in wet areas, including showers, tub enclosures, laundries and swimming pools.
  - b. Tile wall installations composed of tiles 8 by 8 inches or larger.

### **3.8 PORCELAIN TILE INSTALLED WITH LATEX PORTLAND CEMENT BONDING MORTAR**

Due to the denseness of porcelain tile use latex Portland cement bonding mortar that meets the requirements of ANSI A108.1. Bonding mortars shall be mixed in accordance with manufacturer's instructions. Improper liquid ratios and dwell time before placement of bonding mortar and tile shall affect bond.

### **3.9 THIN SET CERAMIC AND PORCELAIN TILE INSTALLED WITH ORGANIC ADHESIVE**

Installation of Tile: ANSI A108.1.

### **3.10 GROUTING**

#### **A. Grout Type and Location:**

1. Grout for glazed wall and base tile, paver tile, latex-Portland cement grout.

#### **B. Workmanship:**

1. Install and cure grout in accordance with the applicable standard.
2. Portland Cement grout: ANSI A108.1.

### **3.11 MOVEMENT JOINTS**

- A. Prepare tile expansion, isolation, construction and contraction joints for installation of sealant. Refer to Section 07 92 00, JOINT SEALANTS.
- B. TCA details EJ 171-02.
- C. At expansion joints, rake out joint full depth of tile and setting bed and mortar bed. Do not cut waterproof or isolation membrane.
- D. Rake out grout at joints between tile, tub, service sink, at toe of base, not less than 1/4 inch deep.

### **3.12 CLEANING**

- A. Thoroughly sponge and wash tile. Polish glazed surfaces with clean dry cloths.
- B. Methods and materials used shall not damage or impair appearance of tile surfaces.
- C. The use of acid or acid cleaners on glazed tile surfaces is prohibited.
- D. Clean tile grouted with epoxy, furan and commercial Portland cement grout and tile set in elastomeric bond coat as recommended by the manufacturer of the grout and bond coat.

### **3.13 PROTECTION**

- A. Keep traffic off tile floor, until grout and setting material is firmly set and cured.
- B. Where traffic occurs over tile floor, cover tile floor with not less than 3/8 inch thick plywood, wood particle board, or hardboard securely taped in place. Do not remove protective cover until time for final inspection. Clean tile of any tape, adhesive and stains.

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