

# TILE 101

Tile is one of the most ancient floor coverings, dating back to Egyptian times. The age old manufacturing process of kiln fired clay still done today gives us the most versatile product in the floor covering industry. Tile can go on floors and walls, indoors and outdoors, and be installed in a variety of patterns.

## *PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS*

### *Ceramic*

**Ceramic** tiles are mixture of clays that are pressed into shape and fired at high temperatures, which gives the tile its hardness.

### *Porcelain*

**Porcelain** tile are ceramic tiles commonly used to cover floors and walls with a water absorption rate of less than 0.5 percent. They can come glazed or unglazed. A **full body porcelain** has the same color running all the way through the body of the tile.

### *Natural Stone*

**Natural Stone** refers to a variety of architectural materials which have varying characteristics depending on the minerals present during their formation. Stone or Rock is selected then cut and finished by sizes, color, texture and patterns to finish floors and walls.

## *STYLE*

Floor and wall tile comes in a variety of shapes and sizes. Mainly square and rectangle with sizes ranging from a 3”x 6” up to a 48”x48” (and sometimes larger!). The coloring and texture of tile is endless, this making it the reason why it is the most popular floor and wall covering option. There are many decorative “accents”, “mosaics” or “listellos” that can help further accentuate and personalize a tile installation. These pieces can be used mainly on wall, or vertical plane applications, they do not work as well on the floor, or in high traffic areas.



18”x18” tile laid straight on the floor



Linear mosaic sheet used in a full backsplash application



Shower wall tile with a 13”x13” tile laid straight with 4” linear accent of a cut down tile mosaic, as well as cut tile corner shelves