

LARGE FORMAT TILE INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

Large format tiles are defined as having one side greater than 15 inches.

This guideline is a helpful training tool but does not supersede the ANSI 108.5 and the TCNA Installation Handbook.

Surface Preparation

Prior to installation, verify that subfloor assembly meets or exceeds industry standards of L/360 for ceramic tile and brick or L/720 for stone installations under live and dead loads. All surfaces must be structurally sound, and free of contaminants including oil, dirt, grease, paint, sealers or other chemicals, and must be between 40°F and 90°F. Remove any residue from your surface prior to installation. Concrete slabs must be cured 28 days, free of efflorescence and not subject to hydrostatic pressure. Cracks, depressions or imperfections must be addressed prior to installation. Dry, dusty concrete slabs should be dampened and excess water removed. The **maximum substrate variation shall not exceed 1/8" in 10' and 1/16" in 24"** when measured from surface high points with a straight-edge, floors may require self-leveling underlayment to achieve necessary flatness requirements.

Expansion Joints

Follow TCNA guidelines detail EJ-171: Movement Joints—Vertical & Horizontal or ANSI specification A108.01-3.7: Requirements for Movement Joints. Do not cover substrate expansion joints with mortar.

Lippage Tolerance

Lippage is a condition where one edge of a tile is higher than the adjacent tile, giving the finished surface an uneven appearance creating a trip hazard and often undesirable aesthetic. The TCNA handbook defines acceptable lippage tolerance as follows:

- Grout joint width of < 1/4" or less has an allowable lippage of 1/32"
- Grout joint width of > 1/4" or greater has an allowable lippage of 1/16"

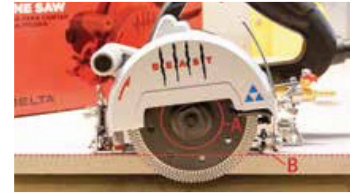
The larger the tile the more difficult it becomes to achieve the allowable lippage tolerances and it is therefore **strongly recommended to use a lippage control device system such as Raimondi Floor leveling systems.**

Installation

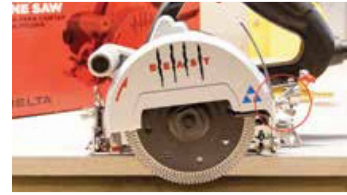
Refer to ANSI 108.5 and the TCNA Installation handbook. Choose the appropriate manufacture recommended mortar and follow manufacture recommendations for proper mixing and use. When possible comb all mortar perpendicular to the longest side of the trowel to allow full coverage. Select correct trowel size to ensure full mortar coverage under your tile. It may be necessary to back butter tile with mortar prior to setting tile into fresh mortar bed. Make sure to compress all trowel ridges for maximum mortar coverage. Periodically check to make sure you are achieving full coverage. Allow for thinsset to cure 72 hours prior to grouting. Recommend a minimum grout joint size of 1/8". DO NOT brick bond more than 20% on the long edge.

Cutting Recommendations with Beast 5" Hand Saw

Before using, verify that the blade is mounted correctly and securely to the tool. Ensure the directional arrow on the blade matches the rotation arrow on the housing. The included plug GFCI should be tested and inspected prior to each use.



1. Place the saw on the material to be cut and adjust blade height as needed. Ensure the reinforced hub (A) is above the surface of your material (B).



2. Blade height can be adjusted using the wingnut circled in the above picture. Tighten securely once desired cut depth is achieved.



3. Install and adjust the rip guide to match your desired cut. The rip guide secures in both the front and back of the base plate. This ensures accurate cuts over long plank tiles.



4. Miter cuts can be easily performed on large format or thick pavers. Adjust the angle as shown above and securely tighten the wingnut. Verify the blade height is correct as described in the step above.



5. Plug in and test the GFCI (not shown), open the water valve to begin water flow (A), and depress the switch (B) to engage the motor.



6. The BEAST5 is designed for both PUSH or PULL cutting motions. A PULL cut presents less user fatigue and allows you to see your cut line/mark. The choice is purely customer preference.



7. The BEAST5 Tile/Stone saw now comes with a pre-threaded hole for use with any industry standard hand grinder handle (not included). The extra handle can be very helpful in cutting larger format product or thick material.

PLANK PATTERNS

