



## **Installation Guide: Barcelona Porcelain**

Elon® **ALWAYS** recommends that all installations be done in accordance with local building codes and adheres to Tile Council of North America specifications.

### **Preparation**

*Prior to installation of Porcelain:*

- All Porcelain should be blended from multiple cartons prior to installation.
  - On large jobs, always blend material from multiple pallets to confirm all material is from the same dye lot.

### **Installation**

*When installing Porcelain:*

- For large-format porcelains:
  - Use a latex modified thinset, applying it to the substrate in a single direction to prevent air pockets.
    - Single direction troweling aids in air escape, minimizing lippage.
    - With larger tile sizes, substrate variation is less tolerated from the required plane.
- Porcelain rectangles with sides of 18" or larger to mitigate lippage due to warpage.
  - Follow TCNA recommendations for a staggered pattern joint with a 33% offset or a 1/3 - 2/3 pattern layout.
  - Adhere to an allowable tolerance of 1/32" lippage for joint sizes between 1/16" - 1/14".
- When used in showers or tubs, Porcelain should never be set with the bottom course extending into the shower base or tight to tub lip. Always leave a minimum gap of 1/4" above and perpendicular to the floor or lip of the tub or shower base and use a waterproof flexible sealant where they meet per TCNA specification B412-23.
- For pre-scored porcelain or ceramics like "Barcelona":
  - When determining grout joint width during installation, replicate the width of the scored groove in the tile for uniformity.
  - Grout the pre-scored groove with the same grout used between tiles.
- For porcelain field tile and mosaics with fiberglass mesh backs, always use Latex Modified Thinset to ensure proper adhesion to both the porcelain and mesh backing.

## Grouting

### *Grouting Barcelona Porcelain:*

- When laying out the installation, adhere to Tile Council of North America's recommendation for a minimum 1/16" grout joint.
- Elon® Tile & Stone suggests that Barcelona Porcelain be grouted with 100% Epoxy Grout and Mortar which meets A118.3 specifications similar to:
  - *Kerapoxy CQ* by Mapei
  - *CEG Lite 100% Solids Epoxy Grout* by Custom Building Products.
  - *Accu Color EFX Epoxy Special Effects Grout* by TEC
  - *EzPoxy EzClean 100% Solids Epoxy Mortar & grout* by Bostik
- Be sure to follow the manufacturer's directions for mixing and do not over wash grout joints.
  - Elon® recommends
    - First wash done using a wet sponge rubbing on a diagonal to avoid washing out grout joints.
    - Second wash substitute the sponge for a wet white cotton cloth wrapping it around the face of a hard rubber float.
      - Remove excess grout residue by rubbing in a vigorous circular motion keeping the grout joints filled flush.

## Sealing

*Sealing of 100% Solids Epoxy Grout is unnecessary.*

**Installation is Acceptance**

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