

Mosa.

Installation advice Mosaics

General

For general guidelines and quality standards pertaining to the installation of wall and floor tiles and the substrate requirements, please refer to the following publications:

- URL 35-101 (dated 2018-04-13) – Installation of wall and floor tiles for regular applications (published in the Dutch language by SKG-IKOB)
- SBR/WTCB 468a.H.99-ISBN 90-5367-284-2

Additional information, concerning aspects such as flatness and the installation of tiles, can be found in the following DIN standards:

- DIN 18157- Application of ceramic tiling using the thin-bed method
- DIN 18202 - Tolerances in building construction - buildings
- DIN 18352 - General technical specifications for building works - Tile laying works

The substrate must be absolutely flat, dimensionally stable, have a high compression and tensile strength, and be permanently dry and free of dust, dirt, separators and cracks*. Use a cementitious powder adhesive or suitable paste adhesive which complies with DIN EN 12004 according to the adhesive manufacturer's specifications. Apply with an adhesive spreader with teeth of 3 or 4 millimetres.

** For standards and recommendations, see SKG-IKOB, SBR and WTCB publications and DIN standards.*

Mosa mosaics is cut from floor tiles in the Terra Maestricht series and is characterised by its very dynamic look, resulting from the random colour gradations of the floor tiles in combination with the multi-directional positioning of the small blocks on the mesh mats. All the blocks feature a facet, added during cutting. The nature of the process means that these facets may be irregular. The processing of this high-quality mosaic requires a very flat surface and a high level of professional skill. The Mosa mosaic mats are suitable for use in combination with other Mosa floor and wall tiles in 15-centimetres modules (including joint).

The Mosa mosaic mats can be jolly cut (mitred) to achieve attractive outside corners. It is recommended that the saw blade depth be set 1 millimetre below the finished surface of the tile. This ensures an undamaged edge along the corner cut. Installers must familiarise themselves with the latest techniques for the installation of mosaic tiling.

On walls

Apply the adhesive to the flat surface. Press the mosaic mat into the adhesive and then tap into the correct position with a rubber float. If necessary, cut the mosaic mat to ensure that the mosaic tiles are positioned squarely.

Mosa mosaic mats can be used to tile rounded walls with an internal or external radius of 50 centimetres or greater.

Applying mosaic tiling in combination with thinner Mosa wall or floor tiles

Begin by applying the Mosa mosaic tiles using a spreader with teeth of 3 or 4 millimetres to apply the adhesive. Then apply adhesive for the required thickness and fit the thinner Mosa tiles.

Applying mosaic tiling in combination with thicker Mosa wall or floor tiles

Begin by applying the thicker Mosa tiles in accordance with the general tiling instructions. The mosaic surface will need to be filled and smoothed to the desired thickness. Next, apply the mosaic mats, using a spreader with teeth of 3 or 4 millimetres to apply the adhesive as referred to above.

On floors

Smooth the screed to the desired thickness. Spread the adhesive using the spreader, press the mosaic mat into the adhesive and then tap into the correct position with a rubber float. If necessary, the mosaic mats can be cut to ensure that the mosaic tiles are positioned squarely.

Mosa.

Installation advice Mosaics

Walk-in shower with graded floor

Begin by tiling the bathroom in the prescribed manner, leaving a space where the walk-in shower with graded floor is to be tiled with mosaic tiles. Then lay a cement screed floor with a fall, taking into account the thickness of the mosaic tiles and the tile adhesive. Smooth the cement screed thoroughly and allow to dry in accordance with the adhesive manufacturer's instructions. Use waterproofing in accordance with the adhesive manufacturer's instructions. Apply a suitable cement-powder adhesive of the type C2TE using an adhesive spreader with teeth of 3 or 4 millimetres, press the mosaic tiles into the adhesive and then tap into place with a rubber float. If necessary, cut the mosaic mat to ensure that the mosaic tiles are positioned squarely.

Shaped tiles

Mosa mosaic tiles can be cut either dry or wet with all customary professional tools.

Cutting advice

Cut the mosaic tiles with an 8 or 10-millimetres cutting wheel. Mark the beginning and end of the cutting line sharply and then roll the cutting wheel along the cutting line in one smooth movement. Break the mosaic tiles with suitable tile-cutting pliers.

Cutting advice for saws

Besides cutting using a tile cutter, as described under cutting advice, Mosa mosaic tiles can also be cut by means of sawing.

1. Cut with a water-cooled diamond saw. Make sure that the mat is fully supported. The mosaic tiles are glued to the plastic mesh with a water-soluble adhesive. The cut mat must either be dried or used immediately.
2. Using a special mosaic mitre saw: the mosaic tiles can be cut both wet and dry.

Grouting

Make sure that there are no adhesive or mortar residues in the joints. Apply grout from a full mortar board. Spread diagonally over the tiles to avoid air holes in the grout after it dries. In the case of mosaics, be aware that more grout will need to be prepared since the mosaic tiles are thicker. A suitable tile grout will be classified as type CG2 according to EN 13888. Where necessary, grout with increased wear resistance (type CG2Ar) should be used.

For use in sanitary rooms or rooms with higher waterproof or hygiene requirements, low water absorption grouts (type CG2WAr) should be used. These are grouts that have been mixed with high quality synthetic binders.

Mix the grout in accordance with the grout manufacturer's instructions. Follow the recommendations for the powder-to-water ratio and ripening time to achieve optimal performance and final quality. The 'open time' of the mixed grout must also be kept in mind. Once the open time has been exceeded the grout will begin to break down and will lose its adhesive strength. If exceeded, the grout may no longer be used. Water must not be added to grout that has become too dry, because doing so can have a severe negative impact on the quality and colour.

Before applying the grout, all dust and contaminants must be removed from the tiles with a clean, damp sponge. The residual film of water will fill any small irregularities in the tile surface and will make grouting easier.

Now grout the tiles with a grout float, and remove as much excess grout from the tile surface as possible during the process. Then allow the grout lines to dry until they begin to take on a dull appearance. This can take 15 to 45 minutes (Tip: Once you can touch the grout with a clean fingertip and no grout sticks to your finger, the grout is ready to be sponged off.). Next, rub the entire tiled surface with a slightly dampened sponge float or a well-wrung sponge in a circular motion. This pre-rinsing gives the grout an attractive, uniform appearance and prevents residual grout from adhering to the tiles.

Attention: Use as little water as possible! If too much water is used during pre-rinsing, the grout lines can become saturated, reducing their quality and resulting in colour variances.

For sponging off the tiles Mosa recommends the use of a wash boy (elongated pail with extraction rollers) with clean water and a sponge float. The water must be changed very frequently.

Wet the sponge float in the wash boy and use the rollers to squeeze out the excess water. Slowly draw the sponge float diagonally across the tiles (this allows the sponge to pick up the residual grout). Rinse the sponge float in the wash boy after every sponging and squeeze out the excess water again. Repeat this process until the entire tiled surface is completely clean, and remember to change the water often. After the tiles have been sponged off, the tiles can be rubbed dry with a cloth or paper towels.

Mosa.

Installation advice Mosaics

Important

It is best not to cover the tiled surface until all the residual moisture from the adhesive and grout has evaporated. This can take 24 to 72 hours. Should it nevertheless be desirable or necessary to cover the surface, it is recommended that you do so with a breathable material and not with plastic sheeting. We strongly advise against covering with plastic sheeting until all the residual moisture has evaporated. When there is a danger of excessively quick drying as a result of heat, draughts or other factors, the grout must be re-dampened several times to prevent cracking, discolouration and loss of quality. See www.mosa.com for extensive advice and an instructional video on grouting and removal of old grout.

General questions

Customer Service: info@mosa.com; Tel.: +31 (0)43 368 92 29

Mosa.

Royal Mosa

Meerssenerweg 358
P.O. Box 1026
NL-6201 BA Maastricht
T +31 (0)43 368 92 29
info@mosa.com
www.mosa.com