



## INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE GUIDE

**SURFACE PREPARATIONS:** All installation work using Audrey Lane tiles will conform to the standards set forth in the latest version of ANSI A108/118 and/or the TCA Handbook for Ceramic Tile installations. All substrates should be between 40 degrees F and 90 degrees F and structurally sound, clean and free of all dirt, oil, grease, paint, concrete sealers or curing compounds as per ANSI A108.01.

**DEFLECTION:** Substrate must conform to all state and local building code requirements and ANSI A108.01 for maximum allowable substrate deflection. Movement joints: Movement joints shall be provided throughout the tile and work will conform to ANSI Specification A108.01-3.7; A108.02 – 4.4. and TCA Details EJ171.

**INSTALLATION OR SETTING MATERIALS:** Setting materials used will conform to the ANSI 118.4 standard or greater. It is recommended to use a premium polymer fortified thin set such as Laticrete 254 Platinum OR equivalent for the installation & setting materials for ceramic or porcelain tile based on the application requirements.

If any piece is defective, do not use and communicate this to your provider. We do not accept any claims once the product is installed.

### CUTTING AND DRILLING PORCELAIN AND METALS:

No problems with cutting and drilling should occur if proper tools are used in a correct and professional way.

**CUTTING:** Porcelain tile is a very hard material. For best results, it should be cut with the following tools:

- Electric cutting machine fitted with a diamond disc of continuous band type and water-cooling system.
- Hand cutting tool, fitted with a scoring wheel of an 8mm diameter with diamond drill bits, made special for porcelain with flat surface, and of an 18mm diameter for tiles with a rough surface.
- Angular grinding machine of low-power (600-1.100W approx) and fitted with a diamond disc of continuous band type and 115-125mm diameter.

**DRILLING:** The porcelain material is very durable; therefore, it is necessary to use special drills and follow below guidelines:

- Special tungsten carbide drill bit for ceramic tiles
- Diamond drill bit
- Use a drill with a minimum power of 600W.
- Mark the drilling point
- Attach the drill bit
- Select the adequate speed (<1000rpm)
- The drill should run in NO-DRIVER MODE
- Continuous water cooling must be provided on the drilling point

### INSTALLATION WITH METALS & MIRROR:

Porcelain Metals include Artic Gold, Artic Silver, Urban Gold and Urban Silver colors, also Mirror and Antique Mirror: The porcelain metals are decorated with a thin real metal application and mirror is real glass; both are meant for **WALL ONLY APPLICATIONS**. The mirror may have sharp edges. Take care when handling and manipulate both types of materials with special care. These basic recommendations are aimed to ensure that the product is properly set; these recommendations are adapted to the technical characteristics of the product itself, including setting, grouting and cleaning. **Improper handling (scratching and/or scraping) and improper use of abrasive detergents can damage the pieces.** Treat this product with extreme care.

**CHARACTERISTICS OF LIVING FINISHES:** Brass, Stainless, & Aluminum metal finishes are unlacquered and are considered living finishes. These living finishes will naturally age, patina, and take on their own individual appearances as they are exposed to time, climate, environment, and handling.

**SETTING:** A premium polymer fortified thin set such as Laticrete 254 Platinum OR equivalent is recommended. There are different types of cement glues on the market depending on the type of support, it being advisable to follow the manufacturer's instructions as regards preparation of the material and its application. The bonding materials are applied with a notched trowel to ensure optimal distribution across the surface. Should be avoided that the residues of setting material get dry remaining adhered on the surface of pieces.

**GROUTING:** For choosing the grouting material, one should consider the place where the tiles (floor or wall) are setting and their situation (indoor or outdoor), the use of joints with polymeric additives or synthetic resins being recommendable, and not portland cement grout. Our typical grout joint is 1/32" for the Waterjet Collection, 1/16" for Skord Collection, and recommended 1/8" for Sophia Collection and coordinating field tiles. When grouting mirror or glass effect tiles, they are subject to scratching. Only finely sanded or unsanded grouts should be used.

**SPECIAL GROUTING PRECAUTIONS (Especially Ice White Matte & Ice White Polished):** It is recommended that a test patch be done prior to grouting the installation to determine if contaminations of grout pigment will occur on the tile. Especially when using light colored tiles or polished tiles that are to be grouted with a dark contrasting colored grout or when dark colored tiles are to be grouted with a light color grout. If discoloration does not occur on the surface of the tile, then proceed with grouting. If discoloration does occur, it is recommended to request from the grout manufacturer a proper procedure for the protection of the surface, many times using a "grout release". There are several on the market, but it is always wise to use one that is recommended by the grout manufacturer.

**CLEANING:** For cleaning excess installation materials before they have dried, use a sponge and plenty of water. For subsequent cleanings we recommend the use of a soft dampened sponge in water and neutral soap. Do not use powder detergents, nor metallic mops or abrasives. Do not use cleaners containing bleach or acid and alkaline mixtures. Use a soft sponge with liquid soap and water to clean the tiles, and then dry them with a fine cloth.

### CLEANING LIVING FINISHES:

Including Brass, Stainless & Aluminum metal finishes: Use clean water, pH-neutral cleaning agent, a sponge or cleaning cloth. Ensure that there is no sanding or grinding effect.

If necessary, use an alcohol-based cleaner or a cleaner especially developed for brass or polishing paste.

Perform routine cleaning regularly in accordance with local conditions. Check cleaning agents before use to determine whether they have a corrosive or damaging effect on the profiles. This also applies to correct dosage during use.

Never use agents containing hydrochloric or hydrofluoric acid.

Any contact with chlorine bleaching agents, cement residue cleaners, strong acids or alkaline should be avoided.

**\*IMPORTANT:** See Technical Data sheet for material usages and recommended areas for installation.