



BATHS & TILES

Floor Tiles



Floored by choice? Choose the right tile for you.

Traditionally tiles were restricted to the bathroom and maybe even the utility room but today as tile designs have become much more creative, **there are now tiles to suit every room in your home.** Plus if you have underfloor heating, tiles are a cosy idea for the whole ground floor of your home.

There is a tile design and size for every style of room in your house. You will need to ensure that the tiles you choose complement and enhance your room without dominating it. Browse www.btw.ie and interior magazines to search for inspiration and options that will work in your home.

TILING A SMALL ROOM



There are many tile sizes; a **general rule is to use smaller tiles in smaller spaces.** Some floor tiles are ideas for walls too, especially in a small space. **Running the same floor tile up the wall can make a space look bigger and more cohesive,** this technique is ideal for under the stairs toilet floors. **Just remember that even though you can use floor tiles on the wall, you can't use wall tiles on the floor, as they are not made to be walked on.**

TILING A LARGE ROOM



When tiling a large room you have more options; you can choose from light to dark tiles. **Large tiles make a room feel larger and airier.**

You can also be bolder with colour, pattern and texture too as larger spaces can accept a bold colour on the floor. Patterned tiles are popular because of their versatility and the bright colours they can bring in to a room.

As tiles are a floor solution for any room in the house, **try to consider the general feel you want to achieve in the room you are tiling** – serene and relaxing or moody and atmospheric? Unless you have a feature area such as a splashback, tiles aren't normally the focus of a room but they can complement other design features of a room.

In a bathroom you might want a **restful relaxing setting**, so go for colours that blend well together. In a kitchen you might want a more vibrant option, so choose colours that contrast.

Matt or Polished?

Floor tiles are available in either a matt or a polished finish and preference is generally personal.

A **polished tile** is easy to clean whereas a natural terracotta tile has no glaze and may need a seal to stop staining occurring.

or

A **gloss tile** will suit a dark space as it reflects more light.

Which colour?

Don't forget the importance of choosing the right grout colour. **A contrasting grout will emphasise lines and the design of the layout of the tile, while a grout in a complementary colour to the tile will give a subtle effect.** Ensure your grouted areas are sealed to prevent staining.

Choosing tiles can be a bit overwhelming at first due to the tremendous amount of options available so ask the experts at BTW, our team are always on hand to help out with advice.

Bathroom Tiles

It goes without saying that **tiles are the best flooring and wall solution for any bathroom.** Here are some hints and tips we have perfected over the years of working with our Irish customers.

- 1 Choose tiles that will complement the size of your room.** For example, if your bathroom is small, you may wish to hold off on using large format tiles. Think medium sized tiles for a medium sized bathroom, consider small tiles or mosaics for a very small bathroom or cloakroom.
- 2 Consider textured and stone effect tiles** for a spa-like feel for your bathroom. Match these nature-inspired tiles with natural wood tones for a relaxing, luxurious finish.
- 3 Avoid glass tiles on floors,** especially in bathrooms with a bathtub or shower. These tiles are perfect for a great wall or accent tile, but they become extremely slippery when wet.
- 4 Add a little something special to your bathroom design,** even when you're choosing simple tiles. **Simple doesn't have to be boring.** For example, you could use rectangular tiles or metro style tiles in an interesting layout.
- 5 Choose your shower floor tiles carefully.** Go for something that is **comfortable on bare feet and, most importantly, has enough grip.** Slip resistant tiles are always a good idea for shower floors. Going for small tiles is also an option, as the additional grout lines will provide increased slip resistance.
- 6 Go for smooth tiles** if you don't have the time to give your tiles a good scrub quite regularly, **as they are easier to clean.** Water and dust tend to settle more on uneven, embossed or stone effect tiles.
- 7 Create one single focal point in your bathroom with an accent tile.** To allow your stand-out tile to take centre stage, combine it with something neutral, simple, or a plain, textured style, to allow your stand-out tile to take centre stage.

IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS FEEL FREE TO SEND US AN EMAIL AT info@btw.ie

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