

HOMEOWNER CHECKLIST · PART 1 OF 2

Tile Installation — What You Purchase

CLIENT

PROJECT ADDRESS

TARGET START

PREPARED

WE DO NOT START UNTIL YOUR MATERIALS ARE HERE

Every finish material on this list has to be physically at your home before we begin. Not ordered. Not shipped. Not out for delivery. Delivered, and checked by us.

We give you a completion timeframe and we hold to it. The only way we can do that is to control what is in the house on day one. A material that is still in transit has too many ways to fail — backorder, freight delay, shipping damage, wrong color, wrong quantity, wrong dye lot — and every one of those lands on your finish date instead of the supplier's.

So if the materials are not here, we do not start. Your project does not become a slower job. It becomes a later start. That is exactly what protects the timeframe we promised you.

Your shower glass is the one exception, and there is nothing for you to do up front. Once the tile is complete the glass company comes out, measures, and brings you the style and hardware finish options to choose from right there. Figure another two to three weeks from that visit.

Tile is the one trade where being slightly short on material is not a small problem. Tile is manufactured in batches, and two boxes from different production runs are usually a visibly different shade. If we run out mid-wall, the fix is often to take the wall back down and start over with a single lot.

So the most important thing on this list is quantity. Buy the full square footage plus the overage, in one order, and have it delivered to the site two days before we start so we can count it, inspect it for damage, and confirm every box is the same lot while it is still fixable.

HOW TO USE THIS SHEET

- Check the box once the item is bought and the spec sheet or model number is sent to us — not when you have decided on it. A decision we cannot see is not a decision we can build from.
- Send specs to Tony at Tony.KVIConstruction@gmail.com. A photo of the model sticker or a link to the product page is enough.
- Anything marked "On site before we start" has to be at the house before day one. Anything marked "Before we start" is a decision we need from you by then, not something you deliver.
- If a line does not apply to your scope, cross it off with us at the pre-construction walkthrough so nothing is left looking unanswered.

	ITEM	WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU	DUE BY
THE TILE ITSELF <i>All of it at the house and inspected by us before day one. We do not begin a tile job around a partial order.</i>			
☐	Field tile	Full product name, size and finish, and the quantity: your square footage plus 15%. Make it 20% for herringbone, diagonal, or large-format tile	On site before we start

	ITEM	WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU	DUE BY
☐	Single dye lot	Confirm with the supplier that the entire order ships from one production run, and check the lot number on every box	At purchase
☐	Accent or mosaic tile	For niches, borders, or a feature wall, with overage	On site before we start
☐	Trim pieces	Bullnose, pencil, or chair rail. Many modern tiles have no matching bullnose — if you do not want a raw edge, pick a metal profile instead	On site before we start
☐	Edge profile	Schluter or similar, plus the finish, if you are not using bullnose	On site before we start
☐	Threshold, curb or saddle	Usually marble or a solid surface, sized to your opening	On site before we start
GROUT AND SETTING MATERIALS			
☐	Grout color	Chosen from our sample board held against your actual tile in the actual room. Grout color changes how a tile reads more than people expect	Before we start
☐	Grout type	Sanded, unsanded, or epoxy. Epoxy resists staining and is the right call in a heavy-use shower, but it costs more and installs slower	Before we start
☐	Caulk color	Matched to the grout. Every change of plane gets caulk, not grout	Before we start
☐	Sealer	Required for natural stone, optional for porcelain. Confirm which you want	After grout
LAYOUT DECISIONS			
<i>We will lay the room out and walk it with you before we set anything. Tell us now what matters most to you.</i>			
☐	Pattern	Stack, running bond at a third or a half offset, herringbone, or diagonal. Pattern changes both the overage and the labor	Before we start
☐	Where the cuts land	What you want prioritized — a full tile at the entry, centered in the niche, a symmetrical back wall. We cannot make all of them happen at once, so tell us the priority	At layout
☐	Niche and bench	How many, what size, and roughly what height	Before we start
☐	Heated floor mat and thermostat	Mat sized to the room and the thermostat model. It goes down under the tile	On site before we start
WHAT COMES AFTER THE TILE			
☐	Shower glass	Nothing to buy or pick up front. After the tile is finished the glass company measures and shows you the style and hardware finish options then, and it runs 10 to 21 days from there	Chosen at the measure
☐	Plumbing trim	Model numbers and finish for every fixture, on site for finish day	On site before we start

	ITEM	WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU	DUE BY
☐	Wall-mounted accessories	Towel bars, hooks, shelves — so we can set blocking and place them before grout rather than drilling into finished tile	On site before we start

ORDER THESE FIRST — THEY DECIDE WHEN WE CAN START

- The tile itself, with the full overage, in a single order and a single dye lot. This is the whole job.
- Trim pieces or a metal edge profile. People consistently order beautiful field tile and forget how the edges get finished.
- The heated floor mat, if you want one. It goes under the tile, so there is no adding it later.
- Shower glass is the exception — nothing to order up front. It is measured after the tile is finished and adds two to three weeks at the end.

HOMEOWNER CHECKLIST · PART 2 OF 2

Tile Installation — How the Work Runs

A tile installation is short, but it is unforgiving about order. The substrate has to be right before waterproofing, the waterproofing has to be proven before tile, and the tile has to cure before grout.

Most failed tile jobs are not failed tile. They are failed substrates — a floor that flexes, a wall that is out of plane, or a shower pan that was never flood tested. We do not skip those steps, which is why the prep phase is longer than people expect.

Every phase below assumes your materials were already at the house on day one. That assumption is what the whole schedule rests on.

#	PHASE	TYPICAL TIME	WHAT MUST BE SETTLED OR ON SITE FIRST
1	Selections, ordering and delivery	1–6 weeks	Whatever your tile's lead time is. This is the whole front end of the job
2	Tile received and inspected on site	Before day one	We count it, check every box for the same dye lot, and check for damage. This happens before we start, while a problem is still fixable
3	Protection and demolition	1–2 days	Room cleared. On older homes, expect to find something behind the old tile
4	Substrate preparation	1–3 days	Subfloor repair, backer board, leveling, and a flatness check. The most important phase and the one you will never see
5	Waterproofing and flood test	1–2 days	In a wet area we seal the assembly and hold water in it to prove it before any tile goes on
6	Layout and dry-fit	A few hours	Your sign-off on where the cuts land. Once we set the first tile, the layout is locked
7	Setting the tile	2–6 days	All tile, trim and any heat mat on site
8	Cure	24 hours	Thinset has to cure before grout. Nothing happens on site
9	Grout, clean and seal	1–2 days	Grout color confirmed against the installed tile
10	Caulk and final clean	Half a day	Caulk color matched to grout
11	Shower glass measure and order	1 hour	Only after grout is done and cured. The installer measures, shows you the options, and orders from there
12	Shower glass fabrication	10–21 days	Nothing happens on site. The tile is finished and the shower is not yet usable
13	Glass install, trim and accessories	1 day	Plumbing trim and accessories on site
14	Walkthrough	1 hour	You available to walk the job with us

Shaded rows are stretches where little or nothing happens on site. They are part of the schedule, not a sign the job has stalled.

What actually moves your date

THE THREE MOST COMMON DELAYS ON A TILE INSTALLATION

- Tile arriving short, damaged, or in mixed dye lots. This is the single most common tile problem and the reason we inspect the whole order two days early instead of on the morning we start.
- Substrate problems found at demolition. A flexing subfloor or a rotted wall has to be fixed before tile, and we will not set over it. We flag it the day we find it.
- Shower glass lead time. It cannot be measured until we are completely finished, and then it is two to three more weeks. The room will look done well before you can use it.

Typical lead times

These are ranges we see in the Columbus market. Confirm the real number with your supplier when you buy, and tell us if it is longer than what is shown here.

ITEM	TYPICAL LEAD TIME	ORDER IT BY
In-stock porcelain or ceramic	3–7 days	2 weeks before start
Special order tile	2–6 weeks	As soon as the job is booked
Imported or handmade tile	4–12 weeks	Before we set a start date
Natural stone slab or tile	2–8 weeks	As soon as the job is booked
Schluter or metal edge profiles	1–3 weeks	With the tile order
Heated floor mat and thermostat	1–3 weeks	2 weeks before start
Custom shower glass (after tile)	10–21 days	Cannot be ordered early
Epoxy grout	1–2 weeks	2 weeks before start

Acknowledgment

We have reviewed the selection list and the sequence above. We understand that KVI Construction does not begin work until every finish material on this list has been delivered to the home, and that our start date is set only once those materials are on site and checked, and that changes made after a phase is complete may carry additional cost.

 Homeowner signature / date

 KVI Construction / date