

## Zellige Installation Guide

***Realstone recommends that you review this guide with the selected tile installer prior to beginning any project. We recommend that you choose a skilled tile installer who is familiar with the characteristics of zellige tiles to avoid any potential issues along the way. Realstone is not responsible for installation, ongoing care and maintenance or issues arising prior to installation this product.***

### ABOUT ZELLIGE

Originating in Morocco, these unique, handmade tiles are known for their organic beauty, vibrant colors and rich history dating back centuries. Authentic zellige tiles are made from high-quality clay, then hand shaped, cut, glazed and fired at extremely high temperatures resulting in this incredible durable and aesthetically pleasing tile.

Because of the traditional nature of the manufacturing process of zellige, you should expect to see high variation in your order, and between samples. Chips, pinholes and other imperfections are common in zellige tiles and are not defective. **Material with these characteristics are not subject for exchange or return.** Please see installation suggestions for specific areas below.

### REVIEWING YOUR ORDER

- Please inspect your order thoroughly upon receipt. We cannot be held responsible for tiles that have already been installed.
- Extreme variations in color, shape and thickness are to be expected. Irregular edges, crazing, pits and small hairline cracks are common, to be expected, and part of the traditional aesthetic of zellige installations.
- Industry standard recommends overage by 15% in order to account for tile cuts, breakage and future repairs, as well as for desired installation look.
- Please note that you may see marks on the tiles. These are done as part of the cutting process during production and can be wiped away easily.

### BEFORE INSTALLING:

- Residue and dust from shipping are typical. Tiles should be cleaned prior to beginning your installation. This includes soaking in water for a few minutes to help remove the dust and debris.
- Due to the inherent color variation of zellige, it is very important to mix pieces from multiple cartons prior to installation, and in order to achieve a natural shade variation throughout the installation.

### WALL INSTALLATIONS:

- Zellige tiles are traditionally laid with little to no grout joint. However, today's conventional grout joints (1/16" – 1/2"+) can still be used.
- If installing in a wet area, a penetrating sealer will be necessary.
- Ensure that all grout is quickly removed with a damp sponge to avoid grout haze from accumulating.

**FLOOR INSTALLATIONS:**

- We do not recommend installing zellige tiles on the floor due to the sharp, irregular edges and polished surfaces. This can cause slip risks as well as a tendency for scratches to show. If choosing to bypass this recommendation and installing on floors, we remains not liable for any damages incurred.

**POOL/WATER FEATURE INSTALLATIONS:**

- We do not recommend installing zellige tiles in pools or water features. The chemicals that are present in these types of installation areas will alter the color and overall look of the tiles and will require heavy maintenance to avoid and remove. If choosing to bypass this recommendation and installing in pools or other water features, Realstone remains not liable for any damages incurred.

**MAINTENANCE**

- Vacuum or sweep tile regularly to remove dust or other abrasive material which has accumulated.
- Glazed zellige may be cleaned with any neutral pH household cleaning products, or just soap and warm water.
- Clean any spills (especially oils, wine stains, or other abrasive items) immediately to avoid potential stains.
- Re-seal zellige and grout (if applicable) per sealer manufacturer's recommended guidelines.

California Residents: Prop 65 warning