**INSTALLATION AND CARE GUIDE**

**HI-LO ENCOUNTERS**

**GETTING STARTED**:

Be sure that the surface the tiles will be glued to is clean and dry with no trace of grease.

***HANDLE THE TILES WITH CARE AS THE EDGES ARE SHARP. BE SURE NOT TO RUN YOUR FINGERS ALONG THE EDGES.***

**TOOLS YOU WILL NEED:**

1. A good quality metal adhesive - *available at your local home improvement store or hardware store.*
2. Tile spacers - *we recommend using 1/16’’ for size.*
3. A chalk line or a layout tool such as a pencil and/or ruler.
4. Rubber cement - *apply a thin coat of rubber cement over the top of the tile before grouting, and remove IMMEDIATELY after grouting. This will help prevent any scratching.*
5. If grouting the tiles, a **sandless** grout must be used in order to prevent scratching.
6. Rubber float.
7. Stainless Steel cleaner.
8. A band saw with a fine tooth metal cutting blade should be used to cut the tiles.

**INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS:**

Follow generally accepted good practices for installation of ceramic tiles. Take careful note of the following instructions specific to decorative tiles.

**SETTING METHODS:**

**HI-LO ENCOUNTERS**

* Follow adhesive manufacturer’s instructions for preparation, mixing, application and cleanup.
* Trowel a layer of adhesive on the back of each tile *prior* to placing on the combed adhesive bed to obtain 100% coverage.

**GROUTING MATERIALS:**

Use the following grouting materials:

1. Cement - *a liquid latex (POLYMER) fortified premium non-sand grout.*
2. Epoxy - *a water-cleanable grouting epoxy.*

**GROUTING METHODS:**

Follow grout manufacturer’s instructions for preparation, mixing, application and cleanup.

Use a clean, foam rubber float with non-sand grout. Do **not** use a hard rubber float with non-sand grout or damage to the sealer and/or tile surface may result.

1. Clean up residue as soon as possible after grouting. Be mindful that grout that is allowed to harden may be difficult to remove.
2. Do **not** use scouring pads, steel wool, sandpaper, or other abrasive implements to remove grout. Haze or damage to the sealer and/or tile surface may result.

**CLEANING:**

1. **DO NOT** use any type of abrasive cleaning product to clean the stainless steel tiles; this will scratch the finish!
2. **ALWAYS** use a soft cloth or paper towel to clean. Fingerprints can be removed using a glass cleaning product.