



INSTALLATION GUIDE FOR PORCELAIN PAVING



Ten Guidelines for Success!



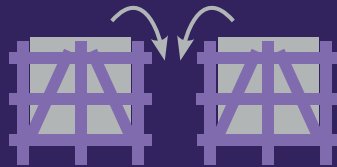
View as large an area of your chosen paving as possible before purchasing to ensure you are happy with your choice.



Inspect your product to make sure you are completely happy before you lay. We advise that dry laying products before laying them permanently is the ideal way to do this.



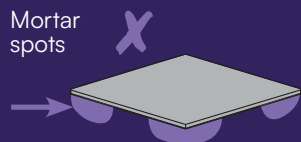
Only use appropriate products and sub-base for driveways. Speak to your contractor to ensure the product you choose is suitable.



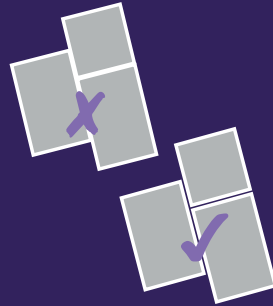
Always mix packs whilst laying to achieve an overall blended appearance.



Never use brick acid or acidic cleaning products on natural stone or porcelain. Always check that cleaning products are suitable for use.

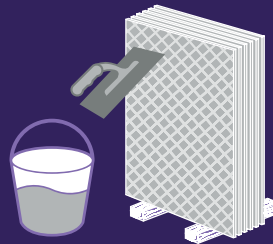


Always lay paving on a full bed of mortar and never use the spot bed method — see our step by step laying guides for more advice on this.



Never butt joint paving. When laying, you should always use an appropriate joint for your chosen product. Global Landscaping natural stone products should be laid with a minimum 10-15mm joint; porcelain joints should be 5-10mm.

When laying porcelain to help avoid uneven edges (known as lippage) between tiles over 900mm long, Global Landscaping recommend using a third bond pattern, where the joints are staggered by a third of the tile length.



Always use our slurry primer on the back of natural stone and porcelain paving.

For full instructions and how-to-videos please visit our website www.global-landscaping.co.uk or scan the QR Code



PORCELAIN

STEP BY STEP LAYING GUIDELINES

We have created a step-by-step laying guide specifically for porcelain products in order to help you get the best results when laying. Please ensure that you follow the guidelines when laying Global Landscaping porcelain products.

1. CHECK YOUR PRODUCT

Before installation, thoroughly inspect your product. It's essential to use tiles from the same batch to prevent colour inconsistencies, as mixing different batches can cause noticeable shade differences. Claims or returns based on colour variation will not be accepted once the tiles are laid. When handling porcelain tiles, place them on wooden battens to avoid chipping the edges.

2. PREPARE YOUR BASE

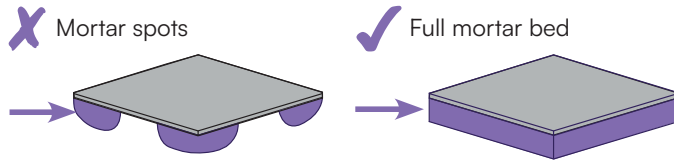
When work begins, ensure the area is cleared of all vegetation and debris. Then, ideally using a scaled drawing of your planned area, you can start plot pointing by marking out the space using pegs and a string line. Complete all necessary groundwork before installation. Ensure the sub-base is at least 150mm thick with Type 1 material (hardcore), well-compacted, and has proper drainage slope. The drainage slope should be angled away from buildings at a minimum gradient of 1:60. Ensure there is an adequate drainage outlet at the end of the patio's runoff edge. Paving or a patio should be 150 mm below the DPC level.

When Laying a Driveway: a minimum of 150mm compressed hardcore foundation must be used before laying products for a driveway (only suitable products to be used). It is essential that products are laid on a full bed of wet mortar for driveways. If you are unsure in anyway about how to lay a driveway then please consult your landscaper or call the Global Landscaping sales team for advice on best practice.

PTO

3. USE A FULL BED OF MORTAR

Once happy with the layout, using your line and pegs as a reference, you can start laying your flags down on a full bed of slightly wet mortar mix 30-50mm deep. For the mortar mix we advise 1 part cement to 5 parts sharp sand (some contractors use a 50/50 mixture of building and sharp sand). All products must be laid on a full bed of mortar (DO NOT USE THE SPOT BED METHOD), especially when laying a driveway. A full bed of mortar is key to help reduce moisture transparency or discolouration, as well as to provide a solid base for the patio.



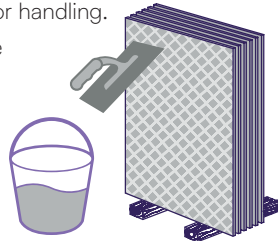
Please remember that with all Global Landscaping products - the spot laying method is not suitable!

4. PRIME YOUR SLABS

You must use a slurry primer when laying porcelain tiles. Apply Global Landscapings Slurry Primer, mixed to a creamy consistency (not runny), to the back of each tile before laying to ensure proper adhesion to the sand and cement mortar bed. Larger slabs may require two people for handling.

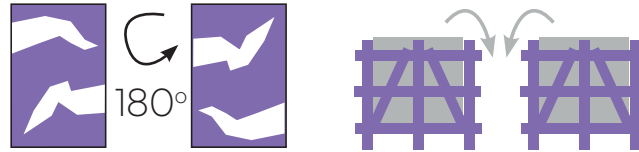
When applying slurry primer, place the tile on wooden battens to prevent chipping the edges.

Before priming, brush the back of the tile with a stiff brush to remove magnesium oxide releasing agents, ensuring a good bond. Apply a 1-2mm layer of the slurry primer to the entire back of the slab just before laying, ensuring it remains wet for proper adhesion. Immediately clean off any excess slurry primer from the tile surface, as it becomes very difficult to remove once it dries. Apply the primer to each tile just before laying, ensuring it remains wet for proper adhesion. Immediately clean any primer residue from the face-up side with water.



5. LAY YOUR SLABS

Use a rubber mallet to gently tap down the flags and a spirit level to check the patio is uniformly level, being careful to check you follow your slope level as you go along. To provide suitable run-off during wet weather, a fall angle must be considered. Falls must be angled away from buildings or structures at an incline of 1:60 or steeper. An adequate drainage outlet source should be present at the end of the patio's run off edge. A planning officer may need to be consulted for further advice.

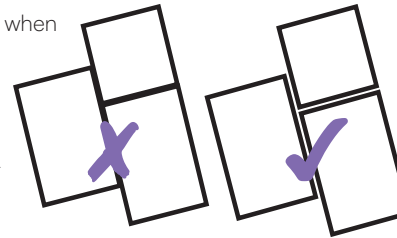


Mix tiles during laying to achieve a blended appearance. While porcelain finishes have less surface variation than natural stone, they still feature some texture variation. Rotate tiles with repeat patterns by 90/180 degrees to minimize repetition, especially in tiles with extensive surface patterns. Always mix packs during laying for a blended appearance.

Do not half bond porcelain tiles over 600mm long; use a maximum one-third/two-thirds bond for these tiles.

Porcelain paving is produced in separate batches, and it's vital to use tiles from the same batch to avoid colour variations during installation. Mixing different batches may lead to visible differences in shades.

Allow for 5-10mm joints when laying porcelain tiles. Use a suitable outdoor jointing grout for porcelain. Consult your merchant or landscaper for an appropriate jointing grout for your project. Global Landscaping porcelain products are not designed for butt joints.



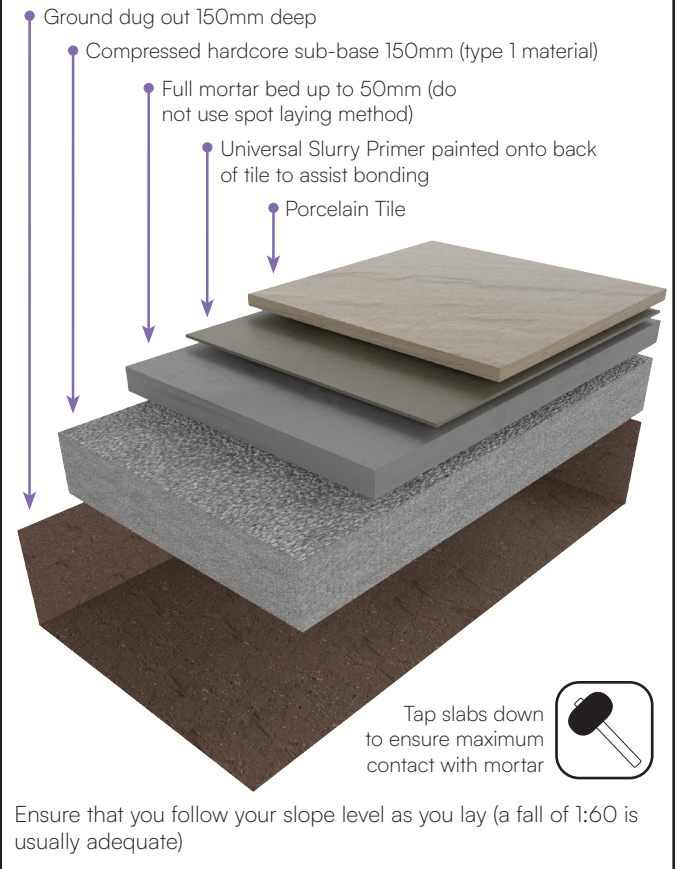
6. CUTTING PORCELAIN

We recommend the use of a suitable diamond cutting blade and water-fed table saw for cutting porcelain tiles. For best results invest in a quality diamond cutting blade as poor quality blades can cause chipping or shattering of the porcelain tiles. Wear appropriate protective clothing when operating machinery.

8. IMPORTANT — CLEAN THE JOB

Maintain cleanliness during and after installation. Promptly remove any residue to prevent staining. Care must be taken to remove slurry primer immediately from the face of the paving, as once it sets, it is difficult to remove. When pointing the joints, ensure the grout has set sufficiently (10-15 minutes) before cleaning the tiles with a suitable sponge and water/residue remover. Pointing should be done in sections of approximately 1m². After all sections are grouted and have set for about an hour, perform a final cleaning with a damp sponge to remove any grout haze. Once set, tile grout is very difficult to remove. Any cleaners used must not contain any acid, and you should confirm that they are suitable for use on porcelain.

Quick Guide to Building Your Base



Our How To Videos provide helpful advice on best practice when laying your Natural Stone or Porcelain paving. Check out the videos section of our website to find out more www.global-landscaping.co.uk

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