

# GROUT JOINT GUIDELINE

This is a resource to understand grout joint spacing by product type better.

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## INTRODUCTION

The following guidelines are based on tile type, manufacturing tolerances, and layout patterns, in accordance with ANSI A108 installation standards and TCNA Handbook recommendations.

**Please note:** the guidelines below are general (and without nuance)

## QUARRY TILE (FLOOR & WALL)

**Typical Sizes:** 6"x6" • 8"x8"

**Manufacturing Tolerance:** Low

**Recommended Grout Joint:** 3/8"

**Creative Materials Collections:** [Quarry](#) • Promenade

### Notes:

- Quarry tiles are extruded (not pressed) and are known for having significant dimensional variations.
- Wider joints accommodate these variations and allow for proper alignment.
- The grout joint is typically always 3/8".



## NON-RECTIFIED PORCELAIN FLOOR TILES

**Typical Sizes:** 8"x8" • 12"x12" • 12"x24" • 18"x18" • Various Planks

**Manufacturing Tolerance:** Moderate (not mechanically finished)

**Recommended Grout Joint:** 3/16"

**Creative Materials Collections:** [Antique Wood](#) • [Aspen](#) • [Boundless](#) • [Cementitious](#)

### Notes:

- Pressed edges may vary slightly in size.
- Avoid tight joints to prevent lippage and alignment issues.
- For offset patterns, see layout considerations.
- Traditionally pressed, cushioned edge, and calibrated.



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## NON-RECTIFIED PORCELAIN WALL TILES

**Typical Sizes:** 3"x6" • 2"x6" • 2"x10" • 2"x18" • 3"x12" • 4"x8" • 4"x12"

**Manufacturing Tolerance:** Moderate (not mechanically finished)

**Recommended Grout Joint:** Ranges from 1/16", 1/8", and 3/16"

**Creative Materials Collections:** [Alterra](#) • [Innova Brick](#) • [Harmonix](#) • [Forged](#) • [Infusion](#) • [Bateau Complements](#) • [ColorForm](#)

### Notes:

- Pressed edges may vary slightly.
- For offset patterns, see layout considerations.
- Traditionally pressed, cushioned edge, and calibrated.



## RECTIFIED PORCELAIN FLOOR TILES

**Typical Sizes:** Commonly large format | 12"x24" • 24"x24" • 24"x48" and more

**Manufacturing Tolerance:** High (mechanically cut edges)

**Recommended Grout Joint:** 1/8"

**Creative Materials Collections:** [Cascade](#) • [Colorbase](#) • [Frammento](#) • [Poppi](#) • [Seascape](#)

### Notes:

- Allows for tighter joints due to precise sizing.
- For offset patterns, see layout considerations.





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## RECTIFIED PORCELAIN WALL TILES

**Typical Sizes:** Varies

**Manufacturing Tolerance:** High (mechanically cut edges)

**Recommended Grout Joint:** 1/8"

**Creative Materials Collections:** [Improvise](#) • [Muse](#) • [Sequence](#) • [Wavelength](#) • [Volumique](#)

**Notes:**

- Allows for tighter joints due to precise sizing.
- For offset patterns, see layout considerations.



## CERAMIC WALL TILES

**Typical Sizes:** Varies

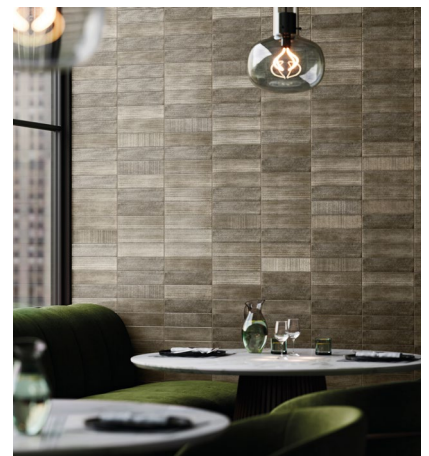
**Manufacturing Tolerance:** Moderate (not mechanically finished)

**Recommended Grout Joint:** Ranges from 1/16", 1/8", and 3/16"

**Creative Materials Collections:** [Artisanal](#) • [Brixton](#) • [Gleam](#) • [Innocence](#)

**Notes:**

- Pressed edges may vary slightly in size.
- Avoid tight joints to prevent lippage and alignment issues.
- For offset patterns, see layout considerations.



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## LAYOUT CONSIDERATIONS

**Offset Patterns:** Any percentage

For tiles  $\geq 12"$  on any side, grout joints shall open up slightly to accommodate warpage and potential lippage.

**Offset Pattern: 50%**



**Offset Pattern: 33%**



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## PRODUCT CONSIDERATIONS

**Brixton**: Ceramic Wall Tile - Available in sizes 3"x6" and 3"x12"

**3"x6"** Recommended grout joint is 1/16" and can be used in any offset pattern without limitations.

**3"x12"** Recommended grout joint is 1/16" but should open up to 1/8" if any offset pattern is used due to the 12" side.

**Antique Wood**: Non-Rectified Porcelain Floor Tile - Available in sizes 6"x24" and 6"x36"

**Both Sizes** Recommended grout joint is 3/16".

**Both Sizes** If an offset pattern is used, which is recommended, the grout joint should open up to 1/4" due to the length being > 12".

**Lava**: Rectified Porcelain Floor Tile - Available in sizes 12"x24", 24"x24", and 24"x48"

**All Sizes** Recommended grout joint is 1/8".

**All Sizes** If an offset pattern is used, the grout joint should open up to 3/16" due to the length being > 12".

**Muse**: Rectified Porcelain Wall Tile - Available in 2"x8"

**2"x8"** Recommended grout joint is 1/8" and remains at 1/8" if used in an offset pattern due to the smaller format.

**Note** Matte can be used on the floor.

**Gleam**: Ceramic Wall Tile - Available in 4"x12"

**4"x12"** Recommended grout joint is 1/16".

**4"x12"** If an offset pattern is used, the grout joint should open up to 1/8" due to the length of 12".

**Harmonix**: Non-Rectified Porcelain Wall Tile - Available in 2"x12"

**2"x12"** Recommended grout joint is 1/16".

**2"x12"** If an offset pattern is used, the grout joint should open up to 1/8" due to the length of 12".

## CONCLUSION

For additional technical details, specification review and consultation, or related information, please contact your dedicated consultant or email us at [info@creativematerialscorp.com](mailto:info@creativematerialscorp.com). We'll be happy to assist.