

Zellige

HANDCRAFTED CLAY TILE



Meet Zellige.

The Zellige Tile Collection from Villa Lagoon Tile brings a rustic charm to any project. Unlike machined tile, these exquisite Zellige and Bejmat tiles are crafted entirely by hand in a time-honored method of tile-making designed to celebrate the natural beauty of the clay.

“Like the irregularities in natural wood grain or the tiny air bubbles in hand-blown glass, it is these perfect imperfections that produce the beautiful effect Zellige tile is known for.”



Tradition.

Skilled artisans in Fez, Morocco use local clays fired in kilns fueled by olive pits to create these tiles, which are then finished with an enamel glaze. The production of glazed clay tiles in Morocco dates back over 1,000 years. Having imbued a sense of luxury and artistry in homes, religious buildings, and other public spaces, the style is enjoying a resurgence of interest in this millennium.

Because Villa Lagoon Tile Zellige tiles are molded, cut, and glazed by hand, each tile is unique with variations in color, edging and shape. Like the irregularities in natural wood grain or the tiny air bubbles in hand-blown glass, it is these perfect imperfections that produce the beautiful effect Zellige tile is known for.

How they're made.

- Made from the local clays in and near Fes, Morocco.
- Molded by hand and dried in the sun.
- Fired in kilns fueled by olive pits and wood shavings to harden the clay.
- Colored glaze applied by hand.
- Fired again to set the enamel.
- Chiseled to desired shape if needed.





The art and craft of tile making in Morocco dates back to the 12th century and has been passed down through generations by master craftsmen called maâlems. The handmade nature of zellige tiles means that each tile is unique, with slight variations in color, texture, and shape. The process is time-consuming and requires skilled artisans with a deep understanding of the craft. As a result, zellige tiles have a distinct and timeless aesthetic that reflects the rich cultural heritage of Morocco.





FOR THE LOVE OF COLOR

ZELLIGE COLOR PALETTE



NATURAL UNGLAZED
ZL-NAT



TERRE NUE GLAZE
ZL-N02



SNOW WHITE
ZL-100



MERINGUE
ZL-101



OYSTER SHELL
ZL-102



DRIFTWOOD
ZL-104



BLACK SATIN
ZL-S20



OBSIDIAN
ZL-200



CHARCOAL
ZL-202



GRAPHITE
ZL-203



METALIC BLACK
ZL-204



MODEST GRAY
ZL-205



DARK CHARCOAL
ZL-207



EVERGREEN
ZL-300



GARDEN GROVE
ZL-301



JADEITE
ZL-302



DEEP FOREST
ZL-303



WINTERGREEN
ZL-304



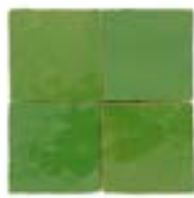
PARADISE GREEN
ZL-305



EMERALD GREEN
ZL-306



HIGH TIDE
ZL-307



GREEN APPLE
ZL-308



SPANISH OLIVE
ZL-309



LIGHT GREEN TEA
ZL-310



PARADISE SATIN
ZL-S40



ICEBERG
ZL-400



SKY BLUE
ZL-401



OCEANSIDE
ZL-402



WATERFALL
ZL-403



MARIANA BLUE
ZL-404



8 FROSTED SILVER
ZL-405



WHISPER BLUE
ZL-406



TIDEPOOL
ZL-408



GRAPE HYACINTH
ZL-409



MIDNIGHT SWIM
ZL-M40



POPPY
ZL-500



BLUSHED LINEN
ZL-502



DOGWOOD
ZL-503



SANGRIA
ZL-504



COPPER ROSE
ZL-505



DUSTY ROSE
ZL-506



HEIRLOOM
ZL-508



ORANGE
ZL-509



PLUM ASH
ZL-510



PLUM
ZL-511



BUTTERSCOTCH
ZL-600



CARAMEL
ZL-500



BURNT UMBER
ZL-602



PEONY
ZL-501



PENNY
ZL-603



EGGPLANT
ZL-605



GOLDENROD
ZL-700



SUNNY CITRON
ZL-701

Shapes and Sizes.

OUR ONLY LIMITATION IS IMAGINATION.



Always in Stock



Traditional

4" Square / 100x100x11mm
11mm Thick
9.3 pcs/sf
*Not recommended for floors



Bejmat

5 ½" Rectangle / 140x45x20mm
20 mm Thick
14.9 pcs/sf
*OK to use for light traffic floors



Mosaic Mat

2" Square Mat / 50x50x11mm
11mm Thick
1.3 pcs/sf
*Not recommended for floors



Common in Stock



Chevron Mat

9x10" Mat / 235x250x11mm
11mm Thick
1.86 pcs/sf
*Not recommended for floors



Fishscale Mat

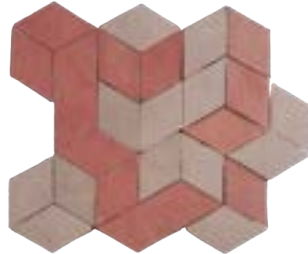
13" Mat / 340x340x11mm
11 mm Thick
1.31 pcs/sf
*Not recommended for floors



Triangle Mat

12x10" Mat / 305x260x11mm
11mm Thick
1.3 pcs/sf
*Not recommended for floors

Custom Shapes and Sizes



**Endless possibilities with
traditionally crafted
Moroccan tile...**

Contact us to learn about available
shapes, sizes, colors, lead times, and
minimum order.



"It's the simple things in
life that are the most
extraordinary."

-Paulo Coelho





Garden Grove



Natural Unglazed



Oyster Shell



Meringue





Evergreen



Meringue



*Gargen Grove &
Wintergreen*



Installation Tips & Guidance

HIRE A PROFESSIONAL

Your new tile was skillfully handcrafted by our artisans and we encourage our clients to consult a skilled tile setter for the installation.

Zellige Installation

THE BASICS



1. PREP THE SURFACE

Ensure the surface to be tiled is clean and level.



2. PULL TILES FROM DIFFERENT BOXES

To work with the variation from tile to tile and box to box, it is a good idea to pull out tiles from several boxes and mix them to achieve a good, balanced overall appearance.



3. USE A FLEXIBLE ADHESIVE

Use a flexible, high-bond adhesive or mortar to set the tiles. It is a good idea to apply adhesive to both the back of the tiles and the surface to be tiled, a common technique known as “back-buttering”.



4. SET THE TILES

Set the tiles as closely together as possible with little to no gap.

Do not use spacers. Because they are handmade, there will be some edge irregularities, so small gaps here and there are acceptable and can be filled with grout in a later step. As you lay the tiles, level them by hand trying to keep an average level.



5. CUT AS NEEDED

The tiles can be easily cut, if needed, using a standard wet saw with a diamond-tipped blade.



6. GROUT

After the tiles have been set, use a soft grout float to spread the grout over the tiles and be sure to fill the spaces between tiles fully. We recommend a flexible liquid grout. After 20-30 minutes, the excess grout can be wiped off with a damp sponge or cloth, please refer to the manufacturers recommendations.

Zellige Q&A

Can I use Zellige in showers, pools, and fountains?

Zellige can be used for all wet areas with proper installation. We recommend using smaller tiles like our 2" mat and/or larger grout lines in slippery areas like shower floors for added traction.

Is Zellige easy to cut?

Yes, with a standard wet saw.

Do they need to be sealed?

Glazed Zellige doesn't need to be sealed but our series of unglazed tiles will require a penetrating sealant such as FilaFob.

Can I use Zellige on the floor?

For floor applications, we recommend our Bejmat tile over Zellige because it has a thicker clay body and color layer. Standard glazed Zellige is only suitable for very light traffic.

Is it suitable for outdoor use?

Yes, with proper installation.

What kind of grout does Zellige require?

Standard grout is suitable for most applications.

What kind of spacing should it have?

Zellige tiles are traditionally set with a groutless look, by using a butt-joint and filling in cracks with a thinned grout. The grout width can be adjusted for aesthetics or added traction.

What color grout should I use?

The grout color you choose is a personal decision that should reflect your design style. However, we suggest matching the grout color to the tile and tinting it as necessary. Keep in mind that contrasting grout may draw attention to natural tile crazing and chips.

Why is Zellige expensive?

Each piece of zellige has come a long distance and is crafted by the hands of a Moroccan artisan. The process is seasonal, relying on the long sunny summer days to dry the clay so production can be limited. In an effort to provide fair trade and support an ancient craft, our tile is priced higher than those that come from a machine in a factory.



Let's Connect!

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