

GALLO IMAGES/GETTY IMAGES

TILING is tops

TILES are wonderful – they not only look good, they enhance the general appearance and value of your home. And once you know the potential of tiles there's no end to the number of ways you can use them.

Traditionally we associate tiling with bathrooms and kitchens but tiles are also ideal for areas such as the patio because they're easy to clean, hygienic and cost-effective.

Pop in at Cashbuild to view tiles in a variety of materials, textures, sizes, colours and styles and get the right product for your needs. Ceramic tiles are ideal for indoors, outdoors and patio areas. Terra Rosa tiles are used mainly for patio and high-traffic areas.

Larger, natural-coloured tiles help create an illusion of more space in poorly lit or small rooms.

Also be on the lookout for a newcomer on Cashbuild's shelves: mosaic tiles for use on shower floors or as a decorative border to complement other tiles.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- Remove old floor coverings such as linoleum, vinyl and tiles before tiling.
- Thoroughly clear the surface of excess dust, moisture, mould, oil and grease. Treat the surface with a waterproofing compound if you have a damp problem.

This will help prevent future problems with tiles lifting.

- Remove all high spots and fill low spots as bumps will cause tiles to crack.
- Do you know how many tiles you'll need? Always buy enough to cover the area you want to tile plus an extra 10 per cent to allow for breakages and cutting. The surface that can be covered by a box of tiles will be indicated on the packaging. You'll also need to calculate the amount of adhesive and grout required for the surfaces to be tiled. Cashbuild assistants will supply

an easy calculation solution if you need it.

- Cashbuild is a one-stop shop for the other requirements on your shopping list too: steel tiling trowels, plastic applicators, tile cutters, tile-trimming files, spirit levels, tile nippers, rubber mallets and tile spacers. They also stock Tylon tile adhesive in 10 kg and 20 kg bags.

- Make sure you have the necessary safety equipment on hand when working with ceramic tiles, such as safety goggles and thick work gloves.

TILING TIPS

- Ready to start tiling? It's best to start in the middle of the area to be tiled to achieve an even finish.
- Use a builder's line to lay the tiles straight and make sure the tiles are laid following the line of extrusion; in other words, the pattern at the back of the tile must follow the same direction.
- When applying the adhesive prepare small quantities and work over small areas to prevent it from drying while you work. Remove all excess adhesive.
- The spacing between tiles should be 8-10 mm.
- Do the grouting at least 24 hours after laying the tiles to allow them to set properly. Once the grout has set, clean the entire area with a damp cloth.
- After laying floor tiles avoid walking on them for two to three days to prevent tiles moving out of position.
- Cashbuild stocks

tiles and adhesives manufactured locally by Ceramic Industries and Tylon respectively.

■ Go to www.cashbuild.co.za or call the Cashbuild Helpline on 0860-100-582 for more information. □



Consumer champion
Cashbuild will help you make tiling a simple, pleasant experience



Locally manufactured
Tylon Tile Grout and
Tylon Tile Fix Adhesive

Cashbuild stocks tiles in a variety of materials, textures, sizes, colours and styles including (from left) Protea Beige, Puerto Rico Ochre, mosaic sheets and Terra Rosa patio tiles.

