



Installation Recommendations

According to the Tile Council of North America, lippage is defined as a condition where one edge of a tile is higher than an adjacent tile, giving the finished surface an uneven appearance. This condition is inherent in all installation methods and may also be unavoidable due to the tile tolerances, in accordance with ANSI A137.1.

Some patterns, such as a 50% off-set (also known as brick joint), accentuate the effects of warpage and therefore result in more lippage than most installation patterns. Horizon Italian Tile recommends using a running bond pattern not exceeding a 33% offset in order to avoid lippage. The grout joint thickness can also play a role in an exaggeration of lippage. It is important to understand that widening the grout joint does not eliminate lippage, but it can make the lippage less apparent. Horizon Italian Tile recommends a minimum grout joint of 1/8" for all rectified tiles in order to avoid lippage.

Lighting conditions are also a factor to be taken into consideration in the appearance of lippage. Techniques where the lighting is located at the wall/ceiling interface or mounted directly on the wall, such as cascading light, cove lighting and wall-washers, tend to accentuate the shadows cast onto the surface of the tile. This can result in exaggerated and unappealing shadows on allowable lippage and/or warpage. In order to insure an acceptable installation, it is recommended to coordinate a job site mock up with the final lighting installed.

Examples of Laying Solutions:

