

## The Ultimate Guide to Buying Tiles: “WEKRAFT” By METAXPERIA HOME SOLUTIONS

### Welcome to WEKRAFT !!!

At WEKRAFT, your go-to destination for premium building materials, we understand that choosing the right tiles for your home can be a daunting task. This comprehensive guide will help you navigate through the myriad of choices available, ensuring you select the perfect tiles to suit your style, budget, and project requirements.

### How To Choose The Right Tiles For Your Home

The tiles you choose can significantly impact the overall look and feel of your space. Whether you're aiming for a sleek and modern design or a rustic and cozy atmosphere, the right tiles can bring your vision to life. Additionally, tiles play a crucial role in the functionality of your space. For instance, slip-resistant tiles are essential for areas prone to moisture, such as bathrooms and kitchens. Taking the time to select the right tiles will ensure that your space not only looks great but also functions optimally.

When choosing tiles, consider factors such as durability, maintenance, and cost. Investing in high-quality tiles that can withstand daily wear and tear will save you money in the long run. Additionally, selecting tiles that are easy to clean and maintain will make your life easier and keep your space looking fresh for years to come. Lastly, setting a budget and considering the cost of the tiles, including installation, will help you make an informed decision while staying within your financial means.

### Popular Tile Types

Here are some of the most popular types of tiles available in the market:

1. **Ceramic Tiles:** Versatile and budget-friendly, ceramic tiles are ideal for wall applications. They are best used in bathrooms where heavy traffic is minimal.
2. **Porcelain / Vitrified Tiles:** Fired at higher temperatures, porcelain tiles are durable and water-resistant, suitable for both indoor and outdoor applications. They come in various finishes, sizes, and styles, making them perfect for kitchens, bathrooms, and open-plan living areas.
3. **Natural Stone Tiles:** Marble, slate, limestone, granite, and travertine add luxury and elegance to any space. Each stone has unique characteristics, making every tile a work of art. They can be used with underfloor heating but require more maintenance.
4. **Glass Tiles:** Perfect for adding color and shine to splashbacks, showers, and accent walls. Available in glossy, frosted, and iridescent finishes.
5. **Mosaic Tiles:** Made of small pieces of glass, ceramic, natural stone, or metal arranged in patterns. Ideal for creating stunning focal points in splashbacks and showers.

6. Split Face Tiles: Made of linear slices of slate or quartzite stone, creating an undulating interlocking tile. Used for cladding garden walls, house facades, and internal feature walls.

### **What To Look Out For When Buying Tiles**

1. Location: Different areas of your home have different requirements. Bathroom and kitchen floors need water-resistant and easy-to-clean tiles. Outdoor tiles need to be frost-resistant and have a high slip rating.

2. Durability: High-traffic areas require tiles that can withstand heavy use. Check the tiles' PEI rating for wear classification.

3. Style and Aesthetics: Consider the overall style and theme of your space. Think about color, pattern, and texture to ensure the tiles complement the existing design elements.

4. Tile Size and Shape: Larger tiles make a space appear more expansive, while smaller ones create intricate patterns. Rectangular tiles can elongate a room, while square tiles offer balance.

5. Finish: Tile finishes affect both aesthetics and functionality. Matt finishes are slip-resistant and ideal for high-traffic areas. Glossy finishes reflect light and make a room feel brighter. Textured finishes add depth but may require more cleaning.

6. Maintenance: Consider the level of maintenance required. Some tiles need regular sealing or special cleaning products.

7. Cost: Set a budget considering the cost of tiles and installation.

### **Popular Tile Sizes**

Tiles come in various sizes, allowing you to create unique designs. Popular options include:

1. Standard Square Tiles: Sizes range are 300x300mm, 600X600mm, 600X1200mm, 800X800mm, 800X1600mm, 1000X1000mm, 1200X1200mm, 1200X1800 & 2400X4800mm to 1200x1000mm. Smaller tiles are used for kitchen splashbacks, while larger ones are popular for bathroom and kitchen walls.

2. Rectangular Tiles: Common sizes include 600x300mm for bathroom walls and 600x1200mm for kitchen and open-plan living areas.

3. Subway Tiles: Rectangular tiles measuring 300x300mm, 400x400mm & 600X600mm, ideal for creating feature splashbacks.

4. Hexagonal Tiles: Perfect for adding geometric patterns to floors or walls.

5. Herringbone Pattern: Created by arranging rectangular tiles diagonally, adding visual interest.

6. Opus or Modular Pattern: Combines different-sized tiles for a random, natural look.

### Tile Finishes

1. Matt Finish: Non-reflective, subtle look. Ideal for high-traffic areas.
2. Gloss Finish: Shiny surface, commonly used as kitchen wall tiles.
3. Polished Finish: High gloss, reflective surface. Adds elegance to bathrooms, kitchens, and living areas.
4. Textured Finish: Rough surface, providing better traction. Used in moisture-prone areas.
5. Honed Finish: Smooth, matte surface. Offers a sophisticated look for indoor applications.
6. Natural Finish: Showcases raw beauty of natural stone. Ideal for rustic, earthy feel.
7. Brushed Finish: Softened natural surface. Suitable for open-plan living areas, kitchens, and bathrooms.
8. Tumbled & Antique: Weathered, rustic edge. Traditionally used for limestone tiles.

### Key Steps in Tile Installation

1. Surface Preparation: Ensure the surface is clean, dry, and free from debris.
2. Tile Layout: Plan the layout before starting the installation.
3. Adhesive Application: Apply adhesive evenly with a notched trowel.
4. Tile Installation: Place each tile onto the adhesive, using spacers for consistent grout lines.
5. Grouting: Apply grout to the gaps and clean excess.
6. Sealing: Consider sealing tiles to protect from stains and moisture.

### How To Maintain And Clean Tiles

1. Sweep or vacuum regularly.
2. Wipe up spills immediately.
3. Use mild detergents or pH-neutral cleaners.
4. Clean grout with water and vinegar or grout cleaner.
5. Seal grout to prevent staining.

### Tips For Budgeting Your Tile Purchase

1. Determine the total square footage.
2. Research average tile costs.
3. Factor in installation costs.
4. Consider additional costs like tools or equipment.
5. Compare prices from different suppliers.

### Conclusion

Choosing the right tiles is crucial for achieving the desired aesthetic, functionality, and longevity. By considering factors such as durability, maintenance, and cost, you can make an informed decision that meets your specific needs and preferences. Armed with this ultimate tile buying guide, you're ready to embark on your tile-buying journey. Say goodbye to decision fatigue and hello to the perfect tiles for your home!

