

A KEY ELEMENT IN INTERIOR BUILDING: TILES

There are literally thousands of types of tiles with different colours, sizes, styles, and shapes. In the past, most of the tiles sold for home use were either white, almond or gray. Today, white and almond are still the most common, but people are experimenting more with colour.

As far as size is concerned, the most popular tile sold is still the 12 × 12 inches wall tile. However, the current trend is towards larger tiles. Very small tiles are also common. These are called mosaic tiles because you can mix different colours to create borders, patterns and pictures.

The material used to make tiles, and the method of manufacturing determine their main features in terms of durability and moisture resistance. Most ceramic tiles are glazed.

Glazed tiles are made from a mixture of clays that are pressed into shape. A glaze is then applied to the top and baked on. Glazed tiles may tend to get scratched on frequently used surfaces, but they are ideal for walls.

Mosaic tiles are made from different types of clay with colour pigment added. Mosaic tiles are suitable for almost any surface because they resist moisture, they are stain-proof, and will not chip easily.

Quarry tiles include any tile made out of a mixture of clays. They are usually deep red in colour and they are used mostly for interior floors because they are generally porous and irregular in shape. Other types of tiles are made out of natural materials like slate, marble, granite, and limestone cut into pieces.



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