



FIRECLAY TILE

GUIDE TO

# Pool Tile

The secret to designing a show-stopping pool starts with the perfect tile. From waterline tile to full coverage, our durable ceramic or glass tile collections will create a water oasis that's both durable and stunning.







# Ceramic Tile

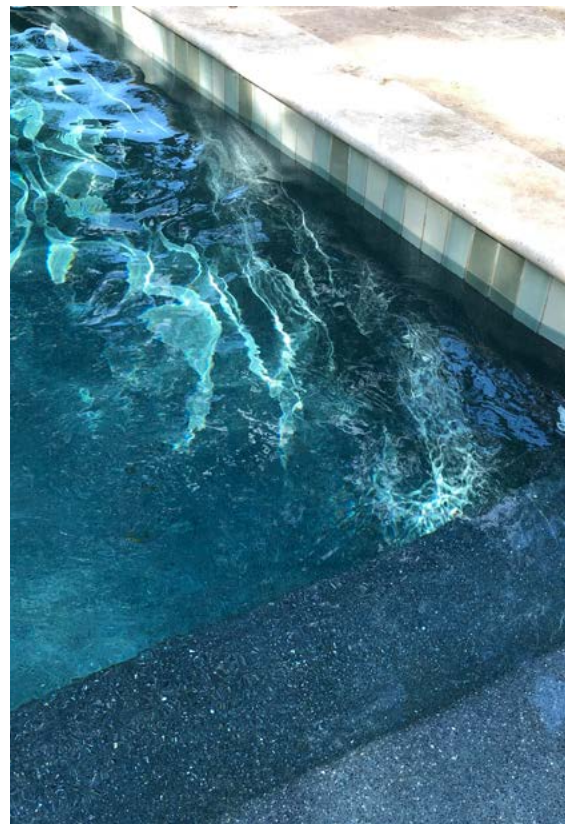
Use ceramic tile for a beautiful, time-honored finish for your pool. When installed and maintained correctly, it lasts much longer than other pool finishes. Ceramic tile saves you time and money with the bonus of a durable, lasting, and fade-resistant finish. Even after years of sunlight and pool chemicals, your ceramic tile will look brand new.

## Other benefits include:

- Durability against the elements
- Sustainable
- Frost resistant
- Acceptable for saltwater pool applications
- Coordinating trim available
- Glaze offering in gloss, matte<sup>1</sup>, and satin

## Popular sizes:

- 2 x 2
- 3 x 3
- 4 x 4
- 6 x 6
- 2 x 6
- Trim: Bullnose, glazed edge<sup>1</sup>, quarter round, flat liner<sup>1</sup>
- Handpainted Tiles<sup>1</sup> in 6x6, 8x8, and 6x12



\*If choosing a glaze color that is acid sensitive, etching can occur. Not all Fireclay glazes are acid-sensitive. Refer to the following pages for recommendations.

<sup>1</sup>Only available in Original Ceramic Clay Body

# Original Ceramic Tile Colors


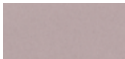

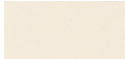


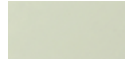


## GLOSS

								
WHITE WASH (V2)	TUSK (V2)	MILKY WAY (V2)	GARDENIA (V2)	FRENCH LINEN (V2)	OYSTER SHELL (V2)	DRIFTWOOD (V2)	SKIPPING STONE (V2)	AKOYA (V2)
								
LAPIS (V2)	JADE (V2)	TURQUOISE (V2)	HUCKLEBERRY (V2)	MOONSHINE (V2)	NICKEL (V2)	RAINY DAY (V2)	WROUGHT IRON (V2)	RAVEN (V2)
								
AZUL (V4)	SLATE BLUE (V3)	NAUTICAL (V3)	SAND DUNE (V4)	SHETLAND WOOL (V2)	DUST STORM (V4)	PEABODY (V2)	SEA GREEN (V3)	SPRUCE GLOSS (V3)
								
LIMON (V2)	CHARTREUSE (V3)	DAFFODIL (V3)	LEMON CREAM (V2)	BRYCE CANYON (V3)	TOMATO RED (V3)	ROSEMARY (V3)	SALTON SEA (V3)	

## MATTE

								
PEACOCK (V2)	DUSTY BLUE (V2)	BLUE VELVET (V2)	BASALT (V3)	QUARTZITE (V2)	IRON ORE (V2)	MAGNETITE (V2)	HUNTER GREEN (V2)	SANDSTONE (V3)
								
PUMICE (V2)	PYRITE (V2)	SHALE (V2)	SEA GLASS (V2)	MORNING THAW (V2)	GYPSUM (V2)	DOLOMITE (V2)	DAISY (V2)	HALITE (V2)
								
FELDSPAR (V3)	IVORY (V2)	TUMBLEWEED (V2)	DAWN (V2)	RED ROCK (V2)	CALCITE (V2)	SUNFLOWER (V2)	MUSTARD SEED (V2)	PEWTER (V3)
								
VINTAGE LEATHER (V2)	SORBET (V2)	CLOVER (V2)						

## SATIN

								
ANTIQUE (V4)	PAINTED SKY (V2)	FLAGSTONE (V2)	CHATEAU (V2)	CARBON (V2)	DESERT BLOOM (V2)	EMBER (V2)	EUCALYPTUS (V2)	LICHEN (V2)
								
NEPTUNE (V2)								



# Natural Press Ceramic Tile Colors

ALL COLORS COME IN GLOSS AND SATIN

								
ZINC (V2)	GESSO (V2)	FLAKE WHITE (V2)	TIN OXIDE (V2)	TITANIUM GREY (V2)	TYRIAN PURPLE (V2)	RED JASPER (V2)	MADDER RED (V2)	VERMILLION (V2)
								
CARMINE (V2)	RED IRON OXIDE (V2)	YELLOW OCHRE (V2)	AZO GREEN (V2)	SAP GREEN (V2)	GREEN APATITE (V2)	VIRIDIAN (V2)	TERRE VERTE (V2)	MAYA BLUE (V2)
								
ULTRAMARINE (V2)	INDIGO (V2)	AZURITE (V2)	EGYPTIAN BLUE (V2)	AMETHYST (V2)	BONE BLACK (V2)			

## ESSENTIALS COLLECTION

Available online as part of our [Quick Ship](#) offering.

### GLOSS

							
SALT CREEK GLOSS (V1)	PEARL GLOSS (V2)	CLOUD COVER GLOSS (V3)	ALBERTA BLUE GLOSS (V3)	HOOD RIVER GLOSS (V4)	MANZANITA GLOSS (V3)	PUGET SOUND GLOSS (V4)	TIMBERLINE GLOSS (V4)

### SATIN

							
SALT CREEK SATIN (V1)	PEARL SATIN (V1)	CLOUD COVER SATIN (V2)	ALBERTA BLUE SATIN (V2)	HOOD RIVER SATIN (V2)	MANZANITA SATIN (V2)	PUGET SOUND SATIN (V2)	TIMBERLINE SATIN (V2)







# Glass Tile

The beauty of glass tile in a swimming pool is unparalleled. It's a more expensive choice, but even when paired with less-expensive tile, you'll be delighted by the surface reflections. We make our glass tile by fusing ceramic glazes at high temperatures. It's durable, beautiful, and can withstand the elements.

## Other benefits include:

- Glass pool tiles are non-permeable and water-resistant
- The tiles are freeze-proof and can withstand sudden temperature shifts
- Slip-resistant finish capabilities (*please inquire about current availability*)
- Acceptable for saltwater pool applications

## Popular sizes:

- 1 x 1
- 1 x 2
- 2 x 2
- 3 x 3
- 3 x 6
- 2 x 6



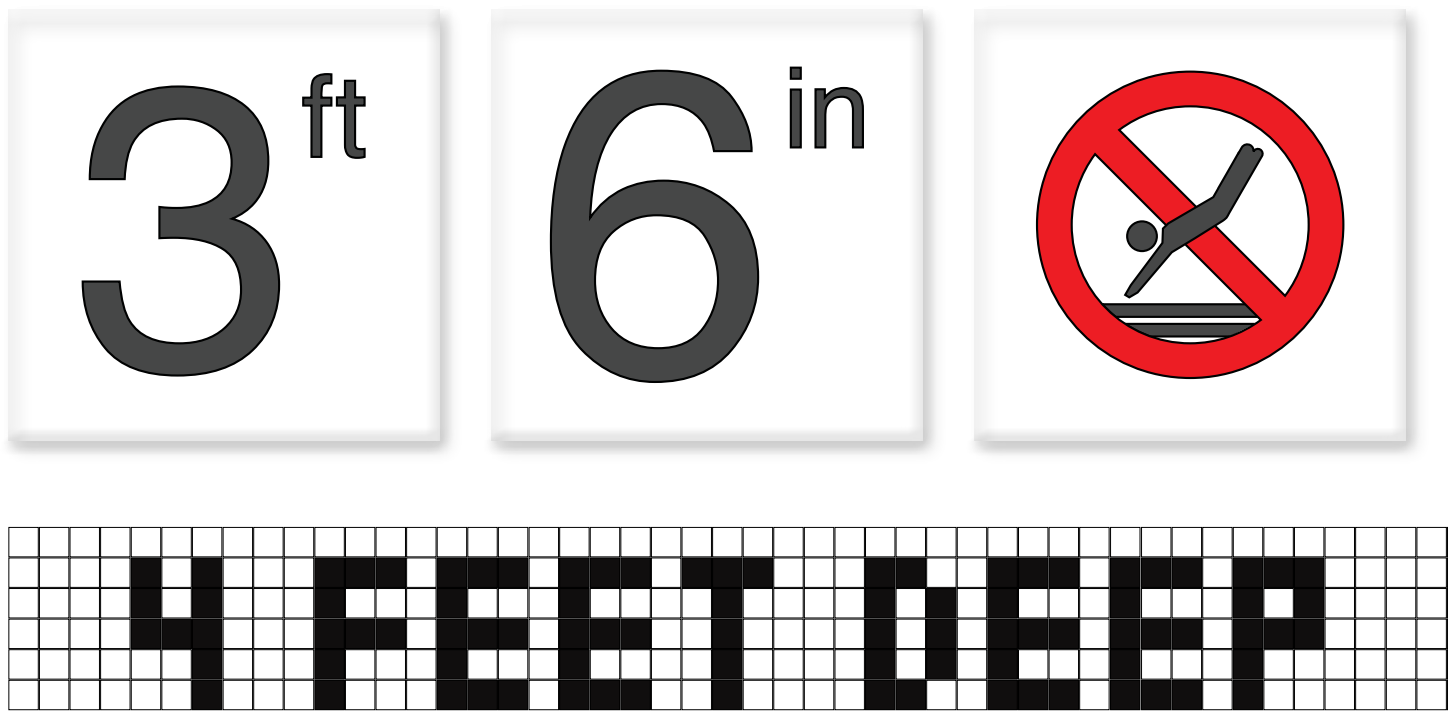
# Glass Tile Colors

ALL COLORS COME IN GLOSS AND MATTE

							
LARK (V1)	SPARROW (V1)	FLYCATCHER (V1)	WARBLER (V1)	SNOWY OWL (V1)	DOVE (V1)	ROSY FINCH (V1)	CHICKADEE (V1)
							
KINGFISHER (V1)	GREAT BLUE HERON (V1)	PARTRIDGE (V1)	EGRET (V1)	CAROLINA WREN (V1)	ORIOLE (V1)	FALCON (V1)	MAGPIE (V1)
							
BLUE JAY (V1)	GRACKLE (V1)	PHEASANT (V1)	ALBATROSS (V1)	ROADRUNNER (V1)	STARLING (V1)	BARN SWALLOW (V1)	CONDOR (V1)

# Custom Depth Markers

We’re happy to create and coordinate custom permanent depth markers that complement your pool tile. Choose from handpainted tile or mosaic sheets for your new installation or pool renovation.



Please note: Images are for reference/inspiration only and are not available as a standard at this time.



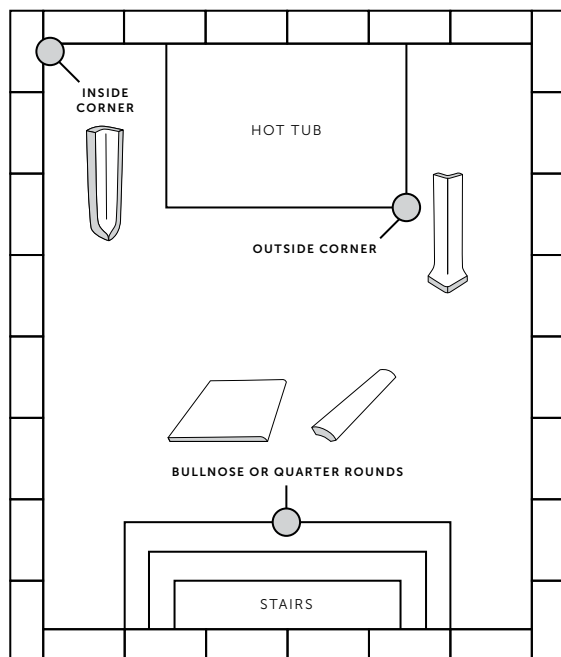


# Trim Considerations

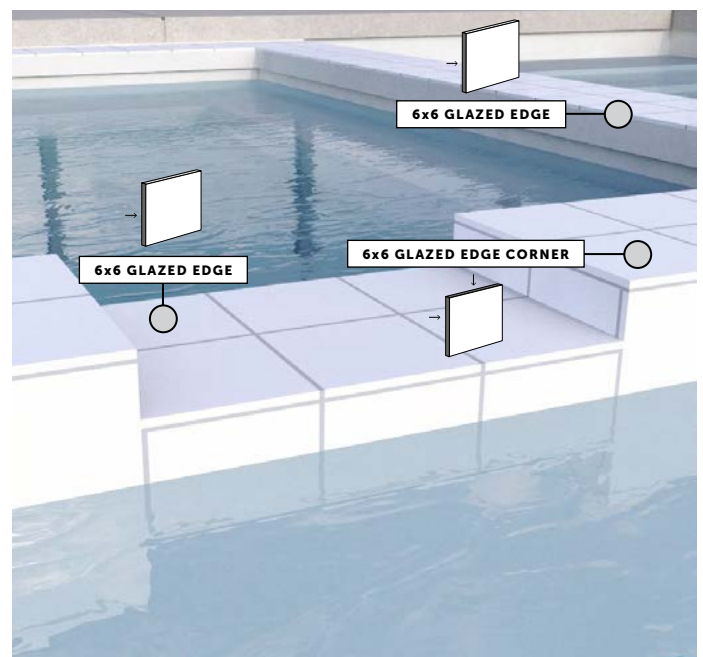
If your installation requires a finished edge for a waterfall, step, or corner, we've got you covered. Consider a bullnose, radius bullnose, or quarter round to soften transitions on edges where the tile body may be exposed.

Not sure what the best option is? Reach out to us and we'll put you in touch with an expert!

**Example of Trim Locations**



**Example of Waterfall Trim**

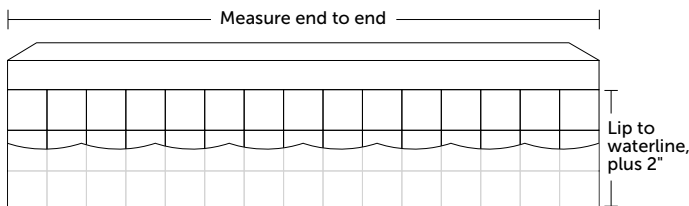


# Technical Information

## Measuring Waterline

To be sure you order the right amount of tile, here are some tips for accurately measuring your pool's waterline:

- Start by measuring the sides of the pool or spa from end-to-end
- Measure the distance from the upper lip of the edges to the waterline, then add 2 inches to allow the tiles to extend below the waterline
- For total footage, add the side measurements to the waterline measurement



## Freeze / Thaw Performance

- Our ceramic tile is frost-resistant but not frost proof. Fireclay Tile tiles should not be used on floors or walls with freeze/thaw conditions. If installing where the pool can freeze we recommended draining the pool prior to freezing conditions occur.
- Our glass tiles are frost-proof and are unaffected in freeze/thaw conditions.
- Fireclay Tile tiles are tested by TCNA for ASTM C1026 Freeze/Thaw Cycling. Learn more about our [Tile Specifications](#).

## Light Reflectance Value (LRV)

Light reflectance value (LRV) is a measure of the amount of light reflected by a color and may be used to determine the suitability of a finish. Fireclay Tile does not test each of our unique glaze colors for LRV. We recommend picking an equivalent paint color, as this information is readily available from paint companies.

- Sun reflective index induces the heat produced, not just light.
- We recommended picking the most similar paint chip to your tile color for the LRV rating of that glaze.

## Special Installation Considerations for Glass Tile in Pools

The recommended method of installing glass tile differs from industry-standard methods in the following areas:

- Install glass tile only over well-cured, stable substrates.
- Substrates should be leveled prior to the installation of the crack isolation membrane. Do not use a thin-set to level the substrate under glass tile.
- Since any crack in a glass tile is very visible, the use of a crack isolation membrane (ANSI A118.12) over the entire surface is strongly advised. Many substrates such as mortar beds may continue to cure and shrink over a period of months, and a crack isolation membrane prevents shrinkage or movement of the substrate from transferring through to the tile.

To ensure that the highest possible quality of installation is achieved we recommend some details that may differ from industry standard:

- Use only white thin-set
- Because of the potential translucency of glass tile 100% coverage of thin-set must be achieved against the back of each tile
- We strongly recommend that all glass tile be installed with a high-quality two-component white thin-set mortar
- The manufacturer of the preferred installation materials should be consulted to ensure that the installation materials manufacturer recommended and the most up to date installation materials system are used
- Trowel ridges should be flattened before pressing the glass tile into the thin-set to ensure that no voids exist behind the glass tile

Allow for a control joint wherever substrates change and as prescribed in section EJ171 of TCNA's Handbook for Ceramic, Glass, and Stone Tile Installation. Learn more about our [Glass Tile Specifications](#).



# Care & Maintenance

## Pool Tile Care & Maintenance

The single-most important step for future daily maintenance involves the complete removal of excess grout and construction dirt after your tile has been installed.

To help prevent staining and algae growth on your tile, we recommended cleaning the waterline tiles before the start of every swimming season. This can be done by reducing the water to expose the tiles and giving them a thorough brush-down as stain and algae growth can damage your waterline.

For mild dirt and grime, you can use mild dishwashing soap with water and a clean rag or mop OR any neutral pH cleaner specified for tile. If you find you must use something stronger, a mildly alkaline detergent (i.e., Mr. Clean, Spic, and Span).

- For any cleaning product, test a small amount on your tile to make sure it doesn't affect the glaze (an area that is hidden or out of site is best).
- Use cleaning products that don't contain phosphoric acid. Avoid cleansers that contain acids such as vinegar or lemon juice, as some of our glazes are acid-sensitive (please consult our glaze specification sheet).
- Stay away from using harsh cleaners on a regular basis. The effect of using cleaners with a high pH (bleach – alkaline) or low pH (vinegar – acidic) over and over is that they may break down some sealers which are there to help prevent soap scum, oils, and dirt from penetrating into the grout.

If pool scum, algae, or grime does not come up after cleaning, you can try pressure washing your pool tiles. You will have better results by choosing a steam pressure washer with a PSI of 2000 to 2600 that can reach a temperature of at least 300 degrees Fahrenheit. Stand at least 3 feet away and spray the area for 30 seconds as a test. For more information on care and maintenance, please see our [Care and Maintenance Guide](#).

For any additional technical questions, testing data or if your project requires supporting documentation, contact Fireclay Tile at [support@fireclaytile.com](mailto:support@fireclaytile.com) or **1-800-773-2226**.

