

Subject: Construction Materials

“Tiles / Terra cotta tiles”

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Tiles, Terra-cotta tiles

- ***A tile is a natural or manufactured piece of hard-wearing material that could generally be used for covering, protection and/or decorating finished or unfinished surfaces like roofs, floors, walls, ceilings, facades, slabs, etc.***
- ***Terra-cotta***, meaning “fired earth”, is a clay product which has been used for architectural decorative purposes since the days of ancient Greece and Rome. Modern terra-cotta is machine extruded and moulded or pressed. The machine made product, usually referred to as a ceramic veneer, is a unit with flat face and flat or ribbed back. The moulded or pressed units, called architectural terra-cotta, are available in sculptured, as well as plain faces.

Tiles, Terra-cotta tiles

Tiles are important items used provide surface furnishing to floors and walls. They also serve in accessorising the look of the entire household. No residential or commercial project will be complete without the help of tiles.

These items are highly favoured because of the aesthetical and functional contributions they deliver to every viewer.

Tiles, Terra-cotta tiles

Tiles do serve as protective coverings to the floors and walls in your home - starting from the facade going straight to the living room then to the kitchen and dining areas. Bathrooms and bedrooms show much beauty with the presence of these overlays. At an overall viewpoint, tiles are considered as one of the most favourite materials to provide beauty to your kitchen and bathroom renovation as well as your home construction.

Basic types of tiles:

The classification presents an idea of how each of the subcategories is made and why they are favoured. Take a look at the following basic types of tiles.

Tiles, Terra-cotta tiles

Earthenware tiles:

These are the tiles that comprise of fired /baked tiles made from mud, clay & earth (soil). These tiles are quite porous in nature and are often used indoors. Ancient (earlier) types of such tiles were also called Terracotta tiles.

Wooden tiles --

These are made out of original (raw) wood, manufactured ply boards, artificial wood, etc. and are used for all kind of ceilings, floors, claddings, etc.

Earth tiles--Wooden tiles



Tiles, Terra-cotta tiles

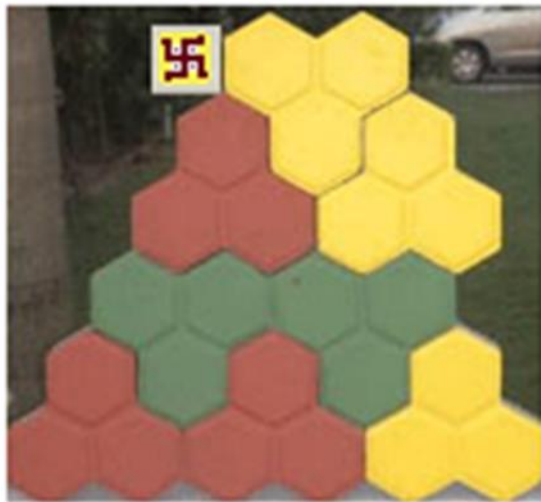
Cement / Concrete tiles --

These are the tiles that are made from cement mortar and/or cement concrete along with certain admixtures, coloring agents and patterns. Most commonly used cement tiles are the checkered & pattern tiles that are used to furnish the walkways, driveways, parking, open public areas and the likes. These tiles are used for heavy public traffic areas due to their higher ruggedness.

Cement concrete tiles



Cement mortar tiles



Cement concrete tiles



Tiles, Terra-cotta tiles

Ceramic tiles: This is perhaps one of the most popular choices amongst all types of tiles. It is made out of the combination of sand, gypsum and shale. These three items form into clay.

Bisque (smooth, creamy, highly seasoned soup of French origin) is utilised in order to shape the clay and form the ceramic tiles. The higher the temperature in the bisque, the more durable the output will be.

Since the output is kind of porous, glazing is usually needed. The glaze adds up to the beauty of the output. From there, the ceramic tile is formed into different designs and colours.

Ceramic tiles



Tiles, Terra-cotta tiles

Quarry tiles. Traditionally, this type of tile is made out of materials from quarrying operations such as mining and excavation. This is the reason why it got such a name. With the conventional technique in producing quarry tiles, there are three processes involved namely cutting, grinding and polishing. Nowadays, manufacturers make use of the extrusion method to process a glasslike material that turns out to be as hard as stone. This type of tile is highly favourable as flooring materials but generally not preferred for kitchen countertops or any other surfaces where food preparation is being done to avoid stains.

Quarry tiles



Tiles, Terra-cotta tiles

Stone tiles. Basically, most stone tiles are made out of granite. Therefore a lot of manufacturers sell these materials as granite tiles. These materials have been given much recognition in the market. The cognisance (awareness) extended to the tiles was not enough to overlook its disadvantages. **It** is porous thus it needs polishing from time to time. **It** cracks easily and cannot withstand high temperature. Despite all these however, natural stone stands out to be a good choice. Because natural stone is variegated - meaning it has different colour patches - these tiles have the capability to provide distinctive look to your home.

Stone tiles



Tiles, Terra-cotta tiles

Insulating / Anti-static tiles --

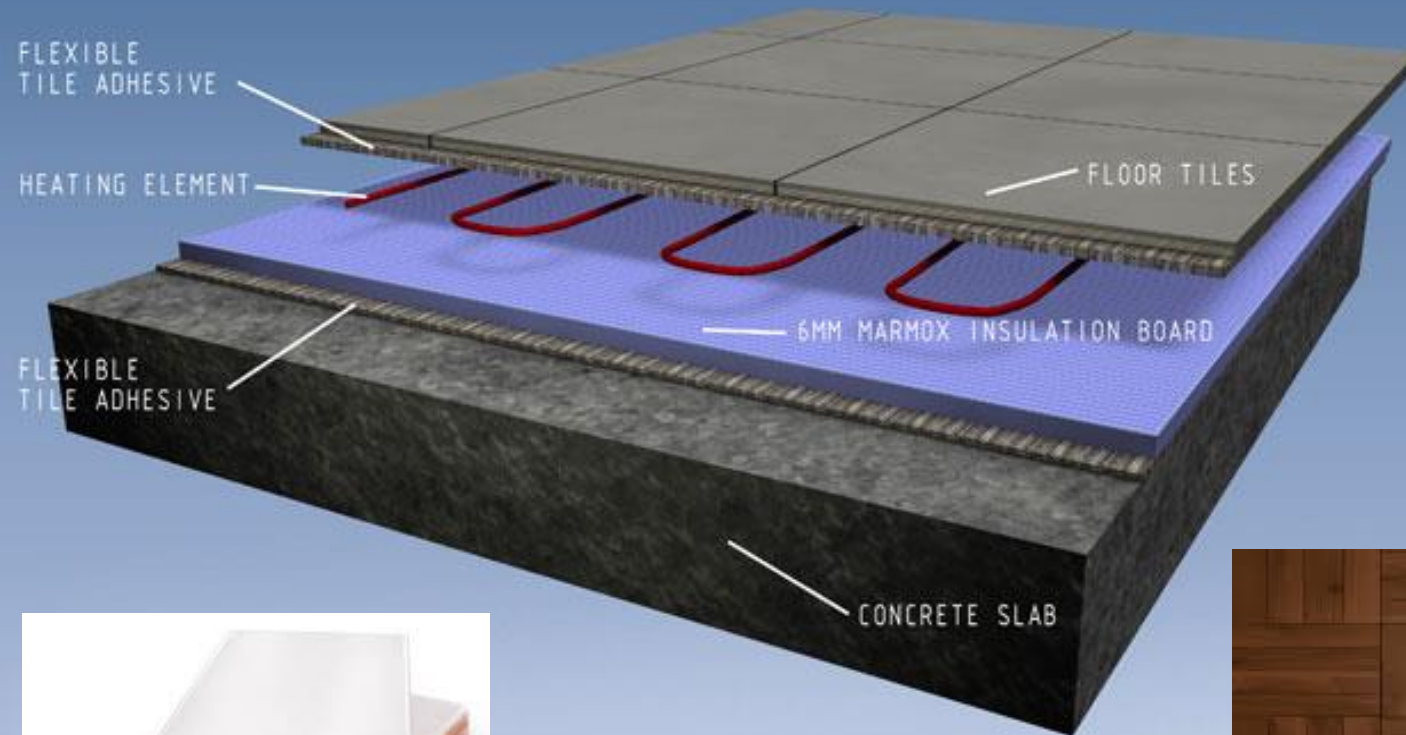
These tiles are made with composite sound proofing compounds like asbestos, gypsum, mineral wool boards, PVC, rubber, etc. and are usually used to insulate closed spaces from intruding sounds & heat. Such tiles are used as false ceilings, partition panels, in-fills, and even under floors.

Wooden tiles --

These are made out of original (raw) wood, manufactured ply boards, artificial wood, etc. and are used for all kind of ceilings, floors, claddings, etc.

Insulating tiles, Wood tiles

UNDERTILE HEATING WITH MARMOX INSULATION BOARD INSTALLED



Tiles, Terra-cotta tiles

Ceramic tiles, Glazed tiles, Vitrified tiles, Homogenous vitrified tiles --

Ceramic, Glazed, Vitrified, Homogenous vitrified tiles are nothing but modified, modern, composite and bettered forms of Earthenware, Stoneware and Porcelain tiles, all put together.

The inner core of these tiles are made from baked & burnt earthen material that are processed under high heat, pressure and special techniques so as to flux them with minerals, alloys and suitable composite materials that provide a hard wear-proof coating surface on one side, having glossy or matt finish.

Glazed tiles

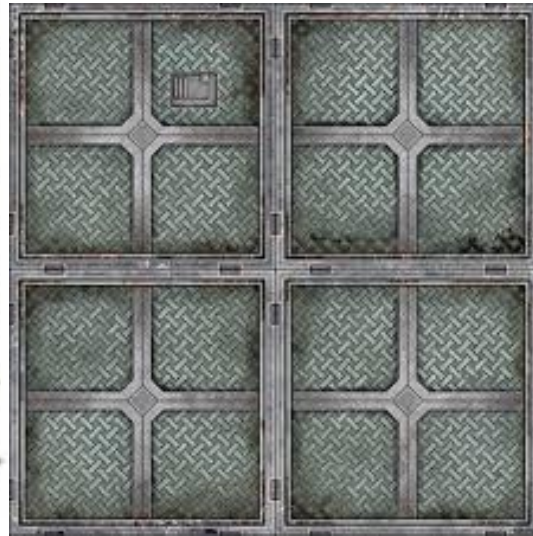
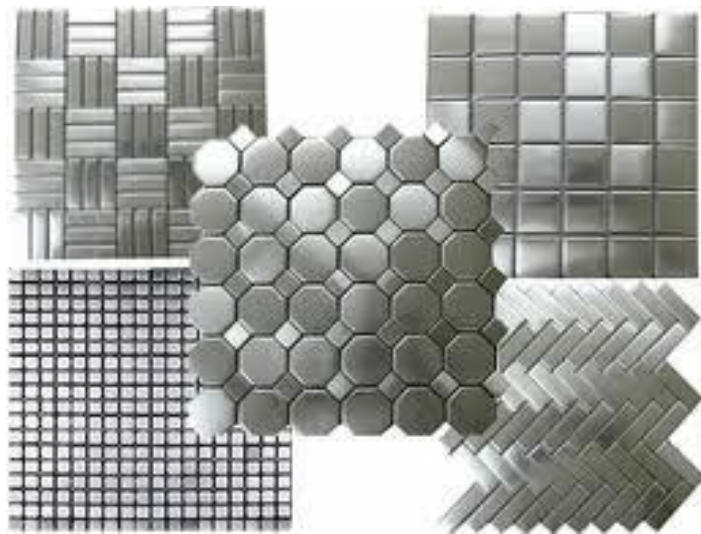


Tiles, Terra-cotta tiles

Metal tiles: Again as the name suggests, these are the tiles made from metals, alloys and/or composite materials like colored aluminum tiles, galvanized iron sheet tiles, stainless steel tiles, etc. These tiles are either snap-fit type or are riveted or tack welded to the parent frame. These are mostly used as decorative-cum-functional false ceilings and wall claddings.

Porcelain tiles: These are the tiles that are made by artificially processing of special porcelain mud/ clay along with minerals like quartz, feldspar and other fluxes under very high pressure and heat. These tiles are very less porous as well as sturdy (well built) due to which these are used in external surfaces also.

Metal tiles, Porcelain tiles



Glass tiles

Glass tiles are pieces of glass formed into consistent shapes. Since the 1990s a variety of modern glass tile technologies, including methods to take used glass and recreate it as 'green' tiles, has resulted in a resurgence of interest in glass tile as a floor and wall cladding. It is now commonly used in kitchens, spas, and bathrooms. Small tiles are still popular but large format glass products are now commonly formed using cast and fused glass methods. The plasticity of these last two methods has resulted in a wide variety of looks and applications, including floor tiles



Glass tiles