

Characteristics of Tiles

SLIP RESISTANCE

Slip resistance is measured by the Coefficient of Friction (COF). The higher the COF, the better the slip resistance of the tiles. Unglazed tiles, mosaic tiles (with many grout joints) and rough surfaced tiles are less slippery when compared with smooth and glossy glazed tiles. Therefore, these tiles are more slip resistance and are recommended to be used in industrial, kitchen, bathroom floor and swimming pool areas.

SURFACE ABRASION RESISTANCE

This characteristic shows the glaze resistance caused by intentional or unintentional movement of surfaces or materials in contact with the tiles and wear off. Porcelain tiles have higher durability and are more surface abrasion resistant.

WATER ABSORPTION

Tiles with low water absorption usually have higher mechanical strength. A tile tempered at high temperatures makes it less porous and less water absorbent.

MECHANICAL STRENGTH

Mechanical strength (MOR) is an indication of the compactness of the ceramic tile and the maximum stress it can withstand without breaking. The greater the MOR, the denser the structure of the body. Hence, the mechanical strength of the various types of ceramic tiles provide you with a good guide in selecting the right tile that will fit your purpose.

STAIN AND CHEMICAL RESISTANCE

Stain resistant tiles are hygienic and easily cleaned while glazed ceramic tiles resist stains because of their glazed surface. Porcelain tiles are made stain resistant because of their compactness or low water absorption characteristics.

SUBSIZE

Ceramic tiles go through firing in a kiln and therefore a certain level of shrinkage is expected causing the dimensions of the tiles to differ slightly from one to another. The shrinkage level will vary according to the types of tiles and the production batches.

SHADE / TONALITY

The chemical characteristics of the natural raw materials used and the firing process will produce tile with a slight variation in shade, both within a batch and between batches. This is an inherent characteristic of ceramic tiles.