

History of Porcelain Tiles

Tiles of all kinds can be traced back thousands of years all the way back to Egypt in 4000 BC. The art of tile manufacture developed through the Mesopotamian era and production techniques were continually developed.

Design styles evolved throughout the next few thousand years with the ancient Greeks, Persian empire, Romans, and India all of them influencing the size shape and design from their individual national traits. Colour and tones evolved without any standardisation.

At the same time Islamic tile art evolved in the Middle East, whilst in China, distinct and intricate design styles were created and made popular, subsequently making their way to Europe.

Europeans such as the British, Dutch, Spanish, Italians, and Portuguese became very enamoured by the products; and North and South America soon followed.

During the years that followed the new techniques used to manufacture tiles meant that they could be used by the masses rather than the elite.

Things really took off in the late 1800s when the likes of Minton Hollins revived encaustic tile making and the Arts and Crafts movement saw designers such as William Morris and William de Morgan come to the fore.

By the 1920s, porcelain tiles were everywhere, their popularity given a shot in the arm by the Art Deco movement which saw ceramic and porcelain tiles make the jump from being the preserve of grand public buildings, and the residences of the wealthy; to becoming a mainstay of bathrooms and kitchens the world over.

The preference for porcelain tiles for home's to cover both floors and walls has taken off for various reasons.

Firstly, porcelain tile floors are denser, impermeable to moisture and are a more durable option that provides excellent stain and water-resistant properties compared to ceramic tiles.

Porcelain tiles are ideal for underfloor heating that will help keep your feet warm and comfy on cold mornings. With its unparalleled versatility, porcelain tiles not only provide practical and functional features to your home but aesthetic enhancements as well.

The benefits of porcelain tiles are numerous over other forms of materials.