Montage is a handcrafted glass and may have EXTREME variation in color and shade. Due to the wide color range and translucent quality, an experienced craftsperson should carefully inspect and blend these tiles PRIOR TO INSTALLATION.

THE COLOR OF THE THIN-SET WILL GREATLY AFFECT THE INSTALLED GLASS TILE APPEARANCE. PLEASE NOTE THAT CHROMA GLASS REQUIRES SPECIFIC INSTALLATION MATERIALS.

NOTE: All cement mortar beds must be cured 7 days. Concrete slabs must be cured a minimum of 28 days. Floor systems shall be constructed in accordance with IRC (residential) or applicable building codes. The weight of the tile, setting material and substrate shall be included in the load considerations.

ACCEPTABLE SUBSTRATES

FLOORS
- Slab on grade concrete – Cured a minimum of 28 days, F111-18, F112-18 or F113-18
- Elevated slabs, post tensioned slabs, or concrete slabs subject to deflection cement mortar bed (cured 7 days) F111-18
- Wood sub-floors– cement mortar bed (cured 7 days) TCA F145-07 or TCNA F141-13

WALLS
- Cement Mortar Bed (cured 7 days) W211-18, W221-18 or W231-18
- Cementitious Backer Units (CBU) W244C-18 or W244F-18
- Fiber & Glass Mat Water Resist Backer Boards 245-13, W247-13 or W248-13
- Gypsum Board (Dry areas only) W243-18

WET AREAS
- Cement mortar beds (cured 7 days) B411-18 (tub enclosures) B414-18 (shower walls and receptors)
- Cementitious Backer Units – B412-18 (tub enclosures), B415-18 (shower walls and receptors)

CAUTION
- Membrane meeting ANSI A108.2-3.8 must be installed BEHIND the mortar bed or CBU in wet areas.
- CBU joints must be taped with the manufacturer’s recommended 2” alkali resistant mesh tape.
- Cure 24 hours prior to glass tile installation.
- Mortar beds must be cured 7 days prior to glass tile installation.

UNACCEPTABLE SUBSTRATES
- Single-Float mortar walls, which do not employ a cured scratch coat
- Cement mortar beds lacking appropriate reinforcing per ANSI A108.1A, B & C 2012
- All wood products, including Luan, plywood, MDF, MDX press board and composites

APPLICATIONS (CHROMA)
- Interior Walls
- Showers (except any area where water can accumulate, no steam)

Handcrafted Characteristics
Montage is a handcrafted glass and may have EXTREME variation in color and shade. Due to the wide color range and translucent quality, an experienced craftsperson should carefully inspect and blend these tiles PRIOR TO INSTALLATION.

Material Inspection
Always inspect your tiles before they are installed, as installation of material constitutes acceptance. We strongly recommend the selection of an experienced tile contractor to blend and set Montage glass. Any questions as to acceptability must be resolved before installation. Sonoma Tilemakers is in no way responsible for the installation of our tiles or thereafter. The responsibility for correct installation rests with the end user.

Substrate Requirements
Substrate preparation for glass tile is similar to ceramic tile but extra attention must be given to the substrates stability, rigidity and preparation. Substrates must be sufficiently flat to allow uniform adhesive coverage and avoid excess adhesive thickness.

Glass tile should not be installed over single float (no scratch coat) mortar beds over wood or metal framing. Wood framed floors shall be prepared using a wire reinforced mortar bed cured 7 days minimum prior to glass tile installation. No cement boards (CBU) shall be used for preparing floors.

The following recommendations refer to Tile Council of North America’s (TCNA) “2018 Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation” and are general in nature. When selecting TCNA handbook substrate preparation methods, factors such as: sub-structure, sub-floor conditions, locations, specified setting materials and intended use will determine the appropriate method.
MOVEMENT JOINTS

Movement joints are essential for the success of most tile installations. Follow recommendations on movement joints EJ 171-13 in the “2018 TCNA Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation”. Movement joint requirements will vary depending on substrate, climate and size of installation. An architect or design professional should be consulted when specifying the exact number and location of each movement joint.

FOR CHROMA: Every 8ft, changes of plane, intersections of dissimilar material must have field movement joints of caulking made by the same epoxy manufacturer as grout. The photographic instructions on pages 4-6 provide more detailed installation information for Chroma.

CUTTING & DRILLING

CUTTING

For cutting this glass tile, use a high quality wet tile saw with a 10", continuous, smooth-rim, diamond blade such as a 10" Alpha Vetro (Alpha Professional Tools) or the 10" MK 215 GL (MK Diamond). NOTE: The use of a poorly maintained tile saw, or a blade that is not intended for cutting glass, may cause the tile’s backing to chip during cutting. Always cut slowly.

DRILLING

Drilling should be done with a high quality smooth rim, diamond matrix, fractional core bit made for drilling glass. This is done in conjunction with a water swivel to provide a continuous flow of water to lubricate and cool the bit to reduce over-heating and chipping. Using a drill guide will help keep the drill centered.

Note: All hardware, such as towel racks, plumbing fixtures etc. must have structural support in the framing and a rubber gasket between the fixture and the glass tile. All anchors, screws and similar materials must have a minimum 1/8" clearance to the glass tile. Do not over tighten screws or other securing hardware otherwise you may crack the glass tile.

GROUT

Use only non-sanded grouts, mixed to manufacturer’s instructions. Apply grout with a rubber float, forcing grout into the grout joints until full.

Due to the impervious nature of glass, the grout will take longer to set than with more porous materials. When the grout has setup (turned dull), clean with a micro fiber towel or lightly damp sponge in dry warm climates.

During initial grout cleaning, the sponge should be rinsed often and wrung out well. Excess hydration may result in “washed out” or low grout joints.

Grout joints shall be full and uniformly finished. For final polishing of excess grout haze use clean, dry cheesecloth.

AMALUNA, CINNABAR, SKYLINE

THIN-SET

Choosing the best mortar for the job is important to assure a long-lasting installation. The following (white) Thin-Set Mortars are recommended for Amaluna, Cinnabar & Skyline. (Always consult the manufacturer’s product data sheets for specific installation instructions):

• CUSTOM BUILDING PRODUCTS “Glass Tile Adhesive”
• CUSTOM BUILDING PRODUCTS “Megalite” Crack Prevention Thin-set
• CUSTOM BUILDING PRODUCTS “Megalite” Rapid set Crack Prevention Thin-set
• LATICRETE “254 Platinum” Multipurpose Thin-Set Mortar
• MAPEI “Adesilex P10 mixed with Keraply liquid admixture
• MAPEI “GraniRapid” This-set Mortar mixed with “GraniRapid” admixture
• MAPEI “Kerabond” Thin-set Mortar mixed with Keralastic add-mix
• TEC (H.B. FULLER) “SuperFlex” Premium Universal LatexModified Thin-Set

We recommend the use of a bright white thin-set, which allow the true color of the glass to come through. THE COLOR OF THE THIN-SET WILL GREATLY AFFECT THE FINAL APPEARANCE OF THE GLASS COLOR. The most satisfactory results have been achieved in straight-combing the thin-set to the wall, placing the tiles and then “seating” them, by pushing the tiles perpendicular to the combed thin-set, forward then back, rolling the combed thin-set into itself and coating the back of each tile, thus eliminating trowel lines. When first set in place, every effort should be made to smooth the thin-set both vertically and horizontally to minimize trowel lines. If full, smooth coverage is not achieved, trowel marks and imperfections in the setting bed may be visible through the glass tile in the completed installation.

IMPORTANT!

We recommend wet cutting or the score and snap method during the installation process. Do not dry cut using power tools during the installation process. Improper installation techniques could expose installer to harmful dust.
It is imperative to follow manufacturer’s instructions for the products and we make no representations as to the fitness for purpose of third party Mortars and Grouts. Sonoma Tilemakers provides product information concerning certain installation and maintenance procedures to assist customers in making selection, usage, installation and maintenance decisions. Customer’s selection and usage of Sonoma Tilemakers products and the installation practices employed by each customer are outside the direction and control of Sonoma Tilemakers and are strictly and completely the choice and responsibility of each customer. Sonoma Tilemakers does not warranty any product for any specific use nor any installation procedure and expressly disclaims all claims asserted after customer installation or usage of Sonoma Tilemakers products begin.

CHROMA
SETTING ADHESIVES & GROUTS
Chroma tiles are metallic backed and require specific installation materials. Do not use any cement based products to set or grout Chroma Glass tiles. The following products or their equivalent are recommended. (Always consult the manufacturer’s product data sheet for specific installation instructions).

• Litoelastic “Epoxy Adhesive”
• Custom Building Products “Epoxy Bonding Mortar”
• Litokol Starlike and Starlike “Crystal” (Starlike Crystal grout is for horizontal installations only)
• Custom Building Products “CEG-Lite Epoxy Grouts”

INSTALLATION GUIDELINES
1. Prepare substrate for application using a fine bristle brush. Sweep the surface clean before applying specific epoxy bond coats. If using water for cleaning let substrate dry thoroughly prior to applying epoxy installation products.
2. Initiate the bond coat by firmly applying the setting adhesives onto the substrate with the flat side of a trowel.
3. With additional setting material, use a 1/4” V-notch trowel to comb full notches in a horizontal pattern onto the substrate, to establish the proper depth of the bonding material
4. Wipe the back of the glass tile with a dry, clean cloth.
5. Apply a thin, even coat of specified epoxy adhesive using a rubber grout float to spread the epoxy on the metallic backed glass. The back must be covered 100%.
6. Set glass tile into the setting bed using firm, even pressure to a depth of approximately 1/8”
7. Space glass tiles a minimum of 1/16”
8. If using Litoelastic epoxy, a small amount of Acetone will remove residual epoxy during the installation process. Make sure to avoid fire potential by not using Acetone or other flammable materials near sparks, open flames or smoking. Make sure adequate ventilation is used while using all cleaning chemicals.

9. Litokol Starlike & Starlike Crystal Grouts and Custom Building Products Epoxy Bonding Mortar and Customs Epoxy Grouts may be used to set and grout Chroma glass tile, even at the same time. These products can also be washed with water unless allowed to dry on glass tile or tools.
10. If not setting and grouting at the same time allow epoxy to dry a minimum of 24 hours prior to grouting.
11. Do not use cementitious products to set or grout Chroma Glass Tile. Mix epoxy grouts to manufacturer’s instructions. Apply grout with a rubber float, forcing grout into the grout joints until full.
12. Due to the impervious nature of glass and/or colder climates, the epoxy may take longer to set up than more porous tile.
13. Grout joints shall be full and uniformly finished. For final polishing of excess grout haze use an epoxy manufacturer’s approved epoxy, final cleaner.

AMALUNA, CINNABAR, SKYLINE
continued...
• Wait 10 days after the grout has been installed then use a Sulfuric Acid cleaner such as C-Clean or Custom Clean.
• Follow the manufacturer’s directions using a nylon scrub brush or white nylon scrub pad.
• Rinse thoroughly with clean water and towel dry.
• A second rinsing may be needed.
MONTAGE INSTALLATION GUIDE
INSTALLER: PLEASE REVIEW CAREFULLY BEFORE BEGINNING INSTALLATION

sonomatilemakers.com

INSTALLATION PROCEDURES

To ensure order acceptability of the glass tile, open all boxes and inspect the material. Montage tiles should be inspected and compared to one another on a white background. Blend the entire order prior to installation.

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STEP 1
Prepare substrate for thin-set application by using a light, damp sponge to clean, specified, cementitious, setting surfaces.

CHROMA ONLY: Use a fine bristle brush to sweep the surface clean before applying specified epoxy bond coats. If using water for cleaning, let substrate dry thoroughly prior to applying epoxy installation products.

STEP 2
Initiate the bond (thin-set or epoxy) coat by firmly applying the setting material onto the substrate with the flat side of a trowel.

FOR MONTAGE “CHROMA” TILES (METALLIC BACKED) SEE #5.

STEP 3
With additional setting material, use a 1/4” notch trowel to comb full notches in a horizontal pattern onto the substrate, to establish the proper depth of the bonding material. Smooth notches to achieve a flat, consistent setting bed approx. 3/16” thick.

STEP 4
Wipe the back of the glass tile with a dry, clean cloth.

STEP 5
Apply a thin, even coat of adhesive to the back.

CHROMA ONLY: Use a rubber grout float to spread the epoxy adhesive on the metallic backed glass. The back must be 100% covered. See TIP.

STEP 6
Set glass tile onto the setting bed using firm, even pressure to a depth of approx. 1/8”. Excess thin-set or epoxy base may shrink and fracture glass tile.

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CHROMA TIP: Clean glass tile set in Litoelastic epoxy using a small amount of Acetone to remove residual epoxy during the installation process. Make sure to avoid fire potential by not using Acetone or other flammable materials near sparks, open flames or smoking. Make sure adequate ventilation is used while using all cleaning chemicals.

Litokol Starlike & Starlike Crystal Grouts and Custom Building Products Epoxy Bonding Mortar and Custom’s Epoxy Grouts may be used to set and grout Chroma glass tile, even at the same time. These products can also be washed with water unless allowed to dry on glass tile or tools.
**MONTAGE INSTALLATION GUIDE continued**

**STEP 7**
For AMALUNA, CINNABAR and SKYLINE space glass tile a minimum of 1/8”

**CHROMA ONLY:** If setting and grouting at the same time, push grout into joint to achieve a 1/16” space between tile.

**STEP 8**
Allow to dry a minimum of 48 hours prior to cleaning and grouting

**STEP 9**
Use only non-sanded grouts, mixed to manufacturer’s instructions. Apply grout into the joints until full.

**CHROMA ONLY:** Do not use cement based products to set or grout Chroma tiles. Mix epoxy grouts to manufacturer’s instructions.

**STEP 10**
Due to the impervious nature of glass, the grout will take longer to set than with more porous materials. When the grout has setup (turned dull), clean with a micro fiber towel or in dry warm climates use a lightly damp sponge.

During initial grout cleaning, the sponge should be rinsed often and wrung out well. Excess water may result in discolored or low grout joints.

**STEP 11**
Grout joints shall be full and uniformly finished. For final polishing of excess grout haze use clean, dry cheesecloth.

**CHROMA ONLY:** Use the manufacturer’s approved epoxy cleaner for final stage.

**CUTTING & DRILLING**

**CUTTING**
Cut glass tile using a wet tile cutting saw with a 10” tile saw blade recommended by the tile blade manufacturer for cutting glass. Wet glass tile blades usually have a higher amount of smaller diamonds, requiring the operator to cut slowly. For large module glass tile, cut very slowly making sure your saw has abundant water flow. Clean glass bits and dust off saw table between each cut.

**DRILLING**
It is best to drill holes prior to installing the glass tile. Drilling shall be done with a high quality, smooth rim, diamond matrix, water-fed fractional core bit, made specifically for drilling glass. Water swivels provide a continuous flow of water to lubricate the bit and reduce overheating, fracturing and chipping. Using a drill guide will help keep the drill centered.

**NO ADJUSTMENTS WILL BE MADE AFTER INSTALLATION**