



# METAL ELEMENTS

## INSTALLATION GUIDE

***These instructions are provided as a general guide to most installations. Please read and understand this information before proceeding.***

***Carefully inspect ALL material prior to installation, in order to verify that it has no defects. Visible defects must not be used, if defective mosaics are installed Garden State Tile is not liable for installation costs, travel expenses, transportation costs or costs of third parties, directly or indirectly related to the complaint if visibly defective material has been installed.***

### **APPLICATIONS/AREAS OF USE**

*Wall use only. Material suitable for use on shower walls.*

*Interior only. Fireplace surrounds, backsplash, wet areas (not submerged).*

### **INSTALLATION**

#### **PREPARING THE SUBSTRATE**

The substrate on which the mosaic tiles are laid should be smooth and consistent. Make sure that it is clean and dry. We recommend a white background as a substrate.

#### **LAYING MOSAIC TILES**

To install the aluminum mosaic tiles, we recommend bi-component polyurethane based adhesive. Spread the adhesive evenly and thin on the wall. Once the adhesive becomes sticky, lay the mosaic tile and press with a rubber trowel, always make sure the distance between the tiles are equal. Remove surplus adhesive while still fresh before grouting.

#### **GROUTING THE JOINTS**

Before the mosaic tiles are grouted, they should be absolutely clean and dry. We recommend an unsanded grout. Spread the grouting material over the mosaic tiles with a rubber trowel and fill the joints well, right down to the bottom. Always grout a small area, remove any surplus material, and

and clean the mosaic tile with a wet sponge several times while the filler is fresh. Repeat the cleaning procedure the next day before the grout is totally dry.

#### **SEALING PROCEDURE**

Metal mosaics do not need to be sealed.

#### **CUTTING**

We recommend aluminum pieces to be cut by water-jet machine, or use an angle grinder with grinder wheel, cut from the back mesh side. Quickly move the grinder from up to down again and again until pieces are cut off. **Make sure the entire cutting process is under the flowing water.**

#### **CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE**

For everyday cleanings, we recommend the use of a dampened cloth to clean, add neutral soap if too dirty, and then dry the surface with a soft, clean cloth to avoid scratches. Never use energetic detergents or abrasive cleaning products or elements that could cause irreversible damages to pieces. No bleach. No salfuman (HCl).

**No claims will be accepted in the event that these guidelines have not been adhered to.**

[www.gstile.com](http://www.gstile.com) ■ [Tile Council of North America \(TCNA Handbook\) website: www.tcnatile.com.](http://www.tilecouncil.com)  
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