

PROVA TILE EDGE®

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why should tile trims be used?

Tile trims are used to protect the edge of the tile from chipping and foot traffic. In flooring applications, they act as transitions from one flooring surface to another. Trims can be used as decorative edges and/or listello borders. They provide protection, function and design.

2. Can aluminum tile trim be used outdoors?

Aluminum is best suited for indoor use. Exposure to UV rays, salt and/or harsh chemicals may cause aluminum to oxidize and color may be affected.

3. Should I use the same size trim as the thickness of my tile?

Yes, however this also depends on the amount of mortar being used under the tile as that will increase the overall height of the installation, therefore a larger size trim may be required.

4. Can MILL finish be used in wet areas?

No. MILL product is aluminum in its raw state; therefore there is a high risk of oxidization on the product and staining on the tile and/or grout when it is used in wet areas. It is always advisable to use an anodized finish in all applications. The cost difference between MIL and SCA, Satin Clear Anodized is minimal and worth the cost.

5. Does grout affect the finish on aluminum trims?

Grout left on anodized aluminum in large amounts will etch and eat away at the anodized finish. It is important to properly remove any excess grout immediately during installation.



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6. Should tape be used on tile trim to protect it during the grouting process?

One can use tape as a precaution but is not necessary if the installer is diligent in wiping any excess grout from the trim immediately during install.

7. Are your tile trims ADA compliant?

Some are compliant. Any change in height of a 1/4" or under meets code.

Any change in height between 1/4" to 1/2" with a rise of 1:2 meets code.

Any height over a 1/2" is treated as a ramp which is 1:12.

8. How are tile trims installed?

Using mortar or mastic at the same time the tile is installed. The top of the trim should be flush with top of the tile. Trim normally should not "cap" tile and instead butt-to tile.

9. How are tile trims packaged?

They are packed in 8FT long corrugate tubes with metal end caps.

10. Can tile trims be cut prior to shipping?

Our tile trims come in 8FT lengths and are sold by a standard pack size. We do not cut trims or packs sizes. If a pack size is broken, a 20% up charge will be applied.



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11. Why is there shade variation on the SAB finish and what should be done to prevent a problem before installation?

SAB is done in a "double dip" anodizing process therefore shade variation is likely to occur as with all manmade products. When supplying this color for a job, take a minute to be sure the profiles are the same shade. Note you may have multiple batches of the same profile in your inventory. Also be sure to compare shades between multiple profiles when the job calls for them.

12. What is the performance difference between anodized aluminum and stainless steel?

Aluminum is lighter weight and often has an anodized finish. Under heavy use, the finish is susceptible to scratches which may cause aluminum to oxidize in wet areas or when exposed to cleaning chemicals. Our standard Stainless Steel trims (304, 1.4301=V2A) are best suited for environments such as commercial kitchens, washrooms, institutional use and outdoor applications due to its superior performance over anodized aluminum. Stainless steel retains its properties when exposed to certain chemicals and is not affected by exposure to UV rays. For extreme situations, the grade of stainless steel (316, 1.404=V4A) used must be suitable for the application at hand.

13. Where is stainless steel required?

Stainless should be used in outdoor projects, areas subject to heavy traffic and in sanitary room applications such as health care institutions and public washrooms.

14. What is the minimum number of pieces required to get a color not listed as available?

Call your customer service representative. Many times it depends on the profile involved.



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15. Can tile trim be cut on the job site?

Yes. Aluminum can be cut with a Hacksaw or a Mitre Saw with a high tooth count somewhere around 80 teeth. It makes a fast-straight cut. It may leave a burr on the bottom side but can be removed with a sharp knife or metal file.

Stainless steel is very hard material and will turn blue on the ends if there is too much heat. The finer the blade, the less friction is caused. You can use a 4" metal cut off wheel on a 4" grinder. There will be some burring which can be removed with a grinding wheel.

Remember, safety is a must. You should protect your hands, eyes and ears with proper equipment. The blade guard should never be removed.

16. Can anodized aluminum be used in wet applications like shower walls?

Anodized aluminum may be used in residential shower applications as long as cleaners used are not abrasive, caustic or acidic and there is no standing water. These chemicals can eat away at the anodized surface, leaving only the un-anodized base (MILL) product exposed to water, which will oxidize.

17. A commercial bathroom floor is also a wet application, are these not advised for such an application due to claims of oxidizing?

Stainless Steel trims are recommended for commercial bathrooms due to the typical usage of harsh chemicals required to maintain commercial hygiene standards.



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