

## Carina Works Metal Tile and Flooring Installation

We recommend using a professional installer for installation of our metal tiles and planks. CWI Metal Tile is sandblasted on the back for excellent adhesion designed for flooring adhesive and thinset applied with an 1/8" trowel for bonding to level surfaces free of dirt and residues. Wood surfaces should be primed prior to installation. We recommend using urethane wood flooring adhesive. If using thinset, use products that are latex modified using admix, or epoxy thinsets made by Laticrete. The thickness of CWI Metal Tile closely matches most standard tile thicknesses, but may require additional floating of thinset to compensate for differences in thickness. Tile flooring commercial grade mastic may also be used.

To compensate for minor deflection (bowing) in planks, which commonly occurs in machined aluminum, weight may be applied while flooring adhesive or thinset cures.

**Cutting CWI Metal Tile:** If it is necessary to cut the tile or plank, use a 100 tooth count, circular carbide saw blade designed for cutting non-ferrous metal. **Do not use a fiberglass reinforced abrasive cutting blade.** Cut tile face up. Minor fraying of metal on underside can be sanded with 180 grit wet/dry sandpaper. We do not recommend a metal chop saw or wet saw.

Apply an epoxy primer to cut edges. (Use Rustoleum 2081 light gray fast drying, sandable automobile primer for ungrouted installations to match existing primed edges). Overspray can be cleaned from tile surface with acetone.

**Beginning the process of installation:** Establish a work area for cutting the aluminum. When cutting with a 10" carbide non-ferrous blade or band saw there will be a lot of shavings generated from the cutting process. Make sure that the cutting area is located away from the installation site, living areas, pets and foot traffic paths. This will prevent the shavings from being tracked in by foot. The shavings will have a static charge so they will cling to most surfaces. Wear goggles, gloves, dust mask and a long sleeve shirt or coveralls for protection from hot metal shavings and airborne particles of aluminum. Make all cuts with finished side up. If a band saw is being used, use a 14 tooth straight blade. A jig saw may also be used to make curved cuts using a metal cutting blade. Tape the finished side of the metal where cuts will be made to protect the surface from the base of the jig saw. Long straight cuts can be made on a 10" blade table saw using a carbide-tipped non-ferrous cutting blade.