

GROUT JOINT SPACING

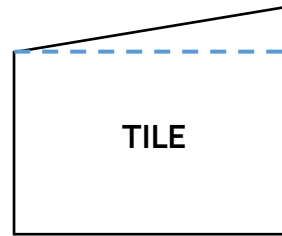
There is no perfect tile therefore no perfect grout joint size.

All man-made tiles are out of square. That is the reason the TCNA suggests that the smallest joint is 1/16". When you have two tiles together of different sizes, you will not have a consistent grout joint. How much they differ is how you determine the joint size. See TCNA's direction below.

TCNA Directions:

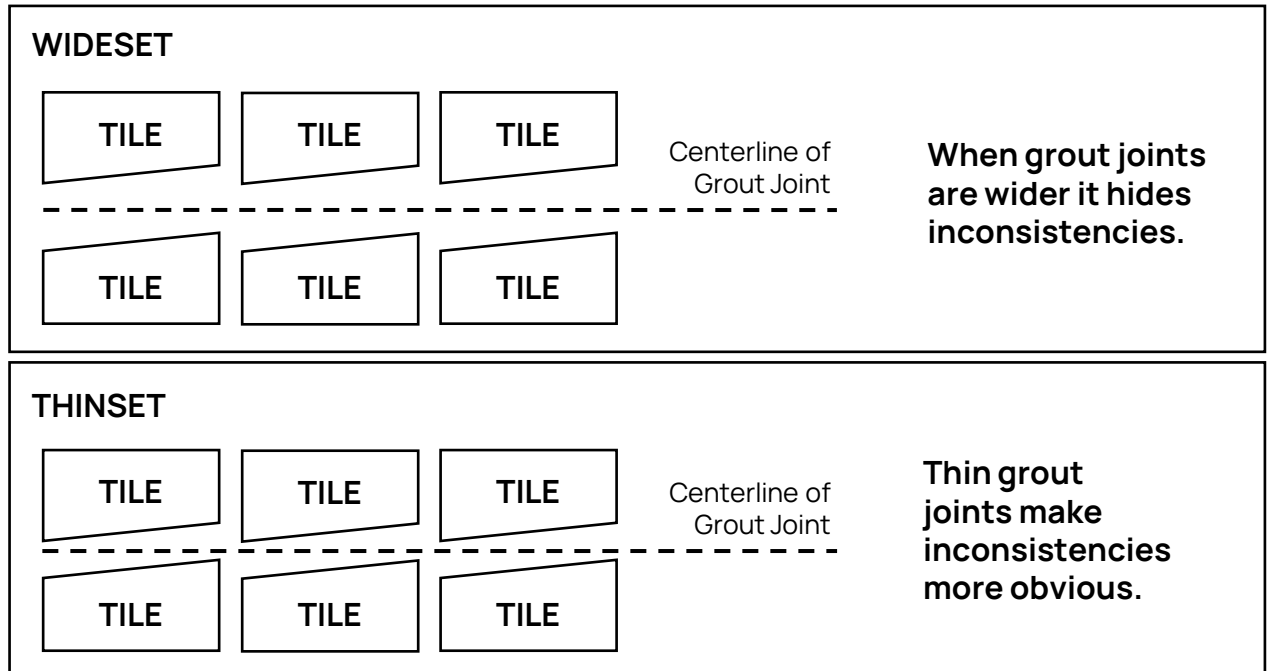
4.3.8 Grout Joint Size: To accommodate the range in facial dimensions of the tile supplied for a specific project, the actual grout joint size may, of necessity, vary from the grout joint size specified. The actual grout size shall be at least three times the actual variation of facial dimensions of the tile supplied. Example: for tile having a total variation of 1/16 in. in facial dimensions, a minimum of 3/16 in. grout joint shall be used. Nominal centerline of all joints shall be straight with due allowances for hand-molded or rustic tiles. In no circumstance shall the grout joint be less than 1/16 in.

DIMENSIONAL VARIATION IN TILE FACES



$1/16" \times 3 = 3/16"$ Grout Joint
1/16" difference. TCNA Math

GROUT JOINT EXAMPLE:



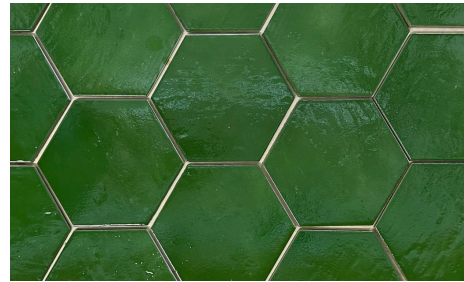
THINSET GROUT

These tiles are set with a 1/8" Grout joint.
The joints are noticeably more inconsistent and not uniform.



WIDASET GROUT

These tiles are set with a 3/16" Grout joint.
The joints are a lot more consistent and when grouted it will look better.



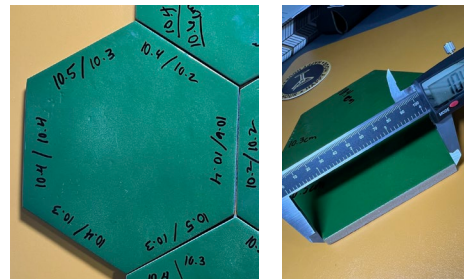
BUTT JOINT INSTALLATION

I pushed the tiles together to show how different they can be. This would be what a butt joint installation would look like. Some tile sizes are 2mm different from the others.



DIMENSIONAL VARIATION

Note all the different sizes on just these 4 tiles. I measured the bottom of the tile and the face in cm. (bottom/face)



Conclusion

How the grout joints look after installation depends on **3 factors**:

1. The competency of the tile installer. *Tip: The wider the joint is, the easier it is to install.*
2. The flatness of the substrate. Any inconsistencies of your floor or wall will show in the joints.
3. The squareness of the tile.

Our joint recommendations are coming online **NOW**. They are conservative and odds are they will be larger than the client wants. We have based our *RECOMMENDATION* on the factors above and our desire for a successful installation.

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SPECIFICATIONS -

KEY SPECS

Commercial Wall Only	Item Color White
Item Size 2.55" x 7.87"	Material White Body Ceramic
Residential Wall Only	Tile Finish Matte, Satin
Available Sizes 2x8", 4x4"	Chemical Resistant Yes
Coverage 0.14	Location Backsplash, Bathroom, Indoor, Kitchen, Shower
Look Handmade Look	MOHS 3
Made In Spain	Outdoor Use No
Pieces Per Box 38	Recommended Grout Joint 1/8" Minimum
Sample Size 2.55" x 7.8"	Sq Ft Per Box 5.38

Recommended Grout Joint
1/8" Minimum