

CTU Online Anytime Module 2.5 – Setting Techniques for Success

Key Takeaways

- CUSTOM teamed with NTCA in 2015 to update the original “Trowel and Error” video to reflect a number of changes, such as larger tile, that have taken place over time.
 - Video demonstrates directional combing and ridge collapse
 - Link to video – English: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Way5bMh-eYg>
 - Link to video – Spanish: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H3Ouv2ULtGk>
- Appropriate surface preparation is still required
 - Flatness requirements must be met based on the size of the tile body
- Tiles set without proper mortar coverage are more likely to fail
- Improve success with large format tile by using correct trowel and setting methods
 - Key in a coat of mortar to the substrate
 - Add additional mortar and comb in straight lines that will go across the short side of the tile
 - Back butter large format tile, stone and any tile in exterior or wet conditions
 - Set the tile firmly and move back and forth across ridges to collapse them; no twisting
 - This releases air through the channels and prevents voids than can cause cracks
- Coverage by wet mortar transfer is critical to the success of the job
 - Use the correct notch size for the tile
 - SuperiorBilt[®] Premium Notch Trowel promotes ridge collapse to gain proper mortar coverage
 - Test for minimum 80% coverage, 95% for stone, wet or exteriors

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