



General Product Information

Overview

Surviving Studios makes unique handmade porcelain tiles, fountains, bath accessories and jewelry. The designs are in relief and full color. They feature images from nature, especially frogs, reptiles, fish, and insects. The tiles are suitable for use in any area where tile is used, inside or outside and in water. They are very strong because the clay has been fired to vitrification, making it dense and nonporous. These tiles are handmade and, therefore, it is expected that variations in color and size will occur. This diversity can be quite wonderful, and will add beauty and dimension to your finished job.

Before installation, all tiles should be laid out in order to plan how best to achieve the most attractive finished job. Installation of our product constitutes acceptance.

All sizes are approximate. Tiles are generally made slightly smaller than the stated size in order to allow for a nominal grout line. We recommend that you order slightly more material than needed in order to assure matching and to cover accidental installation losses.

80% of our orders ship within two weeks and much of our regular inventory is kept in stock. However, it is necessary to plan on our normal **lead-time of three to four weeks for regular items, and four to eight weeks on our made-to-order items.** Allow even longer for large or custom jobs. Regular inventory consists of our two-inch, four-inch, six-inch, and our Appliqués. Murals, fountain modules, accessories and other items are usually made to your order. Custom coloring will take additional time, as will custom clay work.



Your order is carefully boxed and insured to reach you safely. Great care is taken in packing your order but damage can occasionally occur. Please inspect your shipments thoroughly upon arrival. You must report damages to the carrier and to our office, within five days. All packing materials and boxes must be preserved for the carrier's inspection. Returns and replacements must be authorized by our office, and the damaged or unsatisfactory pieces returned. **No returns or credit will be authorized for any product once installed.**

Based on thirty years' experience in creating fountains, Surviving Studios creates tiles designed for fountain installations. They can create many exciting and satisfying jobs. However, problems can occur in a continually wet environment, therefore it is important to have a properly designed and installed fountain. We strongly recommend that you select a designer and installer who is experienced, responsible, and prepared to accept responsibility for the job. **Surviving Studios guarantees the fountain tile modules to be appropriate for fountain installation. Please be sure to inspect all tiles before installation. We do not guarantee the installation or fountain design.**

Technique

First Natalie or Richard creates a sculpture in clay of the new tile. It is scaled up to allow for the considerable amount of shrinkage that will occur at each stage. A mold is made from the original and a final master is created. From each master the working molds are made. Wet clay is pressed into the working mold, the edges are trimmed, and the tile is gently coaxed out of the mold onto a board. Details that are too fine to hold in the mold are touched up. The tiles are placed overnight in a drier, and in the morning the edges are smoothed by hand. Glazes are

applied in a delicate process of several layers. Time is required for drying between layers; the process usually takes several days to complete. The tiles are then stacked in electric kilns and fired very slowly above 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit. The cooling process also must be slow. Two days after the firing, the tiles are unloaded and inspected.

Colors

The tile is available in Earth, Light, and Water with the exception of Rainforest. This line is only available on bark, but the three background color options are available behind the branches. Highly trained ceramists glaze each piece by hand. **The look and color varies by the personality of the artist and other causes inherent in the ceramic process.** These variations add to the vitality and individuality of the tiles.

Background Colors

Custom coloring within our palette is available for a fee. The background colors of the Original Line which are Amber, Black, Brown tones, Blue Violet, Gray, Highlight White, Sea Green and Teal, can be ordered in the Watercolor technique and shine for Original Line pricing.

1", 2", 4", 6" WaterWorld, and 6" Nudes are available in Earth, Light and Water.

6" Rainforest - Available background for bark is Bark Brown only. Branches and leaves are available in Earth, Light, and Water.

Materials

One unique and important attribute of Surviving Studios' products is the quality of the materials used. Natalie worked for three years on the clay and glaze formulas before introducing the product.

The clay is vitrified; it is completely fused and the firing is stopped just as the clay body starts to melt. The result is a very strong nonporous tile that is suitable for use almost anywhere. It also means that the glaze has actually become part of the clay body. The tiles are frost resistant and will withstand all normal heat and cold variations. They have not been tested for skid proofing.

Sizes

All sizes are approximate as handcrafted work is enhanced by slight irregularities. Each piece is sized slightly smaller than standard to allow for a grout line. Our average tile is 5/16th of an inch thick. Some tiles have a varied depth due to the design. The edges are not completely glazed but are stained enough that the depth variation does not cause a visual problem when installed. All sizes are nominal.

Item	Length	Width	Depth (high)
1" Tile	7/8" sq.	7/8" sq.	5/16"
1" Corners	7/8" sq.	7/8" sq.	3/4" overglazed
2" Tiles	1 15/16" sq.	1 15/16" sq.	5/16"
4" Tiles	3 7/8" sq.	3 7/8" sq.	5/16"
6" Tiles	5 7/8" sq.	5 7/8" sq.	5/16"
2x6 Trims	5 7/8"	2"	5/16"
Branch & Surf Liners	5 7/8"	15/16"	3/4"
Cove In or Out	5 7/8"	7/8"	1/2"
Dome Liners	5 7/8"	7/8"	3/4"
Quarter Rounds	5 7/8"	3/8"	3/8"
(including Twigs & Pencils)			
Scotia	5 7/8"	1 15/16"	7/8"
Turtle Hex	16 1/2"	14"	3/4"
Armadillos or Tang Fish Sets with Curved Borders	6 3/4"	6 3/4"	1/2"

Suggestions for Use

There is floor tile, wall tile, specialty tile, swimming pool tile, etc. Where can this tile be used? Natalie was insistent that our tiles would be suitable for use anywhere, and they are. Our unique private formula gives our tile the strength, permanence, and durability of the porcelain clays that survive for thousands of years. Our glazes are permanent, brilliant, and in colors not available in a true porcelain. So the answer is simple, use them anywhere.

Outdoor Installations:

Pool Borders
Spas
Hot Tubs
Pool Bottoms
Pavilions and Gazebos
Garden Walls
Garden Focal Points
Walkways & Sidewalks
Wall Fountains
Tower Fountains

Bathrooms:

Tub Surrounds
Showers
Mirror Surrounds
Counter Tops
Back Splashes

Entryways:

Murals
Inserts

Kitchens:

Back Splash
Countertops
Chair Rails
Crown Moldings

Mirror Frames

Bars Wet or Dry

Fireplaces

Barbecue Pits