

**WEEK 7 WORKSHEET**

**Subject:** Applied Technology

**Year/Level:** 13A/B

<b>Strand: 4</b>	<b>Basic Home Improvement</b>
<b>Sub Strand</b>	<b>General Trade Skills</b>
<b>Content Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Demonstrate Knowledge of general trade skills.</b>

**LESSON NOTES**

**Chapter 4: Basic Home improvement.**

**Outcome:**

- Identify and familiarize themselves with general trade skills.
- Exhibits competencies incorporated in task, projects and other artifacts.

**Introduction**

A tile is a manufactured piece of hard-wearing material such as ceramic, stone, metal, or even glass, generally used for covering roofs, floors, walls, showers, or other objects such as tabletops. Tiles are often used to form wall and floor coverings, and can range from simple square tiles to complex mosaics. Tiles are most often made of ceramic, typically glazed for internal uses and unglazed for roofing, but other materials are also commonly used, such as glass, cork, concrete and other composite materials, and stone. Tiling stone is typically marble, onyx, granite or slate. Thinner tiles can be used on walls than on floors, which require more durable surfaces that will resist impacts.

**Roof Tiles**

Roof tiles are designed mainly to keep out rain and are traditionally made from locally available materials such as terracotta or slate.

**Floor tiles**

These are commonly made of ceramic or stone, although recent technological advances have resulted in rubber or glass tiles for floors as well. Ceramic tiles may be painted and glazed. Small mosaic tiles may be laid in various patterns.

Natural stone tiles can be beautiful but as a natural product they are less uniform in color and pattern and require more planning for use and installation. Mass-produced stone tiles are uniform in width and length.

**Materials and processes**

**Ceramic**

Ceramics for tiles include earthenware (terracotta), stoneware or porcelain. Stoneware is harder and more durable than earthenware, and so more suitable for floors, but there is a slight difference between porcelain and ceramic tiles.

**Pebble**

Similar to mosaics or other patterned tiles, pebble tiles are tiles made of small pebbles attached to a backing. The tile is generally designed in an interlocking pattern so that final installations fit of multiple tiles fit together to have a seamless appearance.

**Types of tiles and uses**

Ceramic tiles give one of the most durable and hardwearing finishes that can be found in a home. Whether they are used for walls, floors or worktops they have a great many applications, sizes, colors, designs and shapes.

**Ceramic Tiles**

The most common application of ceramic tiles is in the kitchen and the bathroom, whether they are found on the walls or the floor. This is mainly due to the fact that they are hardwearing, water resistant and easy to clean.

**Quarry tiles** are unglazed ceramic floor tiles with a brown, buff or reddish colour and many find these ideal for hallways, conservatories and kitchens.

**Terracotta tiles** are very similar in appearance to quarry tiles but tend to be quite a bit larger. They are sealed in the same way as quarry tiles and more often than not come in either squares or rectangles.

**Mosaics** are just tiny tiles and more often than not are plain in color, but on the odd occasion can feature a pattern. Most commonly they come in sheets that feature an open weave cloth backing. To lay them, the entire sheet is laid in a bed of adhesive and all the gaps in between the tiny tiles are grouted.

**Cork, Vinyl and Lino Tiles** Cork tiles are most often applied to a floor space. They feel rather warm to the touch and are soft underfoot and if applied to a floor space they can also provide a little sound and heat insulation.

**Modern cork tiled floor:** Vinyl tiles come in a great range of colors and patterns and are generally more wear resistant than cork tiles so in this case they are more suitable to high traffic areas than cork tiles. The downside to this is that they are not quite as nice under foot as cork tiles.

**Modern vinyl floor tiles with stone look:** the more expensive types can give a very realistic imitation covering of materials such as marble and terrazzo. The majority come with a self-adhesive backing that can simply be glued to the floor. A great many lino tiles these day are made from more natural materials rather than the plastic resins used in the creation of vinyl tiles.

## **STUDENT ACTIVITY**

1. What are tiles made of?

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2. Explain the type of tiles used in roofing?

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3. Explain the types of tiles for flooring?

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4. Explain the following tiles:

- a) Ceramic tiles

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- b) Mosaic tiles

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- c) Modern vinyl floor tiles.

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**THE END**