

# Haworth Porcelain Flooring System: Frequently Asked Questions

---

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**What is unique about the Haworth Porcelain Flooring System compared to traditional ceramic flooring?**

The Haworth Porcelain Flooring System is a dry-lay tile system which means no adhesives are used during the installation. The design enables changes to the floor layout and, when combined with TecCrete® flooring, allows unrestricted access to underfloor utilities and building infrastructure.

*Additional benefits include:*

- Perfect for renovation work ie. replacing carpeting or other floor finishes
- Add or subtract tile floor in the future
- Quick install, little downtime
- Porcelain Floor can be used across multiple substrates without interruption
- Porcelain Floor can be installed late in the process
- Tenant may prefer different color floor after initial install - change it!
- Haworth Porcelain Flooring is water resistant
- Haworth Porcelain Flooring tests well for air leakage
- Damaged tiles can be replaced

**How is The Haworth Porcelain Flooring System sampled?**

Haworth offers a sample box that contains two pieces of the tile on the carrier system that fit into a piece of grout. The box also includes samples of all standard tile colors. The sample box can be ordered through the Sales Aid eStore using part #9000 on the Haworth Voice website.

Full size system samples are available upon request. Contact Haworth Sales or [Flooring@Haworth.com](mailto:Flooring@Haworth.com) for sample requests.

## PORCELAIN TILE INFORMATION

**What type of tile is used in the Haworth Porcelain Flooring System?**

All Haworth Porcelain Flooring System tiles are technical porcelain and suitable for commercial applications.

**What is the difference between ceramic and porcelain tile?**

Both ceramic and porcelain tiles are a subset of the broader material known as ceramic. Porcelain tiles are composed of fine porcelain clays and fired at much higher temperatures than ceramic tiles. This process causes porcelain tiles to be denser, less porous, much harder and less prone to moisture and stain absorption when compared to ceramic tiles. These characteristics make porcelain tiles more resistant to cracks and chips, more resistant to staining, and more durable to wear and tear. These properties lead to porcelain tiles being a more desirable material for commercial buildings when compared to ceramic tiles.

## Haworth Porcelain Flooring System: Frequently Asked Questions

---

### What is technical porcelain?

The tile used in the Haworth Porcelain Flooring System is a technical porcelain tile. Technical porcelain tiles are a subset within the category of porcelain tiles. Porcelain tiles absorb  $\leq 0.5\%$  of moisture while technical porcelain tiles absorb  $\leq 0.1\%$  of moisture, making technical porcelain virtually impermeable to moisture and stain absorption. The uncompromising performance of technical porcelain tiles makes it a great choice for commercial applications.

### How much color variation is expected with porcelain tiles?

Porcelain is a natural product which means tiles will vary in color, texture, and appearance depending on the product line. It is essential to order enough attic stock to ensure the entire installation is completed using the same batch of tiles.

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION

### Is the Haworth Porcelain Flooring System watertight?

The Haworth Porcelain Flooring System provides a water-resistant finish under normal daily use. The system is suitable for areas with light water exposure such as daily cleaning, spills, and entryways.

It is important to note that the Haworth Flooring System is not a water-tight system. The Haworth Porcelain Flooring Systems is not suitable for wet applications such as bathrooms or outdoor use.

## SUSTAINABILITY & MATERIALS

### What materials are in the Haworth Porcelain Flooring System?

The tile is a technical grade porcelain made from 30% recycled content. The support carrier grid is made from recyclable High Impact Polystyrene (HIPS) and a steel foil sheet. The grout connector is made from a recyclable thermoplastic elastomer made from Styrene-Ethylene-Butylene-Styrene (SEBS).

### What will happen to the product at end of life?

The main advantage of the system is that the tiles can be re-used, either in the same installation (swapping tiles around) or in another building. The product itself is designed for disassembly at end of life. The support grid and flexible grout can then be recycled into new components.

### I know it may be recyclable, but how do I recycle the grid and grout?

Both the support carrier and grout will be marked with their respective SPI resin identification code. These codes allow recyclers to easily identify the material and to sort it accordingly.

## SUPPORT

For sales and technical support, contact Haworth Sales or [Flooring@Haworth.com](mailto:Flooring@Haworth.com).