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TILES || INDUSTRY SPEAKS



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Commercial complexes lean towards tiles in matt finish and subtle colours

Amit Shah, Managing Director, Classic Marble Company offers a run down on selection of tiles for living spaces and commercial establishments.

When it comes to selection and utilization of tiles in commercial establishments vs residential establishments, how does it differ?

In commercial structures, not just the exteriors of a building but also interior portions are covered. Since tiles are heavy-duty and offer wide variety in colours, designs and sizes they are a preferred choice in commercial establishments. Lots of areas such as entrance, lobby, escalator or lift premises observe heavy movement of goods and people which necessitates usage of sturdy, stain resistant, easy to use and low maintenance tiles. Moreover, commercial premises prefer non-reflective surfaces, formation of mirror images or other hindrances in work-areas. Rustic colours or matt finishes are preferred. Commercial premises are usually large size areas hence application of large size slabs are considered best. These are not only easy to install but also offer ease in maintenance due to less grouts. Since there are minimum joints, the surface looks seamless offering greater aesthetic impact which is one of the most important factors in the commercial premises.

In the residential space, preference is given to functionality as well as aesthetics hence different types of tiles are chosen for different areas. Entrance and lobbies are made to look affluent and beautiful hence highlighters are merged with interiors whereas

escalator areas are subtle. Vibrant colours are used at specific intersections to break the monotony in design. Residential establishments use glossy tiles with attractive designs as well as soft colour tones in matt finishes based on functionality of the space. For instance, pool areas, kids' zones, play areas, terraces will have matt finish tiles whereas entrances, intersections may use glossy finish.

