

Photo courtesy of Di Lorenzo Tiles
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TILES COME IN ALL SHAPES & SIZES...

But hexagon is the stand out favourite.

WORDS MARGARET QUILTER



HOW TO MAKE YOUR BATHROOM APPEAR BIGGER

- Walk small bathrooms so walls tiles that are as big as your floor will allow
- Choose light colours as it provides a more open feel
- Keep a cohesive look with bathrooms just change the decorative aspects of it



The versatility of tiles - from the kitchen to the bathroom to the main living area - have the ability to infuse elegance, play with the illusion of space, and have practical functionalities that withstand the wear and tear of family life.

Deciphering between the different textures, shapes and sizes can be overwhelming, but here to break it down for us is Diana Di Lorenzo from Di Lorenzo Tiles, who says shapes are at the moment, while large format tiles are here to stay.

"There is a movement towards shapes; diamond, triangles, hexagons and crosses," says Diana. "The most popular shape is hexagon, followed by a penny round shape, alternatively you can lay tiles in a chevron or herringbone pattern."

Although living areas are increasing in popularity, kitchens and bathrooms remain the focal point for tiling. They are a smaller space and therefore have a more immediate impact with feature walls or splashbacks - these allow you to bring your personality into an area that can easily be changed, such as an accented mosaic backsplash in the kitchen.

Diana explains that a lot of people love concrete but this isn't always practical, but the look can be achieved through digital printing on porcelain tiles - a tile that is hard to chip, available in large format, doesn't stain or retain odour, and can handle all cleaners. Stone on the other hand is loved for its natural beauty and durability, but comes with issues - you have to seal, be careful with cleaners and it's the most expensive.

Looking forward, Diana says that we are going to see a lot more shapes, not just for bathrooms but for living areas as people experiment more with decoration on living room floors. For more information or expert advice on your next tiling project visit dilorenzo.com.au.



QUICK GUIDE TO CHOOSING TILES

- Porcelain tiles are the most durable, ideal for living rooms and kitchens.
- Experiment with shapes; hexagon, triangle, square, diamond and cross shapes.
- Mosaics are perfect for backsplashes and creating an intimate space.
- Slightly raised tiles work best on the floor.
- Trending colours are warm and cool tones, mainly browns, taupe browns and darker charcoals.
- Darker tones make a space look grounded and intimate, lighter colours are more open.