



LEVELING SYSTEM FOR TILE JOINTS



A ceramic tile leveling system is a set of tools used during tile installation to achieve a level and uniform surface. These systems are designed to correct unevenness or irregularities in the surface during the tile installation process, thus avoiding differences in height or unevenness between tiles.

PARTS OF THE LEVELING SYSTEM

The leveling systems are mainly composed of two elements: the flanges (also called shims) and the wedges. The wedges help us to level the surface in a symmetrical way together with the flanges and the ceramic tiles. The flange is the part that is placed under the ceramic and cannot be recovered, while the wedge is the piece that exerts the force and is inserted into the flange, allowing its recovery and reusability. There are also other components that usually accompany us during installation in order to facilitate the task and avoid errors. Among them is the leveling square, which serves to ensure at all times that, between each tile, an angle of 90° is maintained. Also, the crosspieces, allow us to maintain an identical and constant separation between tiles, achieving a perfect alignment, and the tongs, which help us to fix the wedges with the tiles (sometimes, they are included in the leveling kit). And finally, the roller or rubber mallet will be the tool we use when placing the tiles and after removing the wedge.

STEPS TO FOLLOW DURING LEVELING

- 01.** Insert the base of the clip under the tile. When a levelling system is used, the floating and buttering method should be used.
- 02.** Insert the wedge in the clip, adjusting it by hand.
- 03.** Regulate the head of the pliers until they can easily be used to slide the wedge in. Then adjust the top bolt to avoid too much pressure.
- 04.** Slide the wedge gently into the clip with the adjusted pliers. It is not necessary to exert strong pressure on them. For optimum results, the tiles should first be pre-levelled with a rubber mallet.
- 05.** Leave the adhesive to dry as per the manufacturer's instructions.
- 06.** Once the adhesive is dry, snap off the clip and wedge by hitting them in a sideways direction. Do not remove the wedge before snapping off the clip. A rubber mallet can be used to do this or they can be given a kick.

