

GATOR TILE SYSTEM

INSTALLATION GUIDE



STEP 1

EXCAVATION OF THE NEW GATOR TILE AREA

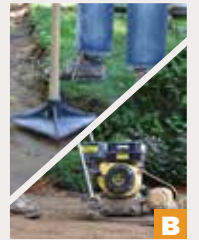
Excavate the new **Gator Base** area. The depth required is calculated by adding Porcelain Tile height, **Gator Base**, bedding sand, plus any soft organic material that has to be removed. Excavate the perimeter an extra 6" (15 cm) wider on all sides than the tile area required.



STEP 2

LEVELLING AND COMPACTING OF THE BASE

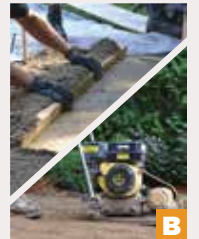
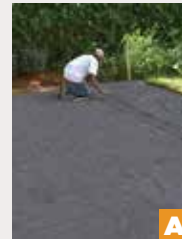
(A) • Ensure a slope of at least 1 degree away from any structure, such as a house. **(B)** • The native soil needs to be compacted using a plate compactor or hand tamper. Native soil should be graded to 3/8(+/-) of finished grade.



STEP 3

ADDITION OF GEO-FABRIC, LEVELLING AND COMPACTED BEDDING SAND

(A) • Lay down a non-woven geo-fabric and cover the entire excavated area and wrap up the sides above finished grade. Cut excess when the job is complete. **(B)** • Spread an even layer of sand to a depth of maximum 3/4 inch (19 mm) • The levelling and compacting the bedding sand will be the last step prior to installing the **Gator Base**. **(C)** • Water the sand prior to using a hand compactor and/or plate compactor, compact the 3/4 inch (19 mm) of bedding sand until you obtain a final height of 1/2 inch (13 mm) of compacted bedding sand, that should reflect the final tiled surface.



STEP 4

INSTALLATION OF THE GATOR BASE

Make sure to install the **Gator Base** on the extended excavation area (total excavation should be 6 inches [15 cm] wider on each side than the final tiled area). • Start laying the **Gator Base** units ensuring **Gator Base** interlocks with the tongue & groove system.



STEP 5

INSTALLATION OF PORCELAIN TILE AND GATOR SPACER

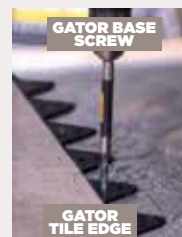
Gator Spacers should receive a generous amount of **Alliance Gator XP polyurethane adhesive** on each quadrant. Install the Porcelain Tile on the **Gator Spacer**, apply pressure or tap the tiles with a rubber mallet at all corners. This will ensure that the tiles are adhering to the **Gator Spacer**. The **Gator Spacer** will be left in the tile installation permanently, ensuring proper alignment and stability of your project for years to come. Gator Spacer can be scored and cut for edge pieces as required by job layout. Add additional Gator Spacers for tiles exceeding 32 inches. Visit AllianceGator.com for more details.



STEP 6

INSTALLATION OF GATOR TILE EDGE AND GATOR BASE SCREWS

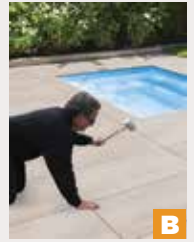
Install **Gator Tile Edge** on the **Gator Base** using **Gator Base Screws**, make sure that **Gator Tile Edge** rests firmly against the tiles. Use **Gator Base Screws** at every second hole.



STEP
7

SWEEPING, COMPACTING AND BLOWING OF THE GATOR TILE SAND

(A) • When emptying the bag of **GATOR TILE SAND**, spread it onto the dry, tiled surface. • When sweeping the **GATOR TILE SAND**, spread it over a small area before moving onto the next, while making sure to fill in the joints. **(B)** • Consolidate **Gator Tile Sand** into the tile joints using a rubber mallet or large wooden board. Be careful not to shift or misalign tiles if Gator XP adhesive is not completely set. **(C)** • Finally, use a blower to blow off all sand residue laying on the tile surface.



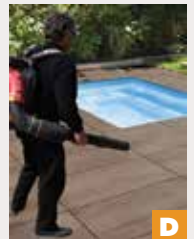
WATER ACTIVATION (IMPORTANT NOTES)

- A** Work in manageable sections, ideally about 100 sq. ft. at a time, depending on temperature.
- B** Do not allow **GATOR TILE SAND** to wash out of joint.
- C** Never allow tiled surface to dry out during the water activation phase.
- D** Watering must be started at the lowest point of the tiled surface.
- E** Use a watering gun connected to a hose. Setting should be set to shower.

STEP
8

GATOR TILE SAND WATER ACTIVATION STEPS

(A) • Shower water on a specific area of 100 sq.ft., wait no longer than 2 to 3 minutes. **(B)** • Shower and rinse simultaneously on a section of approximately 100 sq. ft. so as to eliminate any **GATOR TILE SAND** residue left on the tiles. Any **GATOR TILE SAND** residue should go directly into the tiled joints. Wait no longer than 2 to 3 minutes. **(C)** • Shower and rinse simultaneously, so as to eliminate any **GATOR TILE SAND** residue. Any residue should go directly into the tiled joints. However, stop showering when you see water retention on the tiled joints. Wait no longer than 2 to 3 minutes. Note: Repeat the directions of STEPS 8a to 8c for all other areas that have not been showered with water. **(D)** • Use a leaf blower to remove any excess water remaining on the tiled crevices. This blowing action is necessary to help remove any remaining **GATOR TILE SAND** residue left on tiled surfaces from the previous steps.



IMPORTANT

The water used in steps 8a to 8c will activate a bonding action as well as condensing **GATOR TILE SAND** in the joints. It is important to water the **GATOR TILE SAND** a total of 3 times, as per steps 8a, 8b and 8c. Too little water will not properly activate the **GATOR TILE SAND** and will reduce the final performance.