

# norstone

## Basalt IL Tile Specification Sheet

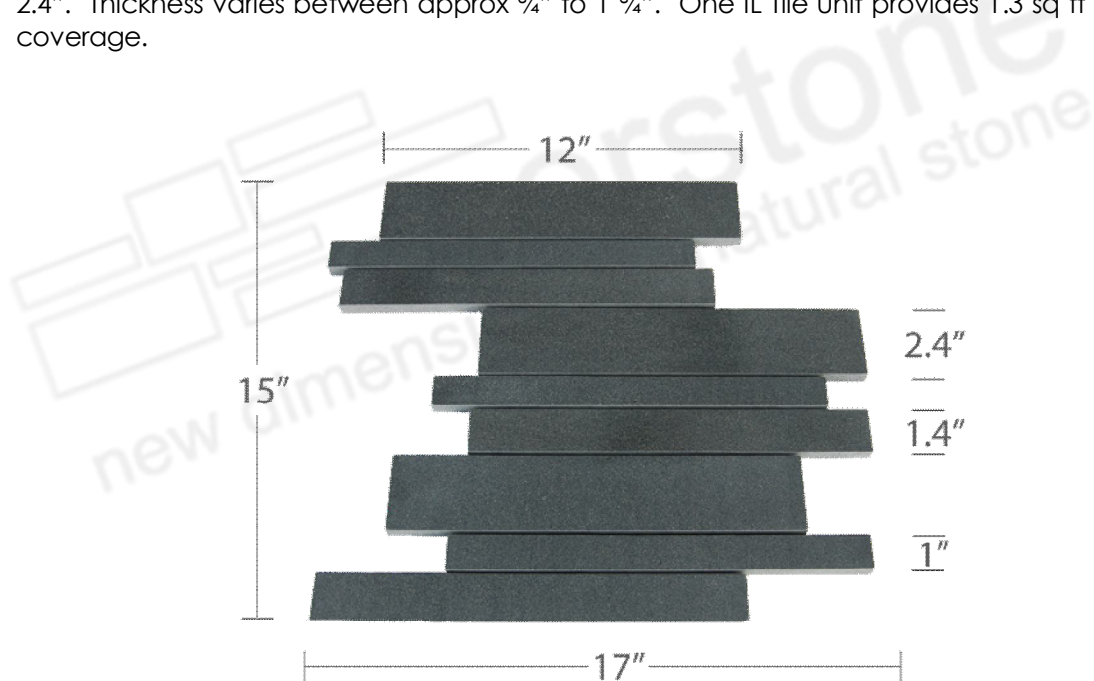
**STONE SPECIFICATIONS:** Stone shall be Norstone Natural Stone Basalt IL Tiles as produced by Norstone of Sydney, Australia. For more information, please contact your nearest distributor by email.

**PRODUCT:** Basalt Interlocking (IL) Tiles

**CLASSIFICATION:** Basalt is an extrusive igneous rock, sometimes porphyritic, and is often both fine-grained and dense.

**COLOR:** Ash Grey & Ebony

**Size:** One IL Tile consists of 9 staggered 12" strips, with varied heights of either 1", 1.4", & 2.4". Thickness varies between approx  $\frac{3}{4}$ " to  $1\frac{3}{4}$ ". One IL Tile unit provides 1.3 sq ft of coverage.



**Weight:** approx 7lbs per unit.

**Packaging:** 4 inots per box = 5.2 square feet per box; 66 boxes per crate = 343.2 square feet per crate; please call for customized container-load quantities.

**DELIVERY:** The contractor will be responsible to prepare a suitable area for delivery of the tile. The tile is to be delivered in crates and the site must be prepared with gravel or other ground cover to place the crates. Deliveries may require a forklift on the site to unload the truck. Check with Norstone to find out what type of delivery can be arranged in your area and how much room will be required on the jobsite to deliver and place the tiles. After the tile is on the jobsite it should be covered with plastic or a tarp to keep clean and dry until it is ready to be used.

NOTE: Covering the tile will help protect the stone from theft and/or vandalism.

**PROTECTION:** It is the responsibility of the contractor to maintain a ground cover of gravel or other suitable material under and adjacent to stockpiles and in all work areas to prevent mud splash and damage to material. It is especially important to maintain a minimum 4' wide ground cover around the perimeter of all walls to prevent mud splash until the landscaping is complete.

At the completion of each days work, the tops of the walls should be covered to prevent water penetration into the wall cavity. Rain-wash entering a wall is one of the main causes of wall staining. The water causes a reaction with alkaline salts inherent to Portland Cement and cement blocks. The salts penetrate into the joints and eventually percolate to the surface leaving a brown stain in the process.

**PATTERN:** Tile Units are to be installed in staggered fashion. Avoid continuous running joints as much as possible. Please see installation guide for further, more detailed instruction.

**SETTING:** Tile Units shall be set with a modified thinset / 2 – part tile adhesive with a bonding agent. It is important to make sure all cavities behind tiles are sufficiently filled with adhesive in order to ensure structural integrity and endurance. Tile shall be laid free from mortar stains and be kept as clean as possible. No tilework shall be performed unless the jobsite temperature is no lower than 35 degrees Fahrenheit and rising, or the architect has approved a cold weather-setting plan.

Please see installation guide for further, more detailed instruction.

**GROUTING:** Check with the thinset manufacturer's guidelines for drying times prior to grouting. 24 hours should be more than enough time to cure thinset and clean off any residual adhesive before grouting. The grout consistency should be less stiff than the thinset application, but not runny. Use the grout float to press grout between the cracks. Do not use grout to fill abutting (right angle) surfaces - instead, use acrylic sealer to create a rubberized expansion joint.

At the manufacturer's prescribed time, go back and lightly sponge off the excess grout. Press lightly and evenly, to avoid digging out the grout from between. Rinse the sponge frequently to minimize smearing.

As the job dries, a light haze will form. Wait a day and remove the haze with a sponge or a piece of cotton fabric. Intermittently mist joints with a spray water bottle for 72 hours: slow-damp curing grout enhances its strength and stain resistance.

**CLEANING:** After completion of tiling, cleaning shall be accomplished with a stiff bristle brush and water using a mild detergent. **Acidic Cleaning Agents should not be used.**

**SEALING:** Norstone recommends sealing Basalt IL Tiles with a good quality penetrating sealer for all interior and exterior applications. Always test the sealer on an off-cut or in an inconspicuous place on the finished stone wall before applying to the entire stone surface.

Follow the manufacturer's instructions regarding the application of the sealer. Sealed stone may be easier to keep clean than unsealed stone and certain sealers also repel stains. However, sealers must be periodically reapplied, especially on exterior applications, and could alter the natural coloring of the stone.