Bar Tile & Spacing Cheat Sheet

Plan your flawless wet bar layout and tile installation

Design a professional-looking home bar with these exact spacing measurements and tile techniques. Lock in your spatial relationships before mixing any thinset.



Key Spacing & Design Specs

2x8 or 2x10 in
Vertical stack lifts tight alcove ceilings

2700K
Graze light down tile from shelf

3/8 in
Brass edge trim borders the drywall

2 in
Floating walnut shelf balances heavy cabinetry

1/16 in
Charcoal epoxy grout outlines green tile

18-20 in
Counter clearance to the first shelf

1/8 in
Silicone expansion gap at the counter

Pre-Seal Porous Glazes

Apply a penetrating sealer to crackle-glazed or handmade ceramic tiles before mixing adhesive. This invisible barrier stops dark epoxy pigments from permanently staining the delicate clay face.

Tile Yield & Overage

Find your row: **Your tile size**

Your tile size	Your pick	Why
2x8 inch subway	5.5 sq ft per box	15 percent overage for low ceilings
2x10 inch subway	6.2 sq ft per box	15 percent overage for standard niches
3x12 inch subway	10.0 sq ft per box	20 percent overage for wide backsplashes
4x4 inch square	11.0 sq ft per box	10 percent overage for historic styling

Flawless Epoxy & Silicone

1. **Mix half batches** Mix only half the epoxy resin and hardener at a time to double your workable application window.
2. **Wash immediately** Use warm water and white nylon scrub pads to remove sticky epoxy residue before it cures.
3. **Tape the transition** Apply painter's tape to the counter and bottom tile for a perfectly crisp silicone caulk line.
4. **Tool with soap** Spray the fresh silicone bead with a mild soap solution before tooling to prevent messy smearing.

Pre-Installation Checks

- [ ] Measure your tallest liquor bottle to confirm it clears the lowest shelf.
- [ ] Verify your high-arc bar faucet has full rotational clearance below the shelf.
- [ ] Check that hidden LED channel placement won't cast glare into users' eyes.
- [ ] Confirm solid stud blocking is installed before drywall and tile go up.
- [ ] Check bracket specs to ensure they penetrate two-thirds into the shelf depth.
- [ ] Use a water-cooled diamond hole saw to prevent cracking when drilling tile.

Project Notes

Enjoy crafting a beautiful, high-performance wet bar that perfectly anchors your entertaining space!