

Stack-Bond Backsplash Layout Guide

Plan, measure, and direct a perfectly symmetrical vertical tile installation.

Turning standard tiles vertically instantly modernizes your kitchen by drawing the eye up. Use this setting-out sheet to confidently plan your layout, manage shade variation, and coordinate with your installation team.

● Key Layout Specs

90 degrees

Turn standard tiles to exaggerate height

3 boxes

Blend at once for even variation

1/16 inch

Spacer size for tight modern joints

24 hours

Max time to remove grout haze

Center on the Range

Always anchor your layout by aligning the first tile or vertical joint directly on the exact center of your cooking zone to guarantee perfectly symmetrical end cuts.



● Centerline Layout Steps

- 1 Mark the Center** Find the exact center of the range and hood using a highly visible laser level.
- 2 Establish Boundaries** Measure the total width of the wall space between the flanking cabinets.
- 3 Dry-Lay Outward** Verify the resulting end cuts are acceptable, planning equal half-width cuts for the outside edges.
- 4 Set the Anchor** Establish a perfectly straight vertical grout joint running up the wall directly behind the hood.

● Tile Material Estimator

Base Sq Ft	Vertical Stack Order	Actual Wall Area
30	35 sq ft	30 sq ft
40	46 sq ft	40 sq ft
50	58 sq ft	50 sq ft

Vertical grids yield fewer usable offcuts than staggered horizontal installations.

● Plumb Line Frequency

Find your row: **Tile Width**

Tile Width	Your pick	Why
2 inches	Every 4th tile	8-inch horizontal span
3 inches	Every 3rd tile	9-inch horizontal span
4 inches	Every 2nd tile	Prevents grid from wandering

● Box-Blending Sequence

- ☐ Dry-lay and mix shades to create a beautifully organic, cohesive texture.
- ☐ Cluster slightly darker tiles near the countertop to ground the design.
- ☐ Let lighter shades float upward toward the ceiling for bespoke variation.
- ☐ Float older, uneven drywall with additional thinset for a perfectly flat surface.

● Pro Hand-Off Checklist

- ☐ This printed layout sheet for your tile setter.
- ☐ Approved sample of grout tinted to match the glaze.
- ☐ Exact dimensions of slim under-cabinet outlet strips.
- ☐ High-quality penetrating sealer for delicate crackle glazes.
- ☐ Color-matched silicone caulk for the bottom countertop transition.
- ☐ LED tape channels mounted toward front edge of uppers.

● Project Notes

Enjoy your beautifully balanced, modern backsplash that perfectly elevates your kitchen space.