



# HOW TO CHOOSE A KITCHEN BACKSPLASH

## 3 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

There are several things that will drive your decision when it comes to choosing kitchen backsplash tile and the primary one typically is budget.

There generally is not a large quantity of tile involved in a backsplash so often the allowance per SF is set high to allow you a lot of latitude when deciding on the tile to be used. We typically see backsplash material in the \$8 - \$20 square foot range. It can be more if you add in an accent medallion decoration within the backsplash.

Tile medallions can offer a very cool focal point to a tiled kitchen wall and it is usually placed over the range area to bring more focus to the range and hood area.

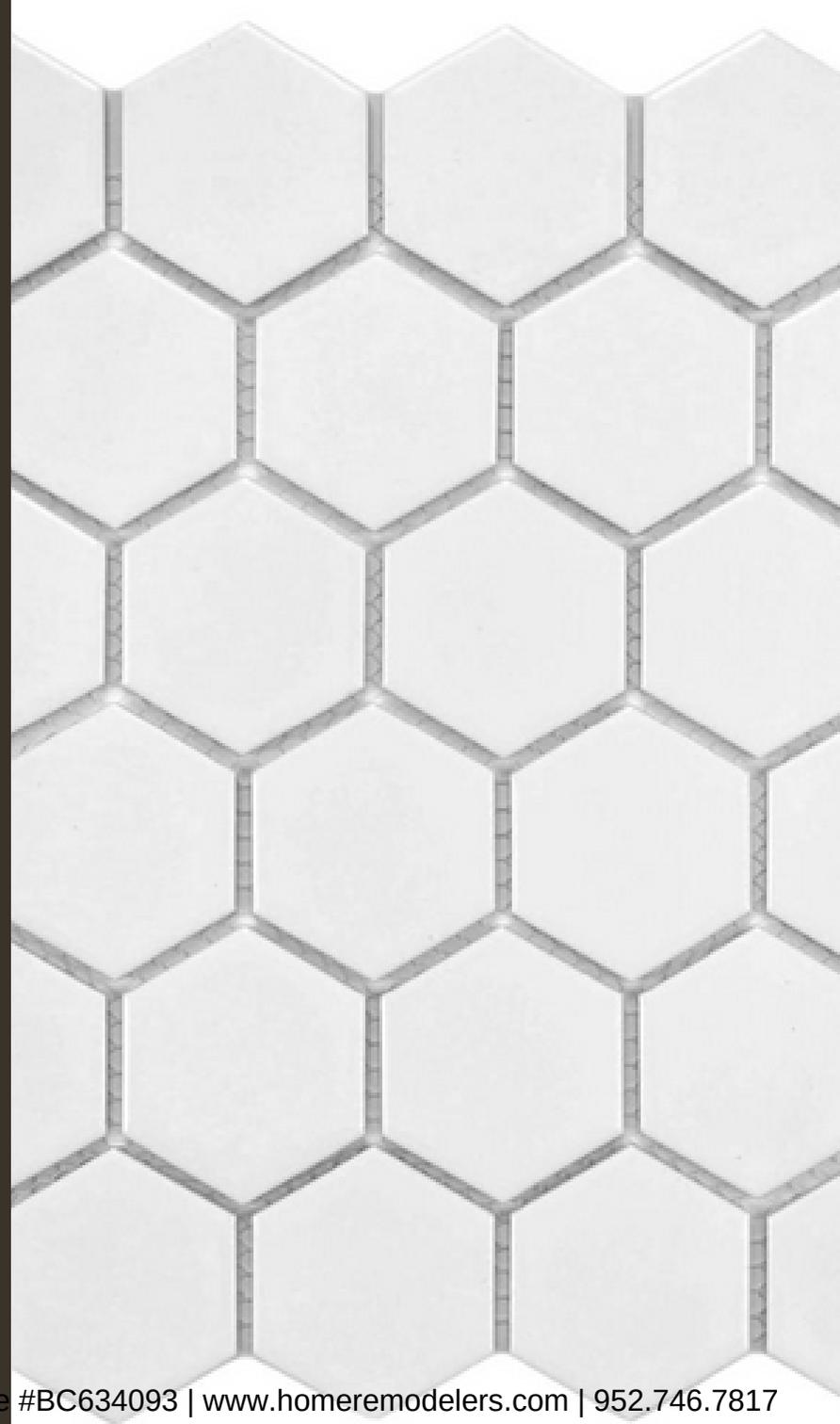


# #1 - TILE SHAPE

When choosing tile for your backsplash it is important to think about the shape of the tile. Many people choose tile that has some character to it, that could include tiles that are not consistent in shape or thickness. However, what most people forget when making this selection is that there are outlets and switches typically in the back-splash area.

If your tiles are not consistent the cover plates, it will not sit on the tile evenly.

We can solve this problem with two different methods enabling you to use the tile you want. One is to install some type of "pencil" tile around the cover plate area. This gives a flat area for the cover plate to sit plus adds some character to the tile work. The other option is to relocate outlets to power strips under the upper cabinets and switches to different walls.





## #2 – COORDINATE WITH COUNTER TOP MATERIAL

The second most important thing to take into consideration when selecting the tile is countertop material. It is critical that the backsplash and countertop flow with one another. Many of the countertops that have a lot going on within the top itself make it difficult to find a good complimenting tile.

Often in these situations, it is best to go with a solid color that pulls from the countertop's accents.

The most popular solids used are called subway tiles. These usually come in sizes 2x4 3x6 or 4x8.

# #3 – PATTERN DESIGN

The third thing you should know when choosing a backsplash tile is the pattern design you are looking for.

Subway tiles are typically laid in a brick pattern style- the grout joints are staggered. In more contemporary applications they may be straight stacked- all the grout joints line up. Either way these subway tiles are normally laid horizontal as setting them vertical make the space between the countertop and upper cabinet seem small.

Another way the tile can be installed is “on point” or diagonal. This creates some interest in the tile and can help if things around the backsplash are a little boring.

This will typically add a little more cost in both material and labor. You have more waste and there is more cutting involved.



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- There are SO many types of materials available to complete your backsplash area. Often, as I mentioned before, they come in sheets called mosaic tile. We use natural stone—granite, slate, marble, quartz, limestone, etc. Sometimes we will add some metals to that like copper, stainless, etc. Glass is a popular add to the mosaics as accents as well. You also have plain ceramic and porcelain as well, with porcelain being the better-quality product. It is important to consider cabinet type and color as well as countertop type and color when thinking about materials.

The three things you need to know when choosing your kitchen backsplash tile are

#1 – Think about the shape of the tile

#2 – Be sure you take your countertop material into consideration

#3 – Choose a pattern design of how you envision the tile laying out



# DESIGN – BUILD – REMODEL - RESTORE

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The combined experience of our team is unparalleled in the industry. We have built a team that offers over 40+ years of combined knowledge, experience, and craftsmanship that we have become known for.

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**Tom Schutz**

4 reviews · 5 photos

★★★★★ 2 months ago

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**Douglas Lockard**

1 review

★★★★★ 4 months ago

I have worked with Titus on two residential remodels. I have received nothing less than honesty and transparency throughout each project. Their team goes the extra mile starting with design and consultation, finding the right materials that fit within my budget and standing behind the workmanship during and after completion. I am planning to start my third remodel project with them this summer and could not be more excited to enjoy the finished product. Give them a call, you won't be disappointed.



**Diane Harr**

1 review

★★★★★ 4 months ago

The Titus team succeeded in bringing my dreams to reality - and in fact, truly exceeded my dreams. True to their mission and vision statement, Lee, Greg, and the rest of the team focused on what I needed to move forward with my project. They communicated honestly, listened to my vision, and shared their incredible expertise which resulted in having a relationship filled with trust. Always conscious of staying on schedule and budget, the team brought an amazing kitchen and bath to reality for me. Every day, I walk into those rooms and smile with gratitude that I am fortunate enough to work with the Titus team.

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