

Technical Bulletin: SeamSeal joint assembly for watertight seal V02

Six3 Tile® has designed a unique interlocking joint seal for stacked tile sheets in wet applications. A pre-cut channel fits over a tab automatically creating a grout channel while preventing water from penetrating the seam. When used with standard PVC cement, this joint creates a chemical weld that is invisible, strong and water-tight. This document explains the design of the seal and the proper installation technique.

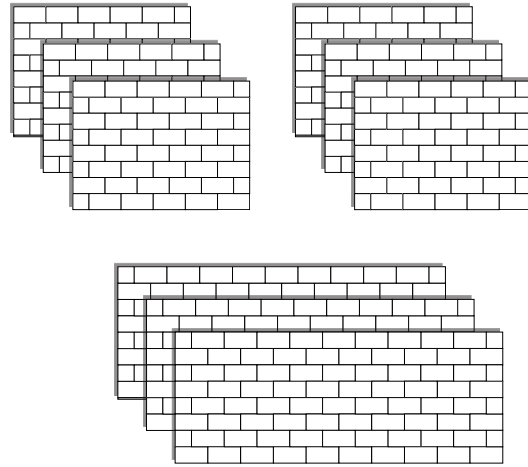
1 - KIT CONTENTS & STACK ORDER

Kit Contents

A standard Tub Surround kit will contain 9 individual tile panels: 3 wide panels for the back wall, 3 panels for the plumbing wall and 3 panels for the foot wall.

A standard Shower kit will contain 12 individual tile panels: 4 wide panels for the back wall, 4 panels for the plumbing wall and 4 panels for the foot wall.

Pictured: a 3"x6" Subway standard Tub Surround kit contents.



Stacking Order

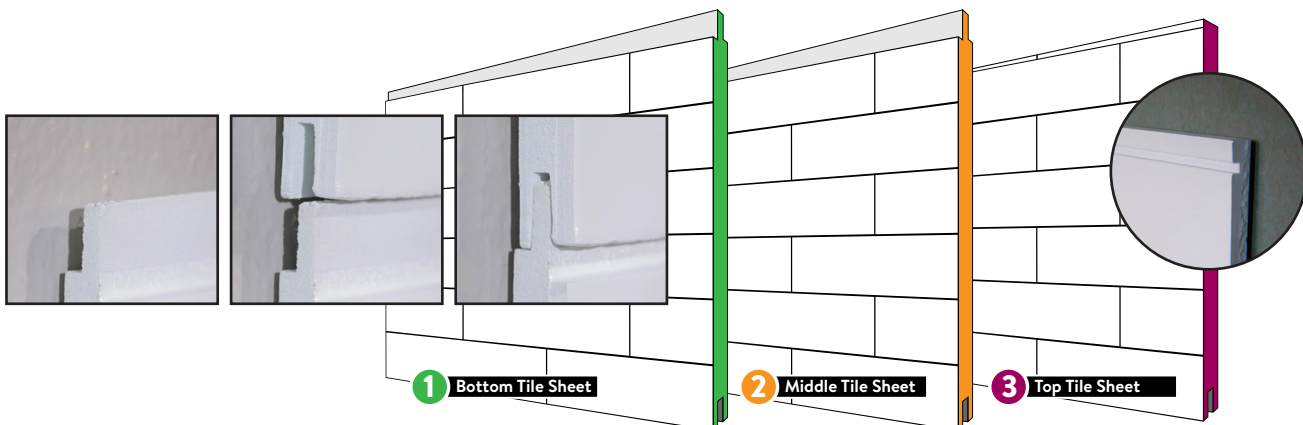
Tile panels are engineered to be stacked in a specific order. Each kit's panels will have two distinct profiles:

- The bottom and middle panels have a channel cut on the bottom edge and a tab on the top edge.
- The top panel's top edge will be squared off, without a tab.¹

The panels designated as "bottom" and "middle" are identical. It does not matter which of these panels is installed first as the bottom. The squared edge panel is installed last, at the top.

It is important to keep in mind the panels are designed to be installed with the channel facing down and the tab facing up. In this orientation, water running down the face of the tile panel cannot pool and penetrate the seal.

Pictured: color-coding is for illustration only. Tile panels will not have color-coded edges.



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2 - CREATING A WATER-TIGHT SEAL

Chemical Weld

All-Purpose PVC cement² is applied along the horizontal interlocking seam to chemically bond the panels together, creating a water-tight seal. Cement can be applied to either the tab's surface or inside the channel - cement does not have to be applied to both surfaces. Application technique is based on personal preference and workflow efficiency, as suggested in the following examples. In each example below, the bottom tile panel is loosely attached to the backing surface, prior to PVC cement application, to allow easier insertion of the upper panel onto the lower panel. Then cemented panels are pressed into the wall for proper seating onto the backing material.

Carefully read and follow all PVC cement manufacturer's instructions and precautions, including noting the cement's set times, storage requirements and expiration dates.

Tab Application

This technique applies cement to an installed bottom panel. Using the brush provided in the cap of the cement can, apply a small amount of cement along the full length of the tab on the bottom panel. Immediately install the top panel onto the bottom panel. A small utility brush can be used instead of the cap brush for greater control.



Channel Application

This technique applies cement inside the channel of a top that will be installed over top of the bottom panel. This involves the use of a separate squeeze bottle filled with PVC cement. Flip the top panel upside-down so the channel is facing up. Using the squeeze bottle, inject a bead of cement along the entire length of the channel panel. Carefully flip the panel over and install onto the bottom panel.



Clean Up

Care should be taken to prevent PVC cement from being applied to the finished surface of the tile panel. However, any cement that is spilled or runs onto the finished surface of the tile panel should not react with the tile. PVC cement will only react with unfinished surfaces, such as the tab/channel areas and the back of the tile panel. Any cement that has migrated to the tile surface needs to be removed prior to grouting. If this occurs, allow the cement to fully dry (usually within a few minutes), then carefully peel or scrape off the dried residue, without scratching the tile's finished surface.

Notes:

- 1 - The top panels in the 9-piece kit will be the same height as the rest of the panels. The top panels in the 12-piece kit will be shorter than the rest of the panels. Both kits' top panels will exhibit the squared-off edge.
- 2 - An example is Oatey® Regular Clear PVC Cement [can be viewed here](#).

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Additional resources can be found at www.six3tile.com.
For technical questions, please contact us at info@six3tile.com



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