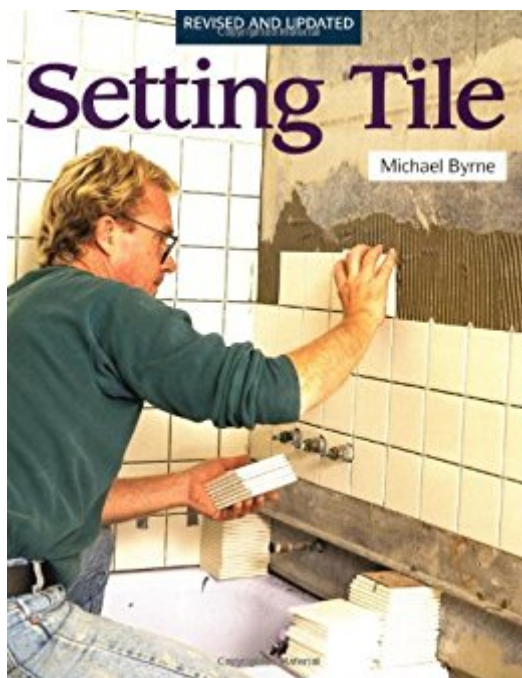


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# Setting Tile: Revised And Updated



## Synopsis

A beautiful tile job can make a room. And now with the help of this book and new, readily available materials, you can design and install your own tile floors, walls, countertops and shower stalls. All the up-to-date information you need is right here.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

very informative. solid balance of discussion of materials vs. tools. solid overview from a renowned tilesetter. In fact, Byrne does the DVDs for the Nobel Corp. - mfg. of arguably the finest water and sound proofing materials made. Byrne is the real deal. You'll learn a lot from this book, I predict. If you want detailed discussion to replicate the results discussed in the book, you will likely need supplementary sources. One useful addition that I've found is "Tiling" by Stanley tools. has many other alternatives as well. A few reviewers were critical of the book because it didn't meet their expectations. In the interest of objectivity, Byrne can't right just one book for everyone from a neophyte to experienced DIYer to professional tile setter - the book would be several thousand

pages long. This book is a compromise. If you are a master tile setter or neophyte, you'll learn less than the experienced DIYer which makes up the largest audience. That said, both neophyte and pro will find things of value from a general discussion of tile types, history of tile, and safety considerations to the use of industry-recommended adhesives and insights on polymer-modified vs. water mixed thinsets. There's something in this book for everyone, but the greatest beneficiary will be a skilled, non-professional tile setter. The really experienced, professional tile setter is somewhat unique as far as construction tradesman are concerned: tile setters have to have some artistic sensibilities (esp. w.r.t. layout) in addition to being skilled and up on current industry standards and codes. But if the artistic insight is missing, all of the skill in the world won't make a tile job look good. That's not the case in structural framing and masonry, window installing, carpet layers, etc. In a sense, great tile setters work like architects at the micro level - design, function, aesthetics come first, then you apply the tradeskill to meet the requirements. This is unique in the housing trades. Now here's the rub: like interior decorators, tile setters have to work within the limitations of the construction envelope. They can't go back and fix structure, carpentry, electrical, plumbing, etc - although they may have to delay their work until repairs are made. As a result, the art of thicksetting mortar beds remains alive - it's the time-proven way to compensate for inferior carpentry and, to a lesser extent, structure. For this reason, I recommend the Michael Byrne DVDs on flooring, walls and countertops with this book. Even if you don't intend to ever expand beyond thinsetting over backerboard and membranes, these DVDs will emphasize the limitations of the simpler techniques. These videos are about 30 years old, but illustrate the best practices of a master tile setter. While tile making techniques, adhesives, membranes, etc. continue to evolve, the basic techniques in these videos remain the same.

This book is the "bible" for first-time tile installers. It's got an excellent history of tile, more descriptions of tile than you'll probably ever see, and information that you didn't know you needed (but do). It's easy to understand, addresses all aspects of pretty much any tile installation that any DIY'er will ever tackle, from the most basic steps to pretty advanced installations, and will make you a better tiler than you thought you could be. I've done a number of tile jobs since I bought this book - five bathrooms (including three shower surrounds, four countertops, and four floors - one of them heated), a laundry room, two kitchens (counters and backsplashes), part of a family room, and a covered deck outdoors. I've used a variety of materials, from porcelain and ceramic tiles to slate, terrazzo, and granite, as well as a chimney chase that I covered with architectural stone, none of which I would have been able to do without the guidance of Mr. Byrne. I've read this book a number

of times (I re-read portions of it every time before I start a project), and it's always got the information that I need. It covers prepping the area, the importance of doing a good layout (and HOW to do it), what materials are appropriate (and NOT, just as important!), and how to "finish" the job with grout. If you're interested in doing your own tile work (or slate, marble, granite, etc.), you should absolutely have this as your primary reference. And even if you're not doing your own work, but want to know more about tiling (what to look for in tile, how to judge the quality of an installation, etc.), this book will give you the information you need. (I've found that I now look much more closely, and critically, at tile installations pretty much wherever I go and it's amazing how many "professional" installations - whether residential or commercial - are substandard, once you know what you're looking for.)

I actually have purchased this book more than once. I loaned the book to a friend and have asked for it back a couple of times. They moved and may have mis-placed it (or gave it away). I guess you loan things out and sometimes you don't get them back. The friendship is more important than the book.....well...it is a great book...lol.....This book does a great job of showing multiple techniques and examples. I also suggest the Home Depot Tiling 1 2 3. The books combined will do a great job of teaching you many things about tiling. I have done multiple bathroom showers and multiple floors, backsplash...so easy to do it yourself...just take your time and buy a tile saw on craigslist. Buy a new blade on and you are all tile "set"!

I remodeled my bathroom and when it came to setting the tile floor, this book was great. If you are going to only buy one book (I bought several) this is the only one you need.

Mr. Byrne has written dozens of articles in fine Homebuilding and Journal of Light Construction on Tile Setting. The Book is excellent, and walks you through the whole process from tile history, tile design, the various construction aspects of it (e.g., what you have to have underneath the tile to make a good tile job, the various setting beds (old fashioned mortar to newer cement boards), setting the tile, grouting the tile, and finally sealing the tile when necessary. For any person wanting to learn tile setting the correct professional way, this book is essential. I bought it twice, one about 8 years ago, and a second updated version this year because of some new products and resulting new techniques.

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