45 degree herringbone pattern installation guide
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Tools and supplies needed

- Chop saw
- Straight edge or Speed Square®
- Pencil or other nonpermanent marker
- Chalk line
- Fine-grit sandpaper (400–600 grit)

The herringbone pattern is laid at a 45-degree angle. All angles, whether cut or placed, are at 45 degrees.

Using a Speed Square® is recommended for this pattern installation. The speed square is a triangle with one 90˚ and two 45 ˚ angles.

Review: 45˚ & 90˚ angles

A 45˚ herringbone pattern requires three components

The first is a full tile (A).

The second is a tile with a corner cut off at 45˚ (B).

The third is the remaining corner (C).

Always push part C up against A and B. Any gap that remains at the bottom counter-top can be caulked later.

Continue to stack and stick tiles as shown below.

For each vertical edge (left and right sides), fill open spaces with cut corners (C) or measure and cut custom pieces as needed.

If the cut pieces are smaller than half of a tile, an additional adhesive may be needed to get the smaller pieces to adhere properly. Recommended adhesives:

- Henry 444
- Liquid Nails Construction Adhesive
- Lock Tite PowerGrab
- PL 200, 300 or 400

Measure and cut remaining fill pieces for the top as needed.

Caulk the bottom, sides or top of the tiled area as needed.
Measure, mark and snap lines if necessary for edges, guides or top of work area. For example, snap a line at 6-3/8" above the countertop height to align top points of first row of tiles, if desired.

To start, place a full tile (A) tilted at 45° against the edge or corner of the work area (in our example, the right, bottom side). Lay the tile along the side of the speed square to keep the tile at the correct angle.

Mark a tile using your Speed Square and pencil, drawing a cut-line from one corner at 45°. Using the chop saw (miter box) cut the tile on the marked line.

Then place a corner-cut tile (B) as shown below.

Fill in the remaining triangular area with the cut corner (C).
Always push part C up against A and B. Any gap that remains at the bottom countertop can be caulked later.

Continue to stack and stick tiles as shown below.

For each vertical edge (left and right sides), fill open spaces with cut corners (C) or measure and cut custom pieces as needed.

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Caulk the bottom, sides or top of the tiled area as needed.