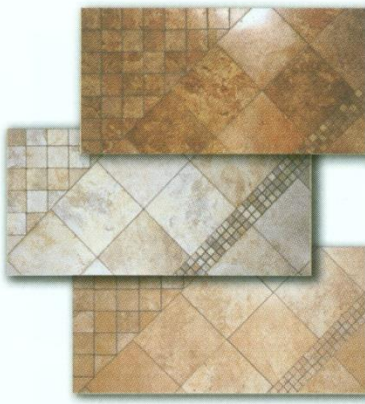


Yachting Anyone?

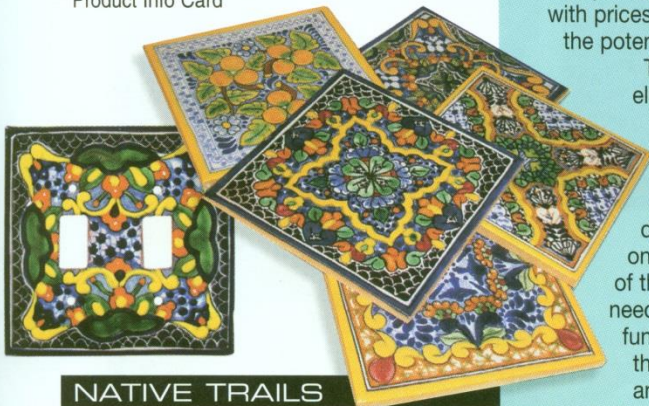
Think Weight

By Stephanie Dittrick
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SAICIS

Fritto Misto is a blend of various shades and colors. This series is the latest line in Saicis' Saitech Gres, glazed porcelain tile collection. Available in three colors: Chiaro, a grayish white blend; Scuro, a darker brown with splashes of lighter brown; and Medio, a color that blends dark and light into a tan hue, Fritto Misto is a tile line that provides patterns to compliment any room style and interior applications. Saicis offers the Fritto Misto series in convenient sizes. Circle No.125 on Product Info Card



NATIVE TRAILS

The Talavera tradition dates back to the 16th century. Today, artisans create every piece entirely by hand, using a combination of three types of special local clays. Moorish, Spanish and even Chinese influences combine with indigenous floral and animal motifs to create a unique Mexican style. Decorative tile patterns include: Jacaranda, Zinnia, Geraniums and Golondrina. Matching switch and outlet covers are available. Circle No.126 on Product Info Card



UNISOURCE STONE

Providing a full range of tumbled marble and stone accent pieces to the tile and marble industry, Unisource Stone offers an array of Ocean Mosaic Design Inserts (including colorful Mosaic Panels and Round Mosaics). Designs include angelfish, spotted fish, hermit crabs, turtle and dolphin medallions. Designs are custom made with choice of sizing and materials. Circle No.33 on Product Info Card

The luxury world of private yachting in South Florida translates to big business. Insiders call it the big boat boom. South Florida—especially Fort Lauderdale—has for years been the acknowledged yachting capital of the world. It's not likely to lose the title anytime soon, but other cities (like Tampa and Jacksonville) are sinking their teeth into one of the most money-spinning parts of the market: mega yachts. These beauties account for 80 feet-plus of the ultimate in waterfront property, with prices starting around \$2 million. Imagine the potential.



Tile firms that gain access to the elite yachting demographic must bring something to the table: the newest and most innovative lightweight architectural materials for today's motor or sailing yachts. When designing interiors for mega yachts, one goal is to mold the character of the job with the clients' desires, needs and tastes, while meeting the fundamental requirements of being on the water. Yachts carry the cache and grandeur of an estate home and a whole new rulebook of challenges. One in particular—the choice of materials. And yes, weight considerations do matter.

The World is Your Oyster

Dream of having a white castle that floats on the sea? Clad it in White Mother of Pearl. This can be accomplished through a variety of seashell veneers, seashell inlaid lacquered tiles and gemstone or seashell mesh-backed sheeting and tile.

Insertion into architectural elements such as columns or furniture is easily accomplished and replaces the old clad honeycomb currently used. There are materials for a seamless installation for the cladding of walls, countertops, doors and ceilings. For instance, the seashell veneer offers the extra advantage of wrapping around curved surfaces. And there are untold opportunities to match special order handmade cabinet knobs and custom or standard sinks.



Standard materials and designs designated for yacht interiors include:

- Ultra-lightweight seashell veneer in natural shell and exotic tints. Weight: Less than ¼ of a pound per square foot.
- Super-lightweight mesh-backed, seamless, gemstone and seashell sheeting and tile. This material is offered in a wide variety of standard and custom patterns. Some standard patterns are star, diamond, triangle, block or weave. The sheeting is offered in any size, as the pieces will interlock together according to needed measurements. Weight: ½ pound per square foot.

- Lightweight mesh-backed gemstone and seashell murals. Weight: ½ pound per square foot.
- Lightweight seashell inlaid lacquered tiles, borders and murals. These tiles have a thin ceramic backing. Weight: 1 pound per square foot.
- Lightweight 1-inch square mosaic mesh-backed mother of pearl natural and tinted mosaic tile sheets. Weight: 1 pound per square foot.
- For a traditional, royal, heavy feel—use seashell inlaid lacquered tile with a red scheme while using Abalone in the bath to bring the feel of the sea inside.
- Simple elegance would be stated in using only Brown Razor Clam (mesh-backed seashell). Like loud? Utilize chrome accessories next to exotic tinted seashell veneers.

- A men's library or study could include diagonal patterned Hematite and Lapis Tint gemstone (mesh-backed tile).
- Feel as light as a feather using pale pastels in white, yellow and blue (1-inch square mosaic mother of pearl mesh-backed tile sheets) while creating a seasonal nuance with a hint of nautical.
- True nautical can be created by using White Mother of Pearl, Lapis Tint and touches of Red Coral gemstone (mesh-backed sheeting or tile).

For creations afloat on the seas of the world, all materials should be able to be customized to fit a particular style of yacht, i.e. custom artistic designs, material combinations or blueprint-specific installations.