

# KERLITE

easy

## CASE STUDY

The Winery of Omaha, Nebraska

COTTOD'ESTE  
EXCLUSIVE SURFACES



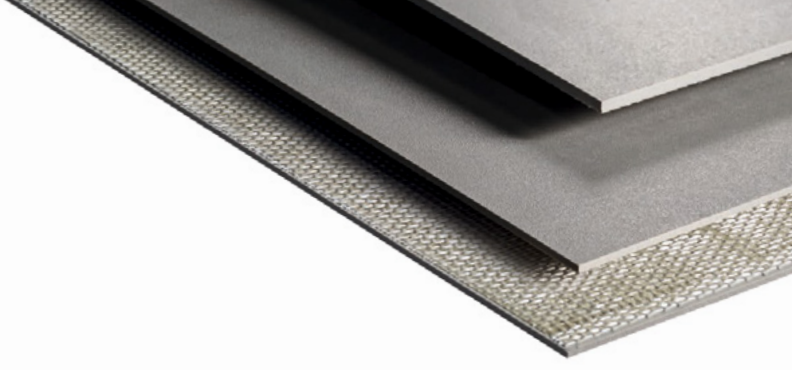
# Restoring A Beloved Local Eatery With Large-Format Mortarless Porcelain Tile.

## A LOCAL FAVORITE IS REBORN

The Winery of Omaha, Nebraska was a staple for local patrons for over 33 years providing delicious sandwiches, soups, and charcuterie boards alongside an incredible selection of wines. Even with the quality and service found at this local family-run business, the Winery was set to close for good due to the passing of one of the previous owners and the challenges of the global pandemic.

Fortunately for the people of Omaha, a pair of investors – Julie Hockney and Holly Jones were willing to purchase the then dormant property and return it to its former glory. Julie is also the owner and president of a prominent interior design studio, JH Interior Design Studio located just a few doors down from the Winery. In keeping up with her busy schedule of client work, she left material sourcing duties to one of her associates – Breanna Cortinas.





## DESIGNING WITH MORTARLESS PORCELAIN TILE

Breanna saw what the space needed: A flooring solution that would withstand the heavy foot traffic, add to the energy of people being together, provide some acoustical value to hold a conversation, and perhaps most importantly, something that could be installed quickly to get The Winery back up and running.

Breanna didn't hesitate to reach out to her friend and "tile expert" Florida Tile's own Mat Pruitt, who was able to walk her through the Kerlite Easy mortarless porcelain tile system from Cotto d'Este.

After prepping the subfloor by tearing out the existing carpet, and cleaning and leveling the underlying concrete, the crew was able to start the Kerlite Easy installation process. The first step was rolling out the SILENT sound-deadening mat over the entire floor. This took only minutes.

The second step was to peel back the transparent film of the SILENT mat as needed to place each 6mm Kerlite tile into place. The mat featured a significant degree of surface grip, holding the tile firmly in position without mortar.

The final step was to fill the grout lines with FILLER, a highly elastic and mold-resistant silicone sealer. The filler acted as not only a way to fill the joints but to bond the tiles together, creating a floating floor. The 100% silicone filler is impervious to water and resistant to stains.

The 1,800 sq. ft. interior floor was installed in under four days. It was ready to handle foot traffic from other trades on the jobsite the next morning.

In a traditional porcelain installation, the process could have taken weeks and provided far less flexibility in the overall redesign. Throughout the course of the renovations there were multiple trades working in unison including electricians, carpenters, and painters. A traditional tile installation with wet mortar would mean inaccessible areas of the Winery that would halt productivity. But thanks to the Kerlite Easy system, multiple trades were able to quickly continue their work, adding a tremendous overall cost savings on labor.



## SUMMARY

The Winery of Omaha was able to re-open its doors on schedule thanks to the adoption of the Kerlite Easy system. This mortarless method checked every requirement for a successful renovation. The easy installation was key to keeping the project ahead of schedule, provided sound reduction, durability, and a significant cost saving in labor alone.

Today, The Winery is once again an Omaha staple of casually elegant lunches, and the chic dining room sets the perfect mood for fun special events.

**COTTOD'ESTE**  
EXCLUSIVE SURFACES



# KERLITE

easy



SCAN TO LEARN MORE.

## FAST AND EASY

Uses a straightforward and quick-to-install laying method for ceramic tiles similar to systems used for laminated products.

## LIGHTWEIGHT AND PRACTICAL

Kerlite tiles weigh approximately 2.46 lb/SF and make it possible to create a new durable surface without significantly weighing down the existing structure.

## ATTRACTIVE

Makes it possible to create a floor without expansion joints.

## AFFORDABLE

Provides significant savings as compared to a standard renovation.

## SILENT

Footfall noise is reduced by approximately 16 times more than conventionally adhered ceramic tile floors.

## STABLE

The fiberglass mesh on the reverse side of Kerlite slabs combined with the use of the SILENT mat and the FILLER sealant ensure the utmost resistance and stability to the floor.

## WATER RESISTANT

The combined use of Kerlite slabs and FILLER sealant creates a watertight seal, providing a high level of protection from liquids seeping below the floor surface.

## CERTIFIED

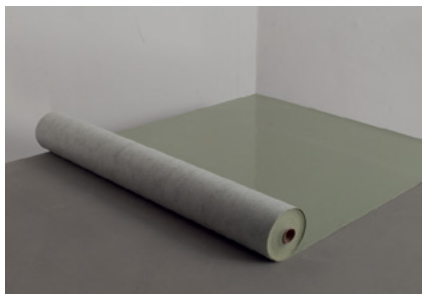
Compliant with the strict American standard for flooring ASTM C627 (ROBINSON TEST).

## SUSTAINABLE

Makes it possible to periodically replace the tiles and reuse them in other environments.

# ASSEMBLING THE SYSTEM

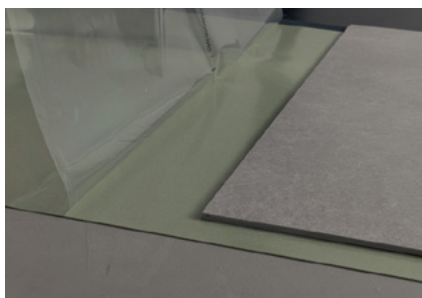
## 1 SILENT soundproofing mat



### Unroll and extend the base mat

After verifying that the subfloor is clean and leveled, proceed with laying the SILENT soundproofing mat on the entire floor area.

## 2 KERLITE COTTOD'ESTE



### Lay the Kerlite slabs

Then lay the Kerlite slabs, chosen among the colours available in the 5plus and 6plus versions, directly on the mat without the use of adhesives.

## 3 FILLER finishing sealant



### Seal the grout lines

After having laid KERLITE on the floor, it is necessary to seal the spaces between the slabs with FILLER.

Once dry, this sealant guarantees a perfect walkable and waterproof surface.

## KERLITE EASY OFFERS TWO EXCLUSIVE SOLUTIONS FOR GROUT LINE FINISHES

### FILLER FAST



The fastest and most practical to apply, for a floor that can immediately be walked on. Perfect for temporary locations or those that are renewed frequently (like exhibition stands or stores).

### FILLER MAT



The best aesthetic performance thanks to its matte finish and minimal grout lines (starting at 1mm). Indicated for permanent locations, both in residential and commercial environments.