Recipes for Home Repair by Alvin Ubell & Sam Bittman

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How To Replace Bathroom Tiles Set In Cement

A ceramic tile bathroom is a much coveted thing in these days of prefabricated construction materials. Still, time and humidity in a bathroom can loosen the best tiles and create unsightly holes in the wall. And if moisture comes, can mildew be far behind?

Utensils

Putty Knife, 1" 1/2 inch blade Cold chisel, 1/2" inch blade Small hammer Straight 2 by 3, 3' to 4' feet long Box of round toothpicks

Ingredients

New tiles if necessary Few tubes of bathroom silicone tile adhesive Dry or ready-mix grout

Approximate Time: 30 Minutes

- 1. Remove all loose tiles with putty knife or cold chisel (Fig. 51A).
- 2. Check all tiles by tapping gently with hammer handle. If loose, remove. Remember-tap gently.
- 3. Clean tiles thoroughly with putty knife or chisel.
- 4. Check old tile beds for loose or uneven cement. Remove all loose material and chisel down any protrusions.
- 5. Spread silicone adhesive on the back of each tile you removed. as shown in Figure 51B.
- 6. Press tiles into position.
- 7. Place the 2 by 3 over replaced tiles and tap gently with hammer until newly replaced tiles are flush with old ones.
- 8. Place toothpicks into tile joints as shown in Figure 51C. This will insure even spacing of joints.
- 9. Permit to dry overnight.
- 10. Remove toothpicks.
- 11. Regrout as directed in Recipe 50 on Regrouting Tiles.

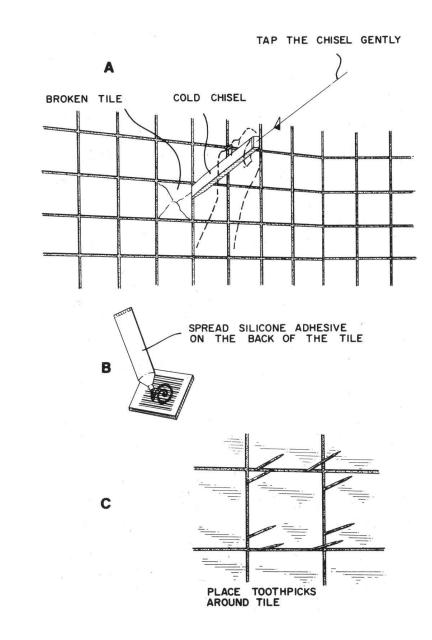


Figure 51. Replacing Ceramic Bathroom Tiles Set In Cement