

What is the Average Cost to Install a Tile Backsplash?



The cost to install a backsplash will depend on the amount of backsplash you want to install and the kinds of materials you'll be using. Some countertops come with a backsplash built into the mold, but many people prefer the look of a backsplash distinct from the countertop. Below is a list of materials commonly used for backsplashes and what professional installation typically costs for each: The pricing does not include the materials.

Type of Tile	20 sq ft.	30 sq. ft.	40 sq. ft.	Per sq. ft.
Ceramic	\$592.00	\$812.00	\$1,032.00	\$25.00
Stone	\$630.00	\$870.00	\$1,240.00	\$30.00
Glass	\$646.00	\$894.00	\$1,141.00	\$32.00
Stainless Steel	\$734.00	\$1,025.00	\$1,317.00	\$36.00

Of course, there's more to installing a backsplash than placing tiles in a pleasing pattern. Angles and hard-to-reach spaces can affect the complexity, and thus the price, of the job. An elaborate pattern takes a lot of

planning and skill, which also may add to the price. And, if electrical outlets must be cut in the tile -- or if any edge finishing must be done -- costs will increase as well.

There are also cost factors that can't be changed by altering your design or materials. These include transportation to your home, seasonal wages and rate adjustments due to the contractor's workload. Stainless steel is susceptible to fluctuations in steel prices, so keep an eye on the market if you intend to use this material and buy when the price is low.

Backsplash Prices

Some tile types and materials commonly used in backsplashes include:

- **Ceramic** – Ceramic is fairly inexpensive. A basic tile with no pattern costs about **\$1.76 per square foot**. Ceramic is low maintenance and durable, but it is difficult to install by yourself. Ceramic tile should generally be installed by a professional.
- **Porcelain** – Porcelain is a sub-type of ceramic, but it is more expensive at **\$3.00 to \$6.00 per square foot**. Porcelain has a reputation for toughness, but it requires a special setting material to secure it to your wall.
- **Glass** – Glass tiles can be found as sheets in pre-assembled patterns that you can apply to the wall. If you choose professional installation, it costs between **\$7.00 and \$30.00 per square foot**, depending on the pattern. It comes in a variety of colors and designs to suit your tastes.
- **Slate** – Slate costs about **\$5.00 per square foot**. It's water resistance makes it a popular stone material for backsplashes. It's easy to clean -- even when used behind a stove. The downside to slate is that it's brittle and can crack or break under significant impact. It also requires a sealant to fight off stains.
- **Stainless Steel** – Stainless steel costs about **\$20.00 per square foot**. It is easy to clean and fits into a variety of design schemes, but without regular maintenance, it can lose its sleek, clean appearance. The price of stainless steel may also be affected by fluctuations in the steel market.

Ceramic tiles are a popular backsplash choice that falls toward the lower end of the cost spectrum. With a natural terra cotta finish, they can be glazed in many different colors. Averaging just over **\$1.70** a square foot, they are also easily cut to fit corners and awkward shapes.

Mid-range tiles are the more traditional. Some ceramics, such as those with a pattern stamp, can run from **\$3.00 to \$5.00** per square foot. Most mid-range tiles are comprised of natural stone, such as slate or limestone. Higher-end stone backsplashes are often comprised of marble or granite, costing about **\$7.00 to \$10.00** a square foot.

At the higher end of the cost spectrum are metal tiles. While you can keep costs down using tile with a metal veneer, a full metal backsplash will cost between **\$15.00 and \$25.00** per square foot. Metal tiles are available in many different materials and finishes, including brushed aluminum, matted stainless steel, bronze and copper, to name a few.

If you have a medium sized kitchen and you want decorative backsplash on 1-2+ walls you could see quotes of \$2,000 or more depending upon design and materials.

When looking for someone to install – ask to see photos of their work and for referrals.

At Atlantic Kitchen & Bath we have been doing excellent tilework for many happy customers. Check out our website www.AtlanticKB.com and give us a call 302-645-8500