

California Inspirations Frameless Shower Doors

Enjoy Timeless Beauty with a New Frameless Shower

7 Things to Keep in Mind When Building a Frameless Shower Enclosure

1. Always install additional wood framework where the door is to be mounted. A good way to do this is by putting two 2" x 4"s on edge, with one 2" x 4" on the flat side in between the two on edge forming a "C". This will give you about 6 1/2" of solid substructure behind the tile in which to secure the weight of the door.
2. Keep the walls as flat as possible. Use a straight edge of 6 ft. level to insure that the wall is remaining flat all the way up to the top of the shower door height. The wall doesn't have to be plumb, but it does have to be straight. A lot of times the first tile on the bottom is put in leaning a bit to go over the membrane or shower pan. Even if all the rest of the tiles are put in straight, the first one leaning can cause the whole wall to have a dog leg in it requiring a special hand cutting and polishing process that is quite costly.
3. Always pitch the threshold of the shower about 3/16" lower on the inside (drain side) of the shower. The frameless doors do not have anything under them besides a squeegee type of water diverter that gets the flow of water started toward the drain. If the threshold or sill is not pitched toward the drain, the water may find its way out on to the floor. You may in that case have to install a water dam to keep the water from flowing out under the door.
4. Never install a decorative estello tile that protrudes from the wall more than the tile itself going through the door opening. Hold the decorative tile back 2"-3" from where the door is to attach to the wall.
5. If the door butts up to a half wall, the wall must be perfectly plumb. If not, the door will need to have a costly dog leg to cut to allow the door and the panel on the half wall to come together correctly.
6. If the door butts up to a half wall and has a one piece stone top cap, the stone cap CAN NOT overhang the wall on the door side. It will interfere with the swing of the door. The half wall must be PLUMB and THE TOP CAP FLUSH so the door opening is clear of any obstructions.
7. When building a neo-angle with a partial wall to the right and left of the door. It is important to 45° miter the end of the walls where it meets up with the door. Visualize looking down on the shape of your shower from above. The walls to the right and left of the door should be 45° mitered at the door opening the entire way up to the top of the wall. This way you are creating a square opening for the door on both sides. If you square off the wall and do not 45° miter them, it is impossible to get a frameless door to work. Also read the rules #5 and #6 as they are most important for a shower of this type.

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