

New Products

by Brett Martin



Quick and easy

Floating tile floor

The SnapStone system makes laying tile so simple. Each 12-in. porcelain tile (\$7) has a plastic backing that interlocks with the backing on other tiles. The snapped-together tile surface “floats” over subfloors, concrete, vinyl or existing wood floors. There’s no need to install special underlayments, mix adhesives or even worry about precise tile spacing. Make any cuts with a tile saw just as you would with ordinary tile. But since it’s not firmly adhered to the floor, you can’t use ordinary grout;

it’s too brittle. Instead, the manufacturer offers a special flexible grout that will flex with any floor movement without cracking. (A 9-lb. pail covers 63 sq. ft. and costs \$63.) Or you can choose snap-in grout-line strips.

The downside? SnapStone is currently available in only eight colors and the 12-in. size, although 6-in. tiles will be offered soon. See the web site for a dealer locator.

SnapStone, (866) 416-7627. www.snapstone.net