Porcelain Tile Bit
Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Q: What materials will the PTB Carbide Bit drill?**
   A: All porcelain (including PEI grade 5+), ceramic, marble, granite, and other stone tiles.

2. **Q: What materials won't the PTB Carbide Bit drill?**
   A: Laminated and toughened glass, glass tile, masonry materials.

3. **Q: How long will the PTB Carbide Bit last in different materials?**
   A: Varies depending upon material. With proper usage, the PTB will last for 20 - 30 holes in grade 5+ porcelain.

4. **Q: How quickly will the PTB Carbide Bit drill through different materials?**
   A: Typically 20 seconds in a 1/2" grade 5+ porcelain. This will slow after the Bit becomes worn and can take over 60 seconds. At this time, it is best to replace the Bit.

5. **Q: How do I know when the PTB Carbide Bit is worn out?**
   A: If the Bit has not begun to cut within 1 minute, then the Bit is worn out in that material. The Bit will, however, continue to perform in softer grade material.

6. **Q: What type of drill should I use?**
   A: Any 1/2" corded drill which has an operating speed between 700 - 900 RPM.

7. **Q: What speed should the drill run at?**
   A: Optimum speed is 900 RPM - no slower than 700 RPM and no faster than 900 RPM.

8. **Q: Can I use hammer action?**
   A: No. Hammer action should never be used. Use rotary action only.

9. **Q: Why do I need to turn off the hammer action of a drill? What happens if I don't?**
   A: If the hammer action is not turned off the tip will shatter and there is a risk of breaking the tile.

10. **Q: Can I use an SDS Plus Machine?**
    A: Yes. SDS Plus machines can be used with hammer action in the off position and no load speeds between 700 - 900 RPM are ideal.

11. **Q: How do I get water to the tip?**
    A: The best method of providing water to the drill tip is to use a No. PTC-WB Water Feed Bottle in conjunction with No. PTC-WFC Water Feed Clamp Kit.

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12. **Q: How do I avoid damaging the tip on the material behind the tile?**
    A: As soon as breakthrough of the tile is achieved, reduce pressure while sustaining drill speed and remove the Bit. To continue the hole, use a masonry drill bit.

13. **Q: How do I know that I am applying the correct amount of pressure?**
    A: A suitable amount of pressure should be used until you begin to see tile debris from the hole in the water flow. Adequate pressure must be applied - a good guideline is 20 - 30 seconds to drill the hole.

14. **Q: Why do I need to apply a little pressure before drilling? What happens if I don't?**
    A: By applying a little pressure before drilling with a PTB Carbide Bit you will hear a faint cracking noise, which means you have centered the Bit. This prevents the Bit from skidding across the tile and assures an accurate hole.

15. **Q: How do I know the drill is accurately penetrating?**
    A: It will be possible to see debris being removed from the cutting surface in the water.

16. **Q: What do I do if my PTB Carbide Bit will not drill through the tile?**
    A: Make sure you are using a constant supply of water, your drill speed is between 700 - 900 RPM, and you are using rotary action only. Be sure the tip is not worn out and apply adequate pressure when drilling the tile.

17. **Q: How do I drill through thick tiles?**
    A: The PTB Carbide Bit should be sufficient to drill through materials up to 1/2" thick.

18. **Q: Why do I need to use a masonry drill bit?**
    A: Using a masonry drill bit ensures the PTB Carbide Bit is not damaged when continuing to drill the substrate behind the tile.

19. **Q: Why do I need to use water? What happens if I don't?**
    A: If water is not used the cutting surface will overheat, may break, and will drastically reduce the useful life of the Bit. Also, the tile will heat up and possibly crack.

20. **Q: Can I use a wet sponge as the water source?**
    A: No. A wet sponge will not provide enough water to keep the PTB Carbide Bit cool. Using a sponge will cause premature wearing and an increased chance of breaking the tip or tile.

21. **Q: Can I use a PTB Carbide Bit to drill into a grout joint?**
    A: Yes. Make sure the PTB Carbide Bit is at full speed before drilling into the joint to protect against the Bit breaking off when it comes in contact with the tile.

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