



STAR WARS-THEMED BATHROOM

Project Spotlight



Globally Proven Construction Solutions



In a Galaxy (Not) Far, Far Away, a Louisville Installer Designed an Unforgettable Themed Bathroom

The Situation

Ever since he was a young child, Jonathan Stanton had a love for Star Wars and a passion for following in his father's footsteps to learn the tile trade. What he didn't know was that one day his love for a movie series that began in 1977 would spark an idea in 2019 resulting in one of the most stellar and creative tile projects to date.

In 2002, Jonathan Stanton put his passion for tile and working with people to found Jonathan Stanton, Inc., a professional tile installation company located in Louisville, Kentucky. After moving into his own shop, he decided it was time to gut its 1,200-square-foot (111 m²) subpar bathroom and let his imagination and creativity take the driver's seat. This bathroom would reflect not only what he was capable of doing for his clients, but would also create an opportunity to showcase his personality.

With an extensive portfolio of working in just about any and every installation setting imaginable, he thought back to what was most important to him to fuel the inspiration of what his next steps would be. His family came to mind. Stanton immediately became inspired by something he and his three children share a love for, Star Wars. Much like a safari baby nursery or a princess-themed little girl's room, Stanton sought out to create a Star Wars-themed bathroom.

"My hopes were to inspire designers and others to lean into the idea of creating bold and fun spaces with primarily the use of tile. I personally love working with mosaics and water jet murals, so I wanted this bathroom design and build to be especially fun for me and my team," said Stanton.



The Challenge

Installing Handmade Murals: The Star Wars artwork throughout the whole bathroom would consist of five custom-made separate glass mosaic murals. Since the murals were going to take three months for Stanton's colleague to create, the complete design plan had to be both firm and specific prior to the demolition so that once the finished murals arrived, they would fit perfectly into place.

Acute Accuracy: Paying special attention to detail when it comes to an overall design is Stanton's forte, however, it comes with its challenges. In order to achieve a "warp speed effect" throughout the bathroom, eight petite LED lights would need to be placed within the shower to help spotlight the custom-made glass murals. Another string of LED ribbon lights would also need to be carefully installed above the petite LED lights to create an additional "3D Glowing Force." Planning this to fit perfectly into the bathroom would be crucial to achieving the look Stanton and his team wanted.

A LATICRETE Solution

"LATICRETE is one of my top go-to brands for all of my projects as a professional tile installer. When I decided to tear out the horrendous shop bath and build a new one, I knew I was going to lean on LATICRETE® products and support to bring it to life."

For the glass murals throughout the bathroom, Stanton chose to use MULTIMAX™ Lite, an ultimate one-step, non-sag, large and heavy tile mortar for installations using ceramic tile, porcelain tile, glass tile and stone. MULTIMAX Lite exceeds ANSI A118.15, the industry's highest performance standard for a cementitious-based adhesive mortar, and thanks to its lightweight characteristic, can be more easily transported and troweled. MULTIMAX Lite contains no silica sand, benefiting workers on the jobsite with

reduced exposure to respirable silica and ultimately providing a safer, cleaner work environment. Additionally, this product is a component of the LATICRETE Lifetime System Warranty, providing peace of mind for lasting installations, which is perfect for a project with decades of intended use.

Stanton used his everyday go-to thinset for the porcelain floor and wall tile, TRI-LITE™, a high-performance tri-purpose mortar designed for large and heavy tile, thin-bed and wall installations. It has a lightweight formula and smooth, creamy consistency and its incredible non-sag performance is able to support very large and heavy tile with ease.

Due to the hundreds of colors of glass that were used in the murals, one color of grout would not suffice. With that said, Stanton turned to SPECTRALOCK® PRO Premium Translucent Grout, a patented high-performance epoxy grout that offers customers a unique opaque color that diffuses light for a vibrant finish. SPECTRALOCK PRO Premium Translucent Grout offers superior non-sag performance, unmatched stain resistance and color uniformity for an even finish without any blotchiness or shading, which was vital to help all the colors of glass blend.

“These products are very familiar to me and my guys because of how easily they are to work with. So many individuals are fearful of using epoxy grout, but I assure you, when used properly, it is a dream to work with.”

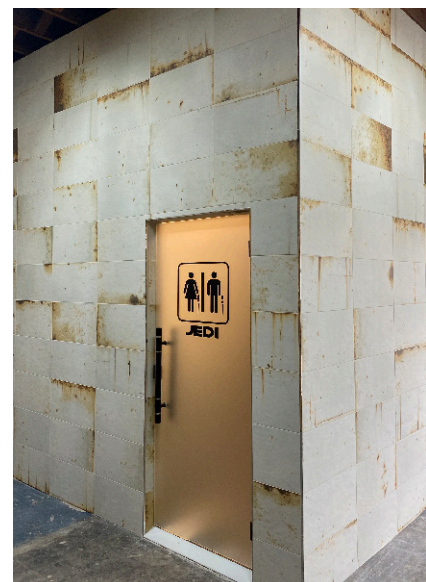
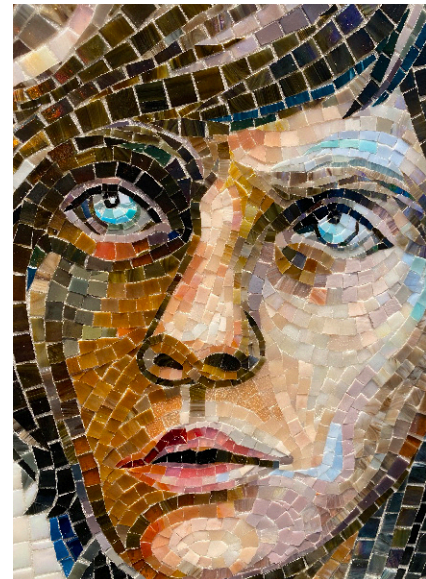
A truly unique look requires a truly unique grout, which is why Stanton utilized PERMACOLOR® Select grout to use throughout the porcelain floor and wall tile. This advanced high-performance cement grout by LATICRETE offers the industry’s first dispersible dry pigment solution available in 40 colors. Designed for optimum performance on all types of residential and commercial installations, like swimming pools, steam rooms and fountains, PERMACOLOR Select is able to easily withstand the most demanding applications.

Outcome

Today, Jonathan Stanton, Inc. sports one of the most unique, out-of-this-world bathrooms — the tile and stone industry has ever seen. From mosaic murals of the iconic Luke Skywalker and Yoda, to the Disney® Star Wars “lightsaber” accents, this bathroom is perfectly outfitted for Star Wars fanatics.

“I choose LATICRETE not just for their superior engineered products, but the service that comes with them is beyond words. I have personal cell phone numbers of my reps and I never feel that I can’t call them for technical advice,” said Stanton.

“As a dad, I’m most pleased to see my kids running around my shop on a Saturday morning wearing the Disney Star Wars helmets and waving the lightsabers around as they chase each other throughout the warehouse. These are moments I will forever cherish. Thank you to the amazing and brilliant people at LATICRETE for joining the Rebellion to defeat the Dark Side on this fun-filled journey. May the Force be with you!”



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– Jonathan Stanton
Jonathan Stanton, Inc.



Photographs courtesy of Jonathan Stanton, Inc.



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