

Schluter Shower System vs. Traditional Shower System

Feature: Waterproofing Method

- Schluter: Surface-applied KERDI membrane directly under tile
- Traditional: PVC liner beneath mortar bed or cement board

Feature: Installation Time

- Schluter: Faster (1-2 days typical)
- Traditional: Slower (3-5+ days with curing time)

Feature: Mold & Mildew Resistance

- Schluter: Excellent - prevents water buildup behind tile
- Traditional: Moderate - trapped moisture can breed mold

Feature: Ease of Installation

- Schluter: DIY-friendly with proper tools and prep
- Traditional: Requires experience; not beginner-friendly

Feature: Surface Compatibility

- Schluter: Bonds to drywall, wood, concrete, OSB
- Traditional: Often requires cement board or special backers

Feature: Maintenance Needs

- Schluter: Low - system dries quickly and stays sealed
- Traditional: Higher - potential for long-term issues under tile

Feature: Warranty Coverage

- Schluter: Up to lifetime warranty with certified install
- Traditional: Limited or none, depending on materials used

Feature: Upfront Cost

- Schluter: Moderate to high (more materials, less labor)
- Traditional: Lower upfront, but more labor and long-term maintenance

Feature: Tile Readiness

- Schluter: Ready for tile immediately after install
- Traditional: Requires prep layers, curing time before tile application

Feature: Drain Integration

- Schluter: Integrated waterproof drain connection

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- Traditional: May not fully seal to liner, risk of leaks