

Decorative stone installation guide

Important notes

ARTEK STONE product can be installed indoor and outdoor while respecting the recommendations of the National Building Code (ASTM 1780) and any other regulations in place. Note: Before installing the product, the installer and the owner must make sure that the wall complies with the conditions specified in this document. The installer and the buyer have the responsibility to inspect the products prior to their installation. If the installer doubts the product, the manufacturing or finishing quality and cannot place it in a less conspicuous place, nor eliminate imperfection, he/she should not install it. Once the products are installed, this shall be considered as having been accepted by the installer and the owner even if the latter is absent at the time of installation.

The customer must make sure that the product purchased is suitable for the desired installation. Once again, if you have any doubts or questions, please contact our customer service department. Since ARTEK STONE has absolutely no control over the proper preparation of the surfaces, the method of application or the ability of the installer, no guarantee on the implicit or explicit result can be offered

Step 1 – Tools required

In preparation for the installation, make sure you have the following tools on hand:

- Diamond tipped saw
- Tuck pointer
- Level
- Mortar cone
- Bucket
- Sponge
- Chalk Line
- Broom for joints
- Straight trowel
- Measuring tape
- Mask
- Security glasses

Step 2 – Adesive product

The recommended adhesive is the polymer modified thin-set mortar.

Before using this adhesive or any other adhesive product, please refer to the adhesive manufacturer technical sheet before proceeding with the installation.

Step 3 – Surface preparation

Careful preparation is an essential step to the success of the final result. Most problems attributed to Stone are, in fact, caused by an improper preparation of the surface which has to be porous, clean, uniform, free of dust, dirt, oil, wax, soot, mold, powder, flakes, etc.

For drywalls, Lightweight cement boards or concrete surface

Please refer to the National Building Code and any other regulations in place.

Step 4 – Installation

1. Open all the boxes, take out the stones and choose them according to the desired effect. Put any broken stone aside and use them for cuts.
2. In a clean bucket, prepare the mortar adhesive according to the manufacturer's instructions.
3. If cuts are necessary, soak the cut stone in a bucket filled with water to remove dust particles or dough cutter
4. Stone laying requires a double sticking, that is, the mortar adhesive must be applied on the wall and on the stone. Use a straight trowel to apply it on the wall and a ½ trowel on the stone. Apply enough pressure on the stone to make it adhere firmly to the wall and ensure a perfect contact between the stone and the wall. Apply the mortar on a maximum surface of 15 square feet at a time to prevent the mortar from hardening too quickly on the wall.
5. Install a maximum height of 4 feet per day.
6. Always start from the bottom. If corner stones are required, install these first.
7. If joints are required, use a Type N 1-1-6 mortar. Make sure the corners are of the same width. The space between joints must be free of the adhesive mortar in order to facilitate the application of Type N mortar for the joints. Wait 15-20 minutes to scrape off the joints with the tuck pointer.
8. Let it dry.

Important: Take the necessary measures to avoid spreading the adhesive mortar on the stones. If it happens, wait 15 to 20 minutes before wiping it with a dry cloth. Do not scrub or use water on decorative stones.

Step 5 – Application of type N 1-1-6 mortar for the joints

If required, the following day, apply type N mortar as follows:

1. In a clean bucket, prepare the Type N mortar according to the manufacturer's instructions.
2. Fill the mortar cone using a trowel.
3. Align the tip of the mortar cone on the joint and twist it. The mortar will be expelled between the stones to form a joint.
TIP: To make this operation easier, add a very thin thread of transparent hand soap into the mortar. Important: Take the necessary measures to avoid spreading type N mortar on the stone. If it happens, wait 15 to 20 minutes before wiping it with a dry cloth. Do not scrub it. Do not use water.
4. 15 to 20 minutes after applying the mortar, scrape off the joints with a tuck pointer. Important: Do not wait until the following day to scrape off the joints. Do not scrape the stones with a wire brush, acid or any product containing acid. Do not use a wetted brush and never use water. Use a dry cloth to remove excess mortar on the stones. Do not scrub.
5. Let it dry.

Warranty

ARTEK STONE products have a limited warranty of 50 years from the date of purchase (proof required) when the installation is done in accordance with the recommendations of the National Building Code (ASTM C 1780) and the installation guide included in the product specifications of the manufacturer. The original invoice from the authorized dealer must be supplied.

The warranty does not cover any damages resulting from:

- Improper installation.
- Wall movements due to the subsidence of the soils or other causes.
- Contact with chemical products, paint or others.
- Discoloration due to polluting atmospheric agents, water or friction.
- Stains, oxidation, discoloration and fading due to polluting atmospheric agents or any external agents.

This warranty only covers ARTEK STONE defective products. It does not include labor and is limited to the original buyer.