

## Island Stone Solid Tile Laying Guide

**Inspection:** No two pieces of natural stone are exactly alike. Tiles must be examined prior to installation to determine if blending is required. **No claims will be accepted by Island Stone after installation. Use of product implies acceptance.**

**Substrate:** **Floor installations** - The substrate must comply with drying times, such as BS 5385 & BS 8204-1: 2003.

**Wall installations** - We recommend 20mm Wedi Tilebacker board as accredited under BBA certificate 00/3675\* for wall cladding applications. Depending on the application height and/or the tiles size mechanical fixing may be required in accordance with the latest building standards. The substrate must comply with drying times, such as BS 5385 & BS 8204-1: 2003.

For shower enclosures we only recommend Wedi products as per their installation guides.

See [www.wedi.co.uk](http://www.wedi.co.uk)

**Fixing:** **Adhesive** - Ardex recommend Ardex S 16 (S16 W white or S16 G grey) together with the flexible additive Ardex E90 is proposed for internal conditions. We recommend using a coloured adhesive similar to the stone colour to visually mask any joins (if any). Ardex X7R is the recommended adhesive for wet or external conditions.

**Grout** - Ardex C 2 (various colours available) with Ardex E101 flexible additive. For natural stone we recommend a grout line no less than 3mm.

**Stockist** - For your local stockist and further technical advice on Ardex call 01440 714 939 or visit [www.ardex.co.uk](http://www.ardex.co.uk)

**Movement:** Installers need to accommodate the latest movement building standards into their installation where applicable.

**Installation:** Care should be taken to ensure that the lines stay straight and do not wave. A datum should be established every few metres.

**Adhesive** - Adhesive should be spread with a notched trowel on the substrate to create a thin bed. The adhesive must be applied to create a full bed, not blobs of adhesive. This is especially important with sandstone and other porous materials, in high traffic areas etc where thin bed buttering of the tile is also recommended. Total combined build-up not more than 5mm.

**Grouting** - Grout should be applied across the entire tile surface to avoid "picture frame" staining.

**Sealers:** It is recommended that the tiles are sealed with your choice of natural stone sealers. For example Lithofin MN Stain-Stop seals and keeps the stone relatively unchanged in appearance. MN Stain-Stop PLUS (the PLUS aspect is an added colour enhancer) intensifies the colour of the stone.

It is advised to test your choice of sealer first in an area to ensure the chosen sealer is providing the desired finish. For your local stockist and further technical advice on Lithofin products call 01962 732 126 or visit [www.lithofin.com](http://www.lithofin.com)

**Cleaning:** It is recommended that a PH neutral cleaner is used, be wary of acid based cleaners they will break down the sealer over time. PH Neutral cleaners available from Lithofin are Easy-Care (for general purpose maintenance) or Lithofin Wexa for a commercial clean, this probably is only needed at floor level where enthusiastic mopping may have tarnished the visual appearance of the bottom layer of tiles. Otherwise general dusting is all that may be required for the lifetime of the wall. Shower enclosures and floor installations will require routine cleaning with the above PH neutral products, definitely no bleach products allowed.

### Disclaimer

Island Stone's scope of qualified information is limited to the tile itself. Island Stone is not an authoritative source of other manufacturer technical specifications. Island Stone has sought information from Ardex and Wedi systems and uses this information in good faith. Information with regards to fixing, adhesives, build standards or methods, substrate loadings, tolerances and engineering issues are outside of our scope of expertise. Contractors need to ensure by their own enquires that all aspects of installation abide by the latest building standards/interpretations and comply with the other suppliers recommendations.

\*internal use