

Solid Tile Installation Guide



SOLID TILE
(600 x 600mm)

Inspection:

All tiles must be examined and approved prior to installation. Claims including shade or texture variation will not be considered after installation. Use of product implies acceptance.

Substrate:

Floor Installation: The substrate must comply with drying times as recommended in BS 5385 & BS 8204-1: 2003

Wall installations: 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, as recommended in BS 5385 & BS 8204-1: 2003. For shower enclosures we only recommend Wedi products as per their installation guides as accredited under BBA certificate 00/3675 (see www.wedi.co.uk).

Gypsum fibre board and lightweight tile backing boards may be suitable (if) their published weight ratings comply. Block walls, brick walls are normally suitable provided they comply with the weight ratings. Ply: Only suitable for indoor dry areas, Marine ply is generally not an ideal product for cement adhesive cohesion and ply manufacturer weight ratings vary widely, ply must be primed with Ardex P82 primer (never prime with PVA). We do not promote its use as there are generally better performing tile backing solutions available.

We recommend 20mm Wedi Tilebacker board as accredited under BBA certificate 00/3675* Any application over 3m high we only recommend Wedi board 20mm with 12 Wedi approved PW60 washers and Wedi approved fasteners p/m2 in accordance with their specifications. Note: 12 fixings p/m2 is a Wedi specification especially for Island Stone products therefore this number of fixings supersedes Wedi's generic general instructions. Where Wedi sheets join/butt these are to be taped with Wedi tape. Wedi Technical ph:01706 647 333

Fixing:

Adhesive: ARDEX recommend ARDEX MICROTEC X77 (a flexible floor and wall adhesive with a 60 minute open time especially suited for large format tiles where good workable open times are required), suitable for indoor-outdoor and swimming pool applications.

Floor/Wall - ARDEX MICROTEC X77 is recommended because it has enhanced properties of adhesion and flexibility when fixing these type of tiles. The enhanced performance of ARDEX MICROTEC X77 means that it has a considerably longer open time, even under site conditions, than other adhesives currently classified as having extended open time. In addition, the enhanced slump resistant properties mean that even heavy tiles may be fixed to walls with minimum slip. ARDEX MICROTEC X77 S is recommended if a rapid setting adhesive is required.

It should be noted that when fixing tiles to walls guidance is given in BS5385:1 regarding the maximum weight of tile that can be fixed on various backgrounds. Ardex Technical ph: 01440 714 939

Grout: ARDEX-FLEX FS & FL **Flooring:** ARDEX-FLEX FL typically for floor applications, rated for 3 – 15mm wide joints. British standards require a minimum of 3mm for flooring.

Wall: ARDEX-FLEX FS is generally suited for wall applications, rated up to 4mm joints. Both

ARDEX-FLEX FS&FL are available in over 30 colours. See www.ardex.co.uk/pdfs/grout_swatch_card.pdf Applying adhesive should be spread with a notched trowel on the substrate to create a full thin bed, not blobs of adhesive. This is especially important with sandstone and other porous materials, high traffic, pool and wet areas where thin bed buttering the back of the tile is also recommended. Total combined build-up not more than 7mm

Movement:

As every installation/building is unique, installers need to be familiar with the latest movement building standards and factor these into their installation where applicable. Advice is given in the relevant part of BS 5385.

Installation:

Care should be taken to ensure that the lines stay straight and do not deviate. A datum should regularly be established to ensure lines stay straight.

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

Cleaning:

It is recommendation that PH neutral cleaners are 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 on floors periodically or walls at floor level where enthusiastic mopping may have tarnished the visual appearance of the bottom layer of wall tiles. Shower enclosures and floor installations will require routine cleaning with the above PH neutral products, definitely no bleach products permitted.

Disclaimer

The guidelines provided by Island Stone are limited to the tile itself. Island Stone is not an authoritative source on other manufacturer technical specifications. The information provided above has been gathered in consultation with Ardex, Wedi systems and Lithofin and issued in good faith. Specific Information with regards to fixing, adhesives, build standards or methods, substrate loadings, tolerances and engineering issues for individual projects are outside our scope of expertise. Contractors need to ensure by their own independent enquires that all aspects of installation abide by the latest building standards/interpretations and comply with the all other suppliers recommendations.