

TEXTURED STONE TILE INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

Prior to Installation

These instructions provide a general guideline for installing the Island Stone Textured Stone Tile Collection, which includes the following patterns:

- Strip – unmounted, individual pieces of stone
- Craftline Strip – unmounted, individual pieces of stone
- Ledger Panel – edge mounted pieces of stone, which create a panel
- Mini Split – edge mounted pieces of stone, which create a panel
- Parallels – mesh mounted pieces of stone
- Uniform – mesh mounted pieces of stone

These instructions **DO NOT** cover installation in pools, spas, or water features. For pool specific instructions, please refer to the [Island Stone Pool Tile Installation Guide](#).

All tile and natural stone products vary slightly in color, shade, finish, and size. Upon delivery, inspect the entire order to verify order accuracy. An experienced, professional tile installer, who has read and understands these instructions, should perform the work.

For unmounted patterns, dry laying and blending the entire order either prior to or during installation is important in achieving a visually balanced stone tile installation. The owner or owner's representative is responsible for determining the acceptability of the stone tile prior to installation as well as approving the first five square feet of installed stone tile before proceeding with the remainder of the installation.

Parallels and Uniform are handmade, hand mounted products. As with any mesh mounted product, a small amount of adjustment during installation, to achieve a consistent overall appearance, is to be expected. Parallels and Uniform are mounted with several strips of mesh that run perpendicular to the long edge of the stone pieces, which allows for a fair amount of flexibility during the installation process. On occasion, the mesh and glue can shift slightly during manufacturing, which can result in some minor gaps between the sheets when installed. Generally, this is easy to remediate. Begin by grasping the four pieces of stone with two hands and gently slide the pieces back and forth. This will loosen the mesh and allow for additional adjustment during installation. The other option is to install the tile and while the setting material is still fresh, run a razor knife down the joint on either side of the piece and slide the piece over.

INSTALLATION CONSTITUTES ACCEPTANCE.

NO ADJUSTMENTS WILL BE MADE AFTER INSTALLATION.

Substrate Preparation & Installation

Textured Stone Tile should be installed in accordance with the specifications in the current versions of the Tile Council of North America's "TCNA Handbook for Ceramic, Glass, and Stone Tile Installation" and the "ANSI A108 American National Standards for the Installation of Ceramic Tile." The TCNA Handbook and ANSI A108 standard are available for purchase at www.tcnatile.com.

Crack Isolation/Waterproofing Membrane

Unless specified by the applicable TCNA method, a membrane is not required when installing Textured Stone Tile. However, the use of a membrane may increase the performance and longevity of the tile installation and should be considered when planning the tile assembly.

Setting Material

Textured Stone Tile should be installed with a setting material that is specified for use with a natural stone tile as well as the intended installation location. Some examples are:

- ARDEX: X77 or better
- BOSTIK: Reflex or better
- CUSTOM: FlexBond or better
- LATICRETE: 254 Platinum or better
- LITOKOL: Hyperflex K100 or better
- MAPEI: Keraflex Super or better
- TEC: Full Flex or better

An epoxy adhesive would also be acceptable for installing Textured Stone Tile.

Stone tile products installed in exterior or interior wet applications require 95% setting material coverage on the back of the tile. Select a properly sized notch trowel to achieve coverage.

Grout

Generally, the patterns in the Textured Stone Tile Collection are installed in a stacked configuration, without grout. However, if desired, Strip and Craftline Strip can be installed with a grout joint. When specified for installation with a grout joint, the minimum joint size would be 1/16".

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Movement Joints

Movement joints are essential for the success of most tile installations and placement requirements will vary. Follow the recommendations for Movement Joints EJ171 in the current version of the "TCNA Handbook for Ceramic, Glass and Stone Tile Installation".

Cutting

Textured Stone Tile can be cut with a wet saw equipped with a diamond blade designed for cutting natural stone.

WARNING: DO NOT DRY CUT TILE WITH A POWER TOOL.

Sealing & Maintenance

Generally, Textured Stone Tile should be sealed with a quality sealer. There are several benefits to sealing natural stone. A well-sealed surface will decrease the possibility of staining, ease maintenance, and reduce moisture absorption. There are numerous brands and types of sealers available in the market today and we could not possibly list all the options. However, we have provided a list of some quality sealer manufacturers for reference.

- Aqua Mix
- Fila
- Miracle Sealants
- Oceancare
- Stain-Proof
- Stonetech
- Ultracare
- VanHearron

The type of sealer will be dictated by where the tile is being installed and the intended look (natural versus enhanced). We strongly suggest testing the sealer on several uninstalled pieces of stone to confirm the result will meet your expectations. Two light coats of sealer are usually better than one heavy coat. To prevent a sealer haze be sure to remove excess sealer from the surface of the stone per the sealer manufacturer's instructions. Consult the sealer manufacturer for additional recommendations.

Over time, all natural stone tile products may experience an appearance change, particularly when installed in an exterior application. This "weathering" can be reduced by regularly sealing and properly maintaining the stone with the appropriate cleaners. The occasional appearance of rust spots may also occur as most natural stones have the potential for ferrous inclusions (iron). Once again, this possibility can be reduced with sealing. Any slight rust marks should fade as the iron completely oxidizes.

Textured Stone Tile should be regularly cleaned with a pH-neutral stone cleaner. For heavier buildup such as grease, oil, soap scum, etc. an alkaline based cleaner may be used. Acidic cleaners should not be used to regularly clean Textured Stone Tile.