

STONE MOSAIC TILES

PRODUCT CHECK

Prior to installation of the stone mosaic tiles, please familiarise yourself with the intended product use and installation guidelines.

Please check all products prior to installation. We do not accept claims for products after installation.

INTENDED PRODUCT USE

Stone mosaic tiles are suitable for internal and external use

Stone mosaic tiles are a versatile product suitable in a variety of applications including walls and floors in bathrooms, kitchens, wet rooms and other areas. They are also suitable for external use for paths, external walls, pools and pool surrounds.

Tiling Standards – BS 5385

It is recommended that stone mosaic tiles are installed by professionals with experience and knowledge of relevant tiling standards.

Wall Substrate

Once installed, the tiles and adhesive weigh approximately 28-35kg/m². Ensure that the weight rating of the chosen proprietary wall substrate is compatible with this load. Tile backing boards, Gypsum fibreboard may be suitable as per their manufacturer weight rating. Note that the 2018 updated BS 5385 standard has ruled out plywood as a tiling substrate.

Tile Adhesive

Choose an appropriate tile adhesive for the specific application. Refer to manufacturer specifications for suitability for use indoors, outdoors, in pools and wet areas.

Tile Grout

Epoxy and cement-based grout can be used with stone mosaic tiles. It is highly recommended to use a grout colour that doesn't contrast with the stone mosaic colour. Similar colours will generally achieve a better aesthetic appearance.

INSTALLATION

Prepare the surface for installation

In order to ensure proper adhesion to the surface, appropriate steps should be taken so that the surface is free from dirt, dust and flakes. Before installation the surface should be fully

dry and clean. For wet area tiling, ensure that the wall substrate is tanked with an appropriate tanking membrane in accordance with BS 5385.

General method for installation

1. Apply the chosen to an area approximately 1m² using a 6mm notched trowel. It is best to work on areas 1m² at a time to avoid the adhesive hardening before tiles are set in place. It is necessary to do a continuous bed of adhesive for stone mosaic tiles.
2. Lay the stone mosaic tile and push firmly into the adhesive bedding. It is important that the adhesive protrudes through the backing membrane to make solid contact with every stone on the tile.
3. Lay the next stone mosaic tile ensuring that it interlocks well with the preceding tile and repeat the process. The tiles should butt up closely to each other in this process.
4. As you continue working along the surface, step back periodically to give a visual check of the workmanship.
5. Use a Stanley knife to cut the mesh backing of the tiles as required. Fill in any leftover areas with individual stones taking care to continue any pattern in the mosaic format.
6. Proceed to grout the tiles after sufficient drying time for the adhesive as stated in the manufacturer's guidelines. A firm bristle brush may be used to remove unwanted grout between the stone crevices in order to redeem the natural 3D effect of stone mosaic tiles.
7. Use a paint brush to smooth over any rough areas in the grout, before finishing with a damp sponge.

Product sealing and cleaning

To ensure the longevity of the stone mosaic tiles and ensure protection from stains, it is recommended that a sealer is applied after installation is complete. Ensure that the proprietary sealer is suitable for use internally/externally as required. Sealers may add to or intensify the natural colour of the stone. It is always recommended to test patch the sealer in a discreet area of the tiling, or on unused tiles.

Avoid using abrasive cleaning materials in order to prevent damage to the installed product. Rags, sponges and soft bristle brushes may be used. Ensure that a pH neutral stone tile cleaner is used. Acidic based cleaners or bleach will etch away at the sealant layer over time.