



VETTERSTONE

STONEFORM

INSTALLATION GUIDE - INTERIOR

Getting Started:

StoneForm panels are flexible panels laminated to a fiberglass and polyester resin substrate, made of a thin layer of real stone, slate or quartzite. This innovative product can be applied over concrete, ceramic, wood, metal, plywood, fiberglass, backer board, tile, dry wall, MDF, HPL, cabinetry and other vertical surfaces. StoneForm panels have been tested in many different environments and over most traditional substrates.

At just 1/16" – 1/8" (2mm – 4mm) thick, StoneForm panels are lightweight and flexible making installation simple and eliminating expensive, time-consuming surface preparations, such as metal lath.

Required Tools:

- Hand rollers
- Trowels – notched and flat
- Masonry sponge
- Table saw with diamond blade
- Circular saw with diamond blade
- Long nosed tin snips

Installation notes:

Keep panels clean during the installation process. Be sure to keep hands clean throughout the process. It is important not to allow mortar or adhesive to dry on the face of the panels. Remove it prior to hardening. Wet mortar or adhesive on stone will leave a filmy residue that dulls the appearance of your natural stone. Use a stiff brush and clean water immediately on your StoneForm panels to remove the dull residue. All projects should be applied according to local building codes.

INTERIOR APPLICATIONS – DRY AREAS

Preparations:

The contractor must examine all surfaces to receive the tilework and advise the General Contractor and Architect of existing conditions and surface contamination which will require correction before the work commences. Before starting, substrates must comply with maximum allowable deflection criteria as called for by International Building Code (IBC) or the applicable local building code. Substrates are to be cleaned to remove paint, dirt, dust, and all other bond-inhibiting materials. Dry, dusty surfaces are to be wiped clean with a damp sponge and clean water, prior to the application of the adhesive.

Corners:

Using a fine grit sandpaper and a sanding block, sand the edge paper thin. This will only take a few swipes. A router set at a 45 degree angle could also be used. Set the corner panels together using the adhesive, epoxy or thinset that was used to set all the panels. Tape the corners for 24 hours and then remove the tape.

Installation:

Apply the adhesive to the wall with scraping motion, using the flat side of a 3/16" x 5/32" v-notch trowel. Ensure good adhesive contact with the substrate. Use the notched side of the trowel to apply the adhesive to the substrate in one direction. Firmly press tiles into the fresh adhesive using the flat side of a clean steel trowel or grout float to ensure the tiles are fully embedded in adhesive. Do not apply more adhesive than can be covered while it is still wet and tacky. Periodically, lift and check tiles to verify that full adhesive coverage is being achieved. Allow the installation to remain undisturbed for a minimum of 24 hours at 70 degrees Fahrenheit / 21 degrees Celsius. Excess thin set mortar must be cleaned from all surfaces with a clean, wet cloth or sponge, while it is still fresh.

Laticrete International has tested their cementitious and epoxy thinsets for installation of the panels for interior concrete applications.

- LATAPOXY® 300 Adhesive exceeded ANSI A108.02 (3.14) and ANSI A108.6.
- Laticrete 254 Platinum Thinset exceeded ANSI A108.02, A108.1B and ANSI A108.5 specifications.

LATAPOXY® 300 Adhesive or equivalent (Recommended):

Apply the adhesive to the wall with scraping motion, using the flat side of a 3/16" x 5/32" v-notch trowel. Ensure good adhesive contact with the substrate. Use the notched side of the trowel to apply the adhesive to the substrate in one direction. Firmly press the StoneForm panels into the fresh adhesive using the flat side of a clean steel trowel or grout float to ensure the panels are fully embedded in the epoxy. Do not apply more epoxy than can be covered while it is still wet and tacky. Periodically, lift and check tiles to verify that full adhesive coverage is being achieved. Allow the installation to remain undisturbed for a minimum of 24 hours at 70 degrees Fahrenheit / 21 degrees Celsius. Excess epoxy must be cleaned from all surfaces with a clean, wet cloth or sponge, while it is still fresh. Install epoxy adhesive in compliance with current revisions of ANSI A108.02 (3.14) and ANSI A108.6

Laticrete 254 Platinum Thinset or equivalent (for dry areas):

Use a ¼" notched trowel to ensure proper bedding of the StoneForm panels. Work the thinset into the substrate and comb with notched side of trowel. Firmly press the panels into the fresh thinset using the flat side of a clean steel trowel or grout float to ensure the panels are fully embedded in the thinset. Spread only as much thinset as can be covered while the mortar surface is still wet and tacky. Allow installation to set until firm. Clean excess from panel surfaces and joints. Install in compliance with current revisions of ANSI A108.02, A108.1B and ANSI A108.5

Sealers and maintenance:

Sealers can be water-based or solvent-based. Protect the surface against chemicals, water and other contaminants. There are many manufacturers of topical, penetrating and color enhancing sealers. Select a sealer appropriate for the application (Backsplash, floor, fireplace, etc.) and follow the manufacturer's instructions.

- LATICRETE PERMACOLOR® Select
- LATICRETE BULLETPROOF® Sealer

LATICRETE PERMACOLOR® Select:

Use approximately 2 – 2.25 quarts (1.9 L – 2.1 L) of clean potable water for 2 PERMACOLOR Select Color Packs and 25 lbs (11.3 kg) of PERMACOLOR Select Grout Base. Do not use with 1776 Grout Enhancer or any other latex additive. Place water in a clean mixing container. Remove Color Packs from the cardboard container as well as the protective plastic sleeve. The internal bag is a water-dispersible pack – when using the 25 lbs. (11.3 kg) bag of PERMACOLOR Select, drop both color packs directly to water in clean mixing container. Mix with a drill mixer until pigment is dispersed evenly in container and the dispersible pack is no longer visible. Add PERMACOLOR Select Base. Mix with a slow speed drill mixer (300 rpm) for 1 minute. Wait for 5 minutes and remix with drill for 1 minute. If using the 12.5 lbs bag, drop only one color pack into 1 – 1.1 quarts (.8L – 1.0 L) of clean water.

LATICRETE BULLETPROOF® Sealer:

Read entire label before using. Use only as directed. Always test in a small inconspicuous area with a 24-hour cure time to determine ease of application and desired results. Allow new grout installations to cure for a minimum of 72 hours prior to application. Make sure surface is clean and free of waxes and coatings. Sealer may be applied to damp surfaces one hour after standing water has been removed. Surface temperature should be between 50 degrees Fahrenheit and 80 degrees Fahrenheit (10 degrees Celsius and 26.7 degrees Celsius). Ensure that the area is well-ventilated during application and until the surface is dry. Keep children and pets out of the area until treated surface is dry.

1. Ensure cap is closed and sealed, and shake well before use.
2. Mask off surfaces not intended to be treated.
3. Liberally apply an even coat using a paint pad, roller, brush or low-pressure sprayer.
4. Allow sealer to penetrate the surface for 10–15 minutes. During this time, keep the surface wet with sealer, adding more sealer as needed. **DO NOT ALLOW SEALER TO COMPLETELY DRY ON THE SURFACE.**
5. A second coat may be needed for porous, absorbent surfaces. If a second coat is required, it should be applied 30–40 minutes after the initial application as directed in steps 3–4.
6. Following the final application, thoroughly wipe dry the entire surface with clean absorbent towels.
7. Should a sealer residue appear, rewet the impacted section of the surface with sealer. Agitate the surface with a white nylon scrubbing pad to loosen residue and wipe dry with a clean, absorbent towel.
8. A full cure is achieved in 24–72 hours at 70 degrees Fahrenheit / 21 degrees Celsius. Use of the treated surface may resume in 6–8 hours. If use of the surface must resume sooner, cover the treated surface with red rosin paper to protect it until full cure has been achieved.
9. Clean tools used during application with water.

Cold weather:

The curing of installation materials is retarded by low temperatures and finished work should be protected for an extended period of time. Typically, for every 18 degrees Fahrenheit below 70 degrees Fahrenheit (10 degrees Celsius below 21 degrees Celsius), installation materials take twice as long to cure.

RESOURCES

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