STUDIUM

SURFACE MATERIALS

INSTALLATION GUIDELINE

MESH-BACKING AND PROTECTIVE TAPE LAYER*

Although most materials are mesh-backed, they are also packaged tape-faced to provide extra stability and protection during freight,handling and installation. For inspection and approval purposes prior to installation, we highly recommend randomly selecting several modules and gently remove the tape from the surface (only on products that are both tape-faced and mesh-backed). This preventive inspection of materials will enable the installer to prepare necessary installation procedures. Once approved, put back the tape on the inspected modules and do not remove it from other modules prior to installation. Avoid walking on the tape or exposing it to direct sunlight, as it may become hard to remove after installation.

REQUIRED TOOLS & MATERIALS

- Dry set mortar (ANSI A 118.1) or Latex-Portland cement (ANSI A 118.4) : Select white mortar compatible to the substrate.
- Grout (ANSI A 118.6) : Select grout compatible with mortar & unsanded for polished or honed finish.
- Clean tap water
- Compatible waterproofing membrane : If waterproof installation required.
- Square notched trowel (max. 1/4" notch)
- Rubber faced float
- Sponge & Diamond abrasive wet-saw

THIN-SET METHOD INSTALLATION**

1. INSTALLATION SURFACE PREPARATION

- Verify that the sub-floor and substrate conform to industry deflection requirements. The structure must be able to accommodate the weight of a stone installation. The architect and the general contractor can assist you in that area.
- Substrate must be smooth and even all over its surface, dry (cured if concrete) and free from all dirt or substances that could interfere in the adhesion process, as well as potentially corrosive elements such as nails and screws.
- The use of a moisture barrier is recommended for floor installations on grade.

2. LAYOUT OF THE MOSAIC PROJECT

- Prior to setting the material in the mortar, it is extremely important to dry lay the whole project in the space where it will be installed. This procedure allows proper fittings and adjustments to ensure successful results.

A. LOOSE MOSAIC MODULES (not custom-fit)

The project was ordered by the piece or surface area to cover in square or linear footage, taking into account a waste factor of 10 to 15% for losses at installation. The mosaic was fabricated in module size to be assembled and adjusted by the installer on site.

- Dry-lay the mosaic sections in the space and configuration that they will be installed.
- Make sure to respect the integrity of the overall pattern before deciding where it will be cut and how it impacts the design. Ideally, patterns should be centered and even on all sides while borders should connect nicely at angles.
- Have the customer confirm the layout at this point.
- Cut the mosaic sections that need adjustment using a diamond abrasive wet-saw.
- Put the cut sections back in the layout.
- Mark the position of each piece where it will be installed. Use numbers to mark each section of mosaic to insure accuracy of the final installation.

B. CUSTOM-FIT PROJECT

The project was ordered upon scaled line drawing approval by the customer, and based on provided dimensions of where it will be installed. The mosaic was fabricated and pre-assembled to dimensions at the factory. Each section is numbered and clearly indicated on the installation plan provided. It requires no cuts or adjustments unless dimensions have changed after final approval.

- Dry-lay the mosaic sections in the space to be installed according to the installation plan. For a vertical or ceiling installation, assemble first on the floor.
- Verify that the whole mosaic correctly fits in the space.
- Have the customer approve the layout at this point.

3.

SET MOSAICS IN PLACE (Thin-set Method)

- Mix the thin-set mortar according to manufacturer's instructions.
- Using the flat edge of a trowel, evenly spread the mortar on the substrate to cover the area of no more than two sections of mosaic. Apply with pressure to obtain proper mechanical bond. Do not attempt to cover too large of an area to avoid skinning of the setting material.
- Make sure you use enough thin-set for proper adherence of the material but not so much to avoid excess mortar being forced up between the mosaic pieces.
- Comb the mortar with the notched edge of the trowel.
- Position the mosaic section on the mortar bed, face taped up.
- Gently press the mosaic section into place with a rubber trowel to ensure complete 100% adhesion to the thin-set (ridges from the notched trowel should disappear).
- Verify that the mosaic sections are seamless, level and that the overall surface is even.
- If there was no tape on the surface of the mosaics, remove excess mortar of the surface and clean with sponge and water.

- Repeat process until setting is complete.
- Allow setting material to cure according the manufacturer's specifications.
- If a slight difference in thickness between mosaic pieces is noticeable, spread a thin layer of mortar directly on the mesh backer to compensate prior to positioning it on the thin-set mortar.

4. REPAIRS (if needed)

- Verify that the mortar is dry and mosaic pieces are solidly anchored in it.
- Gently remove the tape.
- If a piece is broken, chipped or delaminated, replace it with one of the extra pieces included with the order.

5. GROUTING

Grout may stain the surface of some stones. Always prepare a small test of the grout on the stone before applying to the whole project. Honed and tumbled finish stones, as well as pale stones should be sealed prior to grouting. Use a quality stone sealer and follow the manufacturer's instructions.

- Remove any excess mortar that has come-up to the surface. Be careful not to scratch the surface of the material.
- Mix the filler according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Using a rubber trowel, spread grout horizontally and vertically across a workable area. Remove the excess grout in adiagonal direction.
- Allow the grout to set according to the manuacturer's specifications and clean the surface of the mosaic. Keep the sponge flat on the surface.
- Take care not to remove too much grout from the joints. Wipe any excess residue, changing the water regularly as not to leave a film.
- Continue grouting until all joints are filled and the surface has been cleaned.
- No traffic should be allowed on a floor installation for at least 24 hours or according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

VETRO & VENETIAN GLASS

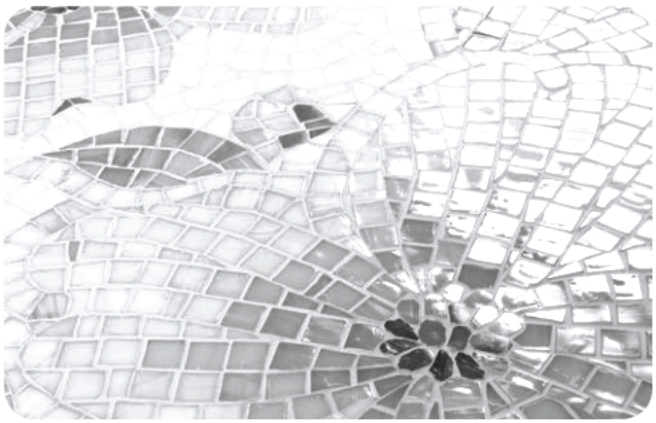
MESH-BACKING AND PROTECTIVE TAPE LAYER Same as STONE & MOSAIC, see *

REQUIRED TOOLS & MATERIALS

- Adesilex or Kerabond / Keralastic from Mapei : Select mortar compatible to the substrate or glass color.
- Unsanded Grout (ANSI A 118.6) : Select unsanded grout compatible with mortar
- Clean tap water
- Compatible waterproofing membrane : If waterproof installation required.
- Square notched trowel (max. 1/4" notch)
- Rubber faced float
- Sponge & Diamond abrasive wet-saw for glass

THIN-SET METHOD OF INSTALLATION Same as STONE & MOSAIC, see **





MORTAR COLOR SELECTION

In most cases, use a white base mortar. Please note that a dark color mortar will affect the color of the translucent glass. If installing dark colored glass (such as Jet Black, Obsidian Grey, Pearl Grey, Quartz Grey or Sodalite Grey), a grey mortar is preferred. For tiles up to 6"x 6", use ADESILEX P10 (MAPEI) or equivalent. For larger tiles, use KERABOND / KERALASTIC (MAPEI) or equivalent.

GROUTING

Before filling, it is necessary to clean the space for the entire thickness of the tile. Excess mortar may be noticeable on the sides of the glass if the glass is clear. It is important to fill the joint with plenty of mixture, pressing it down with a rubber trowel. Use unsanded grout at all times, if installer requires a sanded grout, please consult with Mosaïque Surface prior to installation.

This is important to help level the unevenness of the material composing this mosaic pattern and to ensure proper adherence. To avoid problems from thickness discrepancies after installation, we suggest adding the following steps prior to the standard installation guidelines.

NOTE:

- The installation must be done by an experienced installer.
- The fabricator cannot be held responsible for installation issues.

1. Lay each mosaic sheet upside down, press down on the pieces to make them as even as possible.
2. Spread a thin layer of thinset on the back of the thinner pieces using the flat side of the trowel. You do not need to wait for the mortar to dry. Repeat with all sheets.
3. Install as usual (see installation guidelines).
4. Press very lightly on pieces to even them out. Do not press too hard, as some pieces might sink into the mortar.
5. Wait for the mortar to dry before removing the face tape.

NOTICE TO CUSTOMER & INSTALLER

The installation of this mosaic project requires a qualified and experienced installer that excels at stone custom installation work. The mosaic material was carefully packed and thoroughly inspected before leaving the factory. Client and installer should inspect and approve all materials prior to installation. The client should supervise and approve every step of the process, as installation signifies acceptance. No claims or returns will be accepted once material is installed. If the installation is delayed, store all packages in a dry and cool space, away from direct sunlight, in a constant temperature of 40-75 °F with face tape removed.

* Installation guidelines may differ in some areas due to climate, trade practices, building codes or constructions methods. Therefore, they should be approved by technically qualified persons. For more details, refer to: Marble Institute of America (MIA), Tile Council of North America (TCNA).

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE INSTALLATION CREW

- THIS MARBLE PRODUCT IS FRAGILE AND MUST BE CAREFULLY MANIPULATED TO AVOID BREAKAGE.
- DO NOT BEND THE MODULES WHEN TAKING MATERIAL OUT OF THE BOX THROUGHOUT THE INSTALLATION PROCESS.
- WHEN INSTALLING, GENTLY PRESS THE PRODUCT INTO THE MORTAR BED USING RUBBER TROWEL ONLY.
- INSPECT ALL MODULES PRIOR TO INSTALLATION.
  (EXTRA MARBLE PIECES WERE SHIPPED WITH THE ORDER FOR REPAIRS IF NEEDED.)
- BE SURE TO READ AND FOLLOW THE INSTALLATION GUIDELINES ATTACHED PRIOR TO INSTALLATION.

