

Natural and Decorative Stones - Installation Guide (Indoor installation only)

The video is available at www.impexstones.com

Important notes

Impex Stone offers many different models of natural stones that can be installed indoor as well as outdoor while respecting the recommendations of the National Building Code and any other regulations in place. Please note that indoor and outdoor installations are different.

Before installing the product, the installer and the owner must make sure that the wall complies with the conditions specified in this document. The installer and the buyer have the responsibility to inspect the products upon reception of the goods. If the installer doubts the product, the manufacturing or finishing quality and cannot place it in a less conspicuous place, nor eliminate imperfection, he/she should not install it. Once the products are installed, this shall be considered as having been accepted by the installer and the owner even if the latter is absent at the time of installation.

Slate oxidation is a natural phenomenon and our Charcoal, Eclipse, Tornado, MacKenzie and Plasma Tornado natural stones could be affected if the stone is in contact with humidity. To minimise the effects a sealer could delay or mitigate this phenomenon. Impex Stone may not be held responsible for this natural process at any time. The customer must make sure that the product purchased is suitable for the desired installation. Once again, if you have any doubts or questions, please contact our customer service department. Since Impex Stone has absolutely no control over the proper preparation of the surfaces, the method of application or the ability of the installer, no guarantee on the implicit or explicit result can be offered.

Step 1 – Tools required

In preparation for the installation, make sure you have the following tools on hand:

- Diamond tipped saw
- Tuck pointer
- Level
- Mortar cone, if necessary
- Bucket
- Sponge
- Chalk line
- Broom for joints
- Straight and ½ trowel
- Measuring tape
- Mask
- Security glasses

Step 2 – Adhesive product

The recommended adhesive for indoor installation is the LTC adhesive mortar available in 2 colors; white and grey. For natural marble stones, it is imperative to use the white adhesive mortar.

Before using any other adhesive product, please refer to the mortar manufacturer technical sheet before proceeding with the installation.

Step 3 – Surface preparation

Careful preparation is an essential step to the success of the final result. Most problems attributed to stones are, in fact, caused by a lack of mortar or an improper preparation of the surface which has to be porous, clean, uniform, free of dust, dirt, oil, wax, soot, mold, powder, flakes, etc.

Follow these instructions:

For drywalls, Lightweight cement boards or concrete surface

Follow the National Building Code and any other regulations in place.

Step 4 – Installation

1. Open all the boxes, take out the stones and choose them according to the desired effect. Put any broken stone aside and use them for cuts. Remove any dust on the back of the stone.

2. In a clean bucket, prepare the LTC mortar adhesive according to the manufacturer's instructions.
3. If cuts are necessary, soak the cut stone in a bucket filled with water to remove dust particles or dough cutter
4. Stone laying requires a double sticking, that is, the mortar adhesive must be applied on the wall **and** on the stone. Use a straight trowel to apply it on the wall and a ½ trowel on the stone. Apply enough pressure on the stone to make it adhere firmly to the wall and ensure a perfect contact between the stone and the wall. Apply the mortar on a maximum surface of 15 square feet at a time to prevent the mortar from hardening too quickly on the wall.

NOTE: For Halifax, be sure to apply mortar between all stones on the back of the piece. Use a ½ trowel for the double sticking.

5. Install a maximum **height of 4 feet per day**.
6. Always start from the bottom. If corner stones are required, install these first.
7. If joints are required, use a Type N 1-1-6 mortar. Make sure the corners are of the same width. The space between joints must be free of the adhesive mortar in order to facilitate the application of Type N mortar for the joints. If there are residues of the LTC mortar, it may complicate the scraping of the joints the next day.

NOTE: For Halifax, apply mortar between each pieces with the mortar cone. Wait 15-20 minutes to scrape off the joints with the tuck pointer.

8. Let it dry.

Important: Take the necessary measures to avoid spreading the adhesive mortar on the stones. If it happens, wait 15 to 20 minutes before wiping it with a dry cloth. **Do not scrub or use water on decorative stones.**

Step 5 – Application of type N 1-1-6 mortar for the joints

If required, wait for the next day for the application of the Type N mortar. Please follow these instructions:

1. In a clean bucket, prepare the Type N mortar according to the manufacturer's instructions.
2. Fill the mortar cone using a trowel.
3. Align the tip of the mortar cone on the joint and twist it. The mortar will be expelled between the stones to form a joint.
4. **TIP:** To make this operation easier, add a very thin thread of transparent hand soap into the mortar. **Important:** Take the necessary measures to avoid spreading type N mortar on the stones. If it happens, wait 15 to 20 minutes before wiping it with a dry cloth. **Do not scrub or use water on decorative stones.**
5. 15 to 20 minutes after applying the mortar, scrape off the joints with the tuck pointer. **Important:** **Do not wait until the following day to scrape off the joints.** Do not scrape the stone with a wire brush, acid or any product containing acid. Do not use a wetted brush and **never** use water on decorative stones. Use a dry cloth to remove excess mortar on the stones. Do not scrub.
6. Let it dry.

Warranty

Impex Stone products have a limited warranty of 10 years from the date of purchase (proof required) when the installation is done in accordance with the recommendations of the National Building Code and the installation guide included in the product specifications of the manufacturer. The original invoice from the authorized dealer must be supplied.

The warranty does not cover any damages resulting from:

- Improper installation.
- Wall movements due to the subsidence of the soils or other causes.
- Contact with chemical products, paint or others.
- Discoloration due to polluting atmospheric agents, water or friction.
- Stains, oxidation, discoloration and fading due to polluting atmospheric agents or any external agents.

This warranty only covers Impex Stone defective products. It does not include labor and is limited to the original buyer.