

Dry Stack Installation Requirements and Recommendations

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Wall surface preparation for a grouted or joint/less patterns are basically the same. Follow centurion stones installation instructions on setting up the walls surface. It may be necessary to modify the instructions to comply with a local code. Codes may vary from area to area.

Certain Centurion stone patterns were designed with grouted joints others joint/less. In either case they were designed to match an installation pattern of natural stone. All Centurion stone patterns may be installed with or without joints this is at the discretion of the consumer. If installed outside Centurions recommended joint size, coverage will vary. Listed below are the requirements and recommendations to properly install the stone veneer.

MORTAR SETTING BED

Mix mortar per Centurion stone installation instructions (add a bonding agent to mix). When applying mortar be sure the stones back surface is 100% covered and the mortars consistency allows the mortar to squeeze out and seal around all the stones edges. Use a margin trowel to remove excessive mortar and seal around exposed edges. Mortar tinting is recommended for a tight fitted (mortar less) joint look.

SETTING OF STONE

Reference lines should be struck in the mortar bed for proper leveling and alignment. Install (dry stack / joint less patterns) with tight fitted (mortar less) joints. Starting at the corner install a corner piece first (alternate short and long sides of corner pieces) work away from the corner. Set each course before starting next course. Trimming or cutting may be required to maintain a tight fit, place cut stones within courses and finished ends at exposed areas. Cover cut edges with a compatible mortar color. Frequently check reference lines for proper alignment.

SHAPING OF STONE

Cutting or trimming of stone may be necessary around openings and maintain tight joints. Several tools may be used is shaping the stone. The most preferred is a small grinder equipped with a dry diamond saw blade or carborundum blade. Cutting creates dust. Always wear safety glasses and dust mask when trimming stones. Remove all dust or foreign particles from stones back that could prevent a bond.

DRY STACK JOINTS

Grouting is not necessary in the dry stack/ joint less series of stone, since the stones edges were sealed when installed. Touch up grouting may be desirable to touch up voids or to conceal cut or broken edges.

WEATHER CONDITIONS

When setting the dry stack series of stone on hot or dry surfaces or in a hot or dry climate, the stone and wall surfaces should be wet by spraying or brushing water onto the surfaces, this cools down and adds moisture to the surfaces. Adding moisture helps prevent excessive absorption of moisture from the mortar bed allowing a better bond. Stone pieces may also be dipped. Always allow excessive surface water to drain off before setting stones. Protect the installation from freezing in cold weather, so the mortar can set up properly – see section 2104.3 cold weather construction of the I.B.C.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Take care to avoid smearing mortar on the products surface. Remove mortar only after it has become firm and crumbly. For best results clean with a whiskerbroom or dry bristle brush. Never use a wet or wire brush.
- Acid or acid base products should never be used in cleaning of the stone. They will give undesirable results.
- For a professional looking installation use Centurion stones accent and accessory trim pieces.