



ORDERING GUIDELINES

Measuring Stone

Determine how much stone you will need by following the steps below.

1. Measure the width and the height of the area to be covered and convert to square footage; width x height = total square footage.
2. Figure the square feet of any windows, doors and openings and subtract this amount from the first figure. (total square footage – windows, doors and openings).
3. Allow an extra 10% more stone for cutting and trimming.
4. Measure corners in linear feet. Take the total linear feet for the job and multiply that by 50% and then subtract that from the total square footage. Order the total linear feet needed for corners.

Materials Needed

- **Mortar Components**
You can use a pre-mixed masonry mortar. This mix includes both the cement and sand in one bag: or use 1 part masonry mortar (Type N or Type S) with 2.25 parts masonry sand.
- **Bonding Adhesive**
Use a bonding adhesive when installing stone or brick over concrete, brick, block, stucco, masonry and cement board. In mortarless joint applications (where no mortar joints are used), use a bonding agent and seal with a breathable type (non-film forming) sealer.
- **Water Resistive Barrier**
When required (exterior applications), use two separate layers if there is a water resistive barrier. Acceptable WRB's are 15 lb. felt, Grade D paper and house wrap.
- **Metal Lath**
When required, use 2.5 lb. or 3.4 lb. corrosion resistant, self-furring expanded metal lath.
- **Fasteners**
Use corrosion resistant fasteners (nails, staples, or screws) capable of penetrating wood studs to a depth of 1" or metal studs 3/8".
- **Masonry Sealer**
When required, use a breathable type (non-film forming) sealer.

Preparing the Surface

Follow these guidelines when preparing different surfaces.

- **Rigid Backwall, Wallboard, Plywood, Paneling and Wall Sheathing**
In exterior applications, apply two layers of Water Resistive Barrier to cover the surface, overlapping the joints 4", shingle fashion. Install metal lath using corrosion resistant nails or staples placed 6" on center vertically and 16" on center horizontally and driven into the studs at least 1". Overlap metal lath 6". Do not have overlap lath within 6" of a corner.
- **Clean and Untreated Concrete, Masonry, Stucco, and Block**
Ensure surface is sound and clean (free from release agents, paint, form oil and sealers). Etch or score the surface to enhance mechanical bond. Surface applied bonding agents may be used.
- **Dirty, Sealed, Painted Concrete, Masonry, Stucco and Brick**
If you are unsure if the concrete is clean and untreated, return surface to original bare masonry surface and apply bonding adhesive to wall with a brush or fasten lath to surface with concrete nails or mortar anchors.

Applying Stone

- **Surface Area**
Use a notched float to apply mortar 1/2" to 3/4" thick.
- **Joint Width**
If mortared application is specified, joints should be 1/2" to get the most natural look.
- **Setting Stones in Mortar**
Cover the entire back of the stone with mortar and press the stone firmly into the mortar bed to ensure a good bond. Press hard enough to squeeze out a little mortar around all the edges of the stone. Make sure you have complete coverage between the mortar bed and the surface of the stone.
- **Corner Pieces**
Corner pieces should be installed first. Alternate the long and short legs on the corner pieces in opposite directions.
- **Flat Pieces**
After the corner pieces are installed, apply flat pieces starting at the outside working in toward the wall center.
- **Cutting and Trimming**
Use the rear of the brick hammer, edge of trowel, nippers or a circular saw with an abrasive blade to cut and shape stones. If necessary, broken stones can be trimmed and shaped to fill in any gaps. For the most attractive finished appearance, coat with mortar any cut or broken edges. Also, try to place cut edges up when they are above eye level and down when they are below eye level.
- **Level and Plumb Joint Lines**
Joint lines should be level and plumb. For a more natural look, place long, rectangular pieces of stone horizontally.
- **Weathered Edge, Stack Stone and Ledge Stone**
In mortarless joint applications where no mortar joints are used, use a bonding agent and seal with a breathable type (non-film forming) sealer.
*Weathered Edge can not be dry stacked.

Grouting & Finishing Joints

- **Grouting Joints**
Completely fill in the joints using a mortar bag, taking care to avoid getting mortar on the stones' surface. Any accidental smears can be removed with a whisk broom after the mortar is dry and crumbly. Never use a wet brush or wire brush.
- **Finishing Joints**
Proper jointing gives your project an appealing and professional finish. Before finishing, allow mortar joints to become firm (approximately 30-60 minutes), then point them up with a metal jointing tool. Weather conditions and the type of surface both influence drying time. Remove excess mortar then firmly compress and seal the edges around the stones. Brush stones and joints with a whisk broom to finish and clean the project.