

Rocky Mountain Stoneworks Installation Guide

INSTALLATION (INTERIOR OR EXTERIOR)

Because it is lightweight, Rocky Mountain Stoneworks veneer can be applied quickly and easily to any structurally sound interior or exterior surface--without the need for a costly foundation. What follows are simple installations instructions which will enable you to experience the full benefits of Rocky Mountain Stoneworks products. If you have any questions or need more information, speak with your retailer or feel free to contact our sales office at: (604) 857-9000

It is very important to check Local Building Code requirements in your area before proceeding with installation. Some Local Building Codes may require «rainscreen application».

ESTIMATING THE STONE REQUIRED

To determine the number square feet of Rocky Mountain Stone facing needed, measure the length and the height of the area to be covered. The corner pieces needed are determined by measuring the lineal (running) feet. Generally, about 1/2 of the lineal feet measured can be subtracted from the square footage of facings. Some allowance should be made for cutting and trimming and if you will be using non- standard mortar joint sizes.

WALL SURFACE PREPARATION

Plywood - Wall Sheathing

Place a moisture barrier of 60 min building paper (tarpaper) to the area you wish to apply the stone veneer. Stone application must be protected from water penetration by proper use of flashing and or caulk. Install 2.5 lb. galvanized metal lath or other code-approved lath securely, taking care to nail into your framing studs every 6" vertically and 16" horizontally with galvanized roofing nails to a minimum penetration of 1". You should always wrap the lath around outside corners a minimum 16". Overlap lath sides not less than 1/2" and lath ends not less than 1". Attach lath with small diamonds pointing upwards and nail it as flat as possible to the wall surface.

Brick - Block - Concrete (Clean, Untreated and Not Glazed)

No preparation needed. Keep surface damp ahead of stoning process.

Brick - Block - Concrete (Dirty, Painted or Sealed)

Sandblast or chisel score and wash. Metal lath can also be applied using concrete nails.

Brick- Block- Concrete (Smooth, Glazed Surface)

Sandblast, chisel score or lath. To ensure a good adhesion, a bonding agent can be added to the mortar. NOTE: If you have concerns about the adhesive quality of the surface prepare a small test section before proceeding

Metal Building

Attach minimum 3.4 lb. 3/8" rib expanded metal lath galvanized or other code accepted metal lath with self- tapping screws.

MORTAR PREPARATION

For convenience and ease of preparation you can utilize our stone installation mortar mix. Just add water (80 lbs bag will install 15 sq. ft. of stone). For larger projects, mix #1 - 1 part masonry cement (Type S) to 2½-3 parts lean masonry sand.

MORTAR CONSISTENCY

Mix thoroughly with clean water until mixture becomes like heavy cream. NOTE: Add water slowly because you can always add more but you can't take it back out. A dry, crumbly mortar will not provide a proper bond and a wet mortar will be weak and messy. It takes approx. 300 lbs. (136 kg) of mortar to apply and grout 100 sq. ft. of stone. NOTE: Do not use anti-freeze compounds in mortar.

MORTAR COLOURS

Any stone pattern will be greatly enhanced if the mortar is tinted with a complementary colour. For example, Grey-blend products should be installed with a grey to black mortar, brown-toned colour stones with a brown mortar, etc. Mortar tinting colours are available from Rocky Mountain Stoneworks.

CUTTING AND TRIMMING

To speed the selection process, lay out some stones on the floor or ground. If stones need to be shaped to fit, use a pair of nippers or a hatchet. Broken stones may be used to fill in gaps between larger stones. Coat the cut and broken edges with mortar for a professional finished appearance.

APPLYING MORTAR

After all wire lath and flashings are installed, you can apply a base scratch coat. Use a mason's trowel to apply mortar 1/2" thick covering whole surface area. Scratch mortar to ensure a good bond.

In hot weather it may be necessary to moisten scratch coat and the back of the stone with fine spray of water or wet brush. This will prevent excessive moisture absorption.

Completely cover the entire back of the stone with mortar, 1/2" thick, taking care not to get any mortar on the face of the stone.

APPLYING VENEER STONE

You may apply stone from the bottom up or from the top down. Working from the top down may help avoid splashing previously applied stone with dripping mortar. If corner pieces are used, apply them first alternating the long and short sides as you go. Work the flat stones carefully into position so you don't bump and dislodge any existing stone. Fix the stone in place using an up and down motion applying firm enough pressure to squeeze some mortar out around the edges. Stone should now be "set". If stone slides off, chances are the mortar is too dry. Add a little more water and repeat the procedure, keeping joints as close as possible (1/2" or less). Leave at least 1/4" gap between bottom of stone and sidewalk or driveway.

NOTE: Approximately one half of your time is spent applying stone. The balance of your time is needed for grouting and finishing.

GROUTING

Using the same mortar used for applying stone, partially fill a grout bag with mortar. Squeeze the bag as you would a cake decorator and fill in around each stone.

FINISHING JOINTS

Let mortar set to a thumb-print firmness and be aware that setting time will depend on drying conditions. Take a pointed stick and rake out excess mortar, while compacting and sealing edges around the stone. It is important on exterior applications that you leave no openings where water may enter. Once the mortar is dry to the touch, take a whiskbroom and remove all the loose mortar.

NOTE: A wet brush should never be used to finish the joints-it could cause staining which would be nearly impossible to remove.

SEALING

After allowing the mortar to dry completely for several days, a silicone sealer, such as Fabrishield MS-230, can be applied. Acrylic sealer, such as Fabriglaze MS 240, can be used for interior stone surfaces to add sheen and darken the colour.

GENERAL INFORMATION

SCUFFING

As with natural stone, some scuffing may occur on Rocky Mountain Stoneworks Stone. This can enhance the overall natural appearance of your installation. Some scuff marks can be removed by cleaning as described below.

CLEANING

For removal of common dirt, soot or occasional efflorescence, use a strong solution of soap or detergent and scrub with a stiff bristle brush. For more difficult stains, use a mild solution of Manufactured Stone Cleaner Type 110, 1 part to 12 parts of water. Please follow the instructions on bottle and rinse thoroughly. Use Moss & Algae Cleaner Type 320 for moss and algae removal.

IMPORTANT! DO NOT ACID CLEAN

HOT AND COLD WEATHER APPLICATIONS

In very hot, dry weather, it is best to spray/moisturize the back of each stone to prevent the rapid absorption of moisture from the mortar. Applications must be protected from freezing temperatures while the mortar is setting.

SALT AND DE-ICING CHEMICALS

Because all concrete and masonry can be damaged by salt and other de-icing compounds, Rocky Mountain Stoneworks Ltd. products are not warranted against damage incurred following their use.

NOTICE: As Rocky Mountain Stoneworks Ltd. cannot be responsible for incorrect application and other factors beyond the manufacturer's control; our only obligation shall be to replace any materials proved to be defective.