→ INSTALLATION GUIDE

Irregular Walling

Aussietecture LIFESTYLE

IMPORTANT INSTALLATION INFORMATION, COMPLIANCE & RESPONSIBILITIES

General Advice and Disclaimer

AUSSIETECTURE provides installation guidelines to assist architects, designers, builders, contractors and property owners in understanding recommended practices for the installation of natural stone products.

The information contained in these guidelines is provided for general guidance only and does not constitute structural engineering advice, certification, a project-specific installation specification or a substitute for professional assessment.

Every installation is different. Site conditions, substrate construction, structural loading, environmental exposure, stone characteristics and installation methods must be assessed individually before work commences.

Qualified Tradespeople and Professional Installation

AUSSIETECTURE strongly recommends that all natural stone products be installed by appropriately qualified, experienced and, where required by law, licensed tradespeople with demonstrated experience in natural stone installation.

The appointed contractor must possess the necessary skills, knowledge, equipment and competency to undertake the installation safely and in accordance with applicable requirements.

Specialist applications, including elevated wall cladding, mechanically fixed stone, swimming pools, waterproofed areas and vehicular paving, may require additional qualifications, specialist contractors or engineering supervision.

The engagement of an appropriately qualified installer remains the responsibility of the client, builder or principal contractor.

Engineering Design and Structural Requirements

Where structural design or assessment is required, all works must be undertaken in accordance with the approved documentation and instructions issued by a suitably qualified structural engineer.

This may include requirements relating to:
- Concrete slabs, foundations and supporting structures.
- Substrate strength, stability and load-bearing capacity.
- Stone thickness, dimensions and weight.
- Mechanical fixing systems and structural anchors.
- Wind loading and elevated wall cladding.
- Pedestrian and vehicular loading.
- Structural movement, expansion and control joints.
- Supporting brackets, shelf angles and restraint systems.

AUSSIETECTURE's general installation guidelines must not override approved structural engineering documentation.

Any discrepancy between these guidelines and the project-specific engineering design must be referred to the relevant designer or engineer for clarification before installation proceeds.

Australian Standards and Regulatory Compliance

All installations must comply with applicable legislation, the National Construction Code, relevant Australian Standards, local council requirements, approved construction documentation and manufacturer specifications.

Depending on the installation, relevant standards may include:

- AS 3958:2023 – Installation of Ceramic and Stone Tiles.
- AS/NZS 1170 series – Structural Design Actions.
- AS 3600 – Concrete Structures.
- AS 3700 – Masonry Structures.
- AS 2870 – Residential Slabs and Footings.
- AS 3740 – Waterproofing of Domestic Wet Areas.
- AS 4654 series – Waterproofing of External Above-Ground Areas.
- AS 5216 – Design of Post-Installed and Cast-In Fastenings in Concrete.

Not all standards apply to every installation. The project designer, engineer and relevant contractors must determine which requirements are applicable.

Manufacturer Specifications and Installation Systems

All adhesives, screeds, grouts, sealers, waterproofing membranes, vapour barriers and mechanical fixing components must be selected and installed in accordance with their manufacturers' current technical specifications.

AUSSIETECTURE may refer to specialist manufacturers, including LATICRETE, Aqua Mix and Stone Clip, as sources of technical guidance.

References to these manufacturers or products do not constitute approval of a particular installation system for every project.

The installer must confirm that all selected materials are compatible with the natural stone, substrate, exposure conditions and other components of the installation.

Where compatibility or suitability cannot be established, written technical advice must be obtained from the relevant manufacturer before proceeding.

Site Assessment and Substrate Suitability

Before commencing installation, the builder and installing contractor must assess the site and confirm that the supporting substrate is suitable for the proposed natural stone installation.

This assessment should include structural adequacy, surface preparation, moisture conditions, drainage, movement joints, dimensional tolerances and any existing defects.

Installation must not proceed where unsuitable conditions may compromise the safety, appearance or performance of the completed work.

Any identified defects or discrepancies must be referred to the responsible project professional for assessment and rectification.

Material Inspection and Acceptance

Natural stone is a naturally occurring material and may exhibit variations in colour, texture, veining, mineral composition, porosity, dimensions and surface characteristics.

All stone must be inspected before installation and blended appropriately to achieve the intended overall appearance.

Any concerns regarding product suitability, visible defects or discrepancies must be reported to AUSSIETECTURE before the affected material is installed.

Installation does not exclude or limit any rights or remedies available under applicable Australian Consumer Law.

Changes to Approved Installation Methods

Installers must not substitute specified adhesives, fixing systems, waterproofing products or other critical installation components without confirming their suitability.

Any proposed change affecting structural performance, waterproofing, movement accommodation or installation safety must be referred to the responsible project designer, engineer or relevant manufacturer for approval before implementation.

Verbal assumptions or general industry practices must not replace approved project-specific instructions.

Inspection, Testing and Quality Assurance

Where required by the project specification, relevant standards or manufacturer instructions, appropriate inspections and testing must be undertaken before, during and following installation.

These may include substrate moisture testing, adhesive bond testing, mechanical anchor testing, waterproofing inspections and verification of movement joints.

The builder or principal contractor should maintain appropriate records of inspections, product selections, manufacturer approvals and installation procedures.

Maintenance and Ongoing Care

Natural stone requires appropriate cleaning and maintenance to preserve its appearance and performance.

Cleaning products, sealing treatments and maintenance procedures must be suitable for the particular stone and installation conditions.

AUSSIETECTURE recommends following the current technical guidance of recognised natural stone care manufacturers, including Aqua Mix Australia.

Sealers and maintenance products must not be considered substitutes for correctly designed waterproofing, drainage or installation systems.

Responsibilities and Limitations

AUSSIETECTURE is a supplier of natural stone products and provides general technical information to assist with product selection and installation planning.

Unless expressly agreed in writing, AUSSIETECTURE does not undertake structural engineering, substrate certification, waterproofing design, mechanical fixing design or supervision of installation works.

Responsibility for project design, engineering, regulatory compliance, material compatibility, installation workmanship and site safety rests with the relevant parties according to their contractual obligations, professional responsibilities and applicable law.

AUSSIETECTURE does not warrant that these general guidelines are suitable for every project or that compliance with them alone will ensure a satisfactory installation.

To the extent permitted by law, AUSSIETECTURE is not responsible for loss or damage arising from defective workmanship, unsuitable substrates, incorrect installation methods, incompatible third-party products, inadequate maintenance or departures from approved project specifications, except where such loss or damage is attributable to AUSSIETECTURE or liability cannot lawfully be excluded.

Nothing in these guidelines excludes, restricts or modifies any rights, guarantees or remedies that cannot lawfully be excluded under the Australian Consumer Law or other applicable legislation.

Technical Assistance

For product information, stone characteristics and general installation enquiries, contact AUSSIETECTURE before commencing installation.

Where specialist technical advice is required, consult the relevant structural engineer, architect, builder, installation system manufacturer or appropriately qualified tradesperson.

AUSSIETECTURE – Australia's Architectural Stone Authority
www.aussietecture.com.au

Contact:
NSW: +61 2 8378 0730
QLD: +61 7 3112 7562
hi@aussietecture.com.au

INTRODUCTION TO IRREGULAR NATURAL STONE WALL CLADDING

AUSSIETECTURE Irregular Wall Cladding is crafted from natural Australian stone, offering an organic architectural finish characterised by individual shapes, varying dimensions, natural textures and subtle colour variations.

Unlike conventional manufactured cladding, irregular stone provides considerable flexibility in its arrangement, allowing installers to create finishes ranging from traditional rustic stonework to refined contemporary architectural designs.

Design and Finishing Options

The final appearance of irregular wall cladding is influenced not only by the stone itself, but also by the installation technique, joint treatment, stone arrangement and finishing method.

Irregular wall cladding can be installed and finished in several ways:

- **Dry-Stack Appearance:** Stones are closely arranged with minimal visible joints to create a tightly fitted, textured finish. Where required, joints are filled or treated discreetly to achieve the desired appearance.
- **Traditional Mortar Joints:** Stones are installed with visible mortar joints, which can be finished flush, recessed or slightly raked to complement the natural stone.
- **Overgrouted Finish:** Mortar is brought forward across the joints and partially over the stone edges, producing a softer, traditional masonry appearance.
- **Contemporary Irregular Ashlar:** Larger stones are thoughtfully arranged with controlled joint widths and a balanced distribution of shapes to achieve a more structured architectural appearance.
- **Rustic Random Layout:** Stones are arranged in an informal pattern, celebrating their natural shapes, irregular edges and individual characteristics.

Natural Characteristics

Variations in colour, thickness, texture, mineral markings and stone dimensions are inherent characteristics of natural stone and should be expected.

To achieve a balanced overall appearance, stone should be selected from multiple pallets or crates during installation, with individual pieces distributed thoughtfully across the wall.

Installation Considerations

Irregular natural stone wall cladding requires careful planning, appropriate substrate preparation, suitable fixing materials and experienced installation practices.

The weight, thickness, dimensions and intended application of the stone must be considered when determining the appropriate installation system. External applications, elevated installations and installations over framed substrates may require additional structural assessment, mechanical restraint or engineered support.

Important: A dry-stack appearance does not necessarily mean mortar-free installation. All stone must be installed using a fixing and support system appropriate to the stone, substrate, wall height and exposure conditions.

This guide outlines general installation recommendations for AUSSIETECTURE Irregular Wall Cladding. All installations must comply with applicable Australian Standards, the National Construction Code, relevant manufacturer requirements and project-specific engineering specifications.

STORAGE

Until installation, keep cladding protected from weather and direct sunlight in a dry area. Store pieces in a single layer on a stable, level base.

INSTALLATION OVER BRICKWORK

AUSSIETECTURE Irregular Natural Stone Wall Cladding may be installed directly over suitable brickwork or masonry substrates, provided the substrate is structurally sound, stable, clean and capable of supporting the proposed cladding system.

Rendering of brickwork is not generally required where the existing masonry provides a suitable bonding surface and the specified installation system permits direct application.

Where brickwork is uneven, damaged or unsuitable for direct fixing, an appropriate cementitious levelling render may be used, subject to compatibility with the selected adhesive or fixing system. Render must be adequately bonded, cured and capable of supporting the imposed loads.

All surfaces must be free from dust, loose mortar, paint, sealers, contaminants and other materials that may compromise adhesion.

The suitability of the substrate, adhesive and any mechanical fixing or structural support must be verified against the stone weight, installation height, exposure conditions and relevant Australian Standards and manufacturer specifications.

Do not install natural stone cladding over loose, deteriorated or otherwise unsuitable brickwork or render.

INSTALLATION OVER FORMED CONCRETE

AUSSIETECTURE Irregular Natural Stone Wall Cladding may be installed over suitable cast-in-situ or precast concrete substrates, provided the concrete is structurally sound, dimensionally stable and appropriately prepared to receive the specified cladding system. Formed concrete surfaces must be inspected for smooth finishes, laitance, curing compounds, form-release agents, surface contaminants and other conditions that may adversely affect adhesion.

Where required, concrete surfaces must be mechanically prepared using suitable methods to achieve the surface profile and bonding characteristics specified by the selected adhesive manufacturer.

Concrete must be adequately cured, and any cracks, movement joints, surface defects or moisture-related issues must be assessed and addressed before installation.

Adhesives, waterproofing systems and mechanical fixing components must be compatible with the natural stone, concrete substrate and intended exposure conditions.

For elevated installations, heavier stone cladding or applications subject to significant structural movement, the requirement for engineered mechanical restraint, shelf supports or other structural fixing systems must be assessed.

Adhesive fixing must not be assumed suitable solely because the substrate is concrete. The complete cladding system must be verified for the stone weight, wall height, substrate condition and applicable structural requirements.

All installations must comply with relevant Australian Standards, National Construction Code requirements, manufacturer specifications and project-specific engineering documentation.

CONTROL & MOVEMENT JOINTS

Seek structural engineering advice where necessary to determine the location and detailing of movement joints. Existing movement or control joints within the substrate must extend uninterrupted through the finished stone face and be completed with a flexible sealed joint.

Include joints at:
- Changes between substrate materials
- Internal vertical corners
- Existing weakened-plane joints
- Interruptions to the cladding such as columns, beams or framing
- Horizontal and vertical intervals of approximately 3-4.5m

WATERPROOFING MEMBRANE

Appropriate waterproofing and moisture management are important considerations when installing AUSSIETECTURE Irregular Natural Stone Wall Cladding, particularly in external applications and areas exposed to persistent moisture.

Natural stone is porous, and moisture migrating through the substrate or behind the cladding may contribute to efflorescence, staining, discolouration and deterioration of the installation system.

LATICRETE HYDRO BAN® is a flexible, liquid-applied waterproofing and crack-isolation membrane designed for compatible tile and natural stone installations. It is suitable for specified internal wet areas, external above-ground applications and immersed installations when installed in accordance with LATICRETE requirements.

Substrate Preparation

Before waterproofing, all substrates must be structurally sound, stable, clean and free from contaminants that may interfere with membrane adhesion.

Concrete surfaces must be free of curing compounds, release agents, sealers and laitance. Smooth formed concrete must be mechanically prepared where required to provide a suitable bonding surface.

Brickwork, masonry and irregular substrates may require an appropriate cementitious skim coat, render or levelling treatment before membrane application, as specified by LATICRETE.

Membrane Application

Where HYDRO BAN® is specified, it must be applied in accordance with the current LATICRETE product data sheet and Australian installation instructions, including requirements for surface preparation, membrane thickness, application coats, drying, curing and treatment of junctions and penetrations.

The membrane must form a continuous waterproofing system, with all transitions, joints and penetrations appropriately detailed.

Installing Stone Over Waterproofing

Natural stone may be bonded directly to an approved LATICRETE waterproofing membrane using a compatible LATICRETE cement-based adhesive, provided the complete system is suitable for the stone dimensions, weight, substrate and exposure conditions.

For irregular stone cladding, particularly thicker or heavier pieces, the suitability of adhesive-only fixing must be confirmed before installation. Mechanical restraint or engineered structural support may be required.

Retaining Walls and Planter Boxes

Retaining walls and planter boxes require particular attention to waterproofing, drainage and hydrostatic pressure.

Waterproofing should generally be incorporated on the soil-facing side of the structure, together with suitable drainage provisions. A membrane applied to the exposed face alone must not be relied upon to control moisture or hydrostatic pressure originating behind the wall.

General Requirements

Waterproofing must comply with the National Construction Code, applicable Australian Standards and the membrane manufacturer's current installation instructions.

Where applicable, reference should be made to AS 3740 for domestic wet areas and AS 4654.1 and AS 4654.2 for external above-ground waterproofing.

Important: Waterproofing membranes must not be assumed to provide structural support for natural stone cladding. All proposed membrane, adhesive and fixing combinations must be verified as suitable for the intended application.

Surface sealing of natural stone does not replace waterproofing or appropriate drainage design.

LATICRETE Technical References

The wording above draws on these Australian LATICRETE documents:

→ HYDRO BAN® Product Information
Suitable applications, performance and product documentation.

→ TDS 1003 — HYDRO BAN Installation Instructions for Australia
Substrate preparation, membrane application and Australian standards.

Laticrete Australia: www.laticrete.com

PRE-SEALING & PRE-GROUT SEALING

Depending on the selected stone and the installation environment, sealing before adhesion or before grouting may assist with handling, surface protection and cleaning. Confirm that the chosen sealer is compatible with the stone, adhesive and grout, and observe all application and curing requirements.

Aussietecture recommends Aquamix products for pre-sealing, pre-grout sealing and post installation sealing of natural stone, however it is important to confirm that any pre-sealer chosen is compatible with the intended stone, adhesive or grout. Application should be carried out in strict accordance with the manufacturer's guidelines.

Aqua Mix: www.aquamix.com.au

WEATHER CONDITIONS

Assess temperature, rain and moisture before commencing work. Conditions below 10°C or above 30°C can adversely affect adhesion, while rain or excess water can compromise bonding and grout performance. These limits are indicative; use the relevant product technical data sheets to determine permissible installation conditions.

CUTTING

Use a suitable, high-quality stone-cutting blade approved for the saw or other equipment being used. Except where a precise cut or perimeter finish is required, a partial cut from the rear followed by carefully breaking through to the exposed face can retain a more natural-looking stone edge. Minor adjustments may be made with a brick hammer when appropriate.

Silica Safety: Stone, mortar, sand and concrete may contain crystalline silica. Cutting, grinding, drilling and other processing can release respirable silica dust associated with serious illness, including silicosis. Apply appropriate dust suppression and extraction controls, PPE and workplace safety procedures. Consult Safe Work Australia: safeworkaustralia.gov.au.

MECHANICAL FIXING

General Requirements

Mechanical fixing systems may be required for AUSSIETECTURE natural stone wall cladding depending on the stone dimensions, thickness, weight, installation height, substrate conditions and project-specific structural requirements.

Mechanical fixings provide additional restraint or structural support to natural stone cladding and must be selected according to the intended installation method and anticipated loading conditions.

All mechanical fixing systems must be designed and installed in accordance with applicable Australian Standards, National Construction Code requirements, project engineering specifications and the fixing manufacturer's technical recommendations.

When Mechanical Fixings Are Required

Mechanical fixing requirements must be assessed before installation, particularly for:

- External stone cladding installed at elevated heights.
- Large-format or heavy natural stone panels.
- Installations exposed to significant wind loads.
- Cladding installed over substrates requiring additional structural restraint.
- Installations where adhesive fixing alone cannot be demonstrated to provide adequate performance.
- Projects where mechanical fixing is required by the structural engineer, architect or relevant building authority.

Mechanical fixings must not be omitted where specified by the approved engineering design.

Stone Clip Mechanical Fixing Systems

AUSSIETECTURE recommends that installers and project designers consider specialist natural stone mechanical fixing systems, including those supplied by Stone Clip where appropriate for the proposed installation.

Stone Clip provides proprietary mechanical fixing solutions designed to secure natural stone cladding to suitable supporting structures.

The suitability of a Stone Clip fixing system must be assessed according to:

- Natural stone type, thickness, dimensions and weight.
- Stone strength and fixing-point capacity.
- Substrate material and structural condition.
- Installation height and exposure conditions.
- Wind pressures and other anticipated loads.
- Required fixing quantity, spacing and positioning.
- Corrosion resistance and environmental exposure.
- Compatibility with the proposed adhesive or bedding system.

Stone Clip components must be installed strictly in accordance with the manufacturer's current technical specifications and approved engineering documentation.

Stone Clip: www.stoneclip.com

Substrate and Structural Requirements

Mechanical fixings must be anchored to a structurally adequate supporting substrate capable of resisting the imposed loads.

Suitable supporting structures may include reinforced concrete, structural masonry or engineered steel framing, subject to verification of the proposed fixing arrangement.

Fixings must not be installed into non-structural render, loose masonry, deteriorated concrete or other unsuitable materials.

Where fixings penetrate waterproofing membranes or weather-resistant barriers, suitable detailing must be incorporated to maintain the integrity of the building envelope.

All substrate anchors must be selected and installed in accordance with the anchor manufacturer's specifications and relevant engineering requirements.

Fixing Design and Installation

The number, type, size and positioning of mechanical fixings must be determined by the approved fixing design.

Fixing arrangements must accommodate the stone's self-weight, wind loads, substrate movement and other relevant structural actions.

Where required, the fixing design must distinguish between:
- Load-bearing fixings: Components designed to support the dead weight of the stone.
- Restraint fixings: Components designed to resist lateral movement, wind loads or displacement.
- Combined fixing systems: Engineered systems designed to provide both vertical support and lateral restraint.

Installers must not assume that a restraint clip is capable of supporting the full dead weight of a stone panel unless this function is expressly included in the manufacturer's approved design.

Stone Thickness and Fixing Compatibility

Natural stone thickness and strength are critical considerations when selecting a mechanical fixing system.

Not all natural stone products are suitable for drilled, kerfed or edge-mounted mechanical fixings.

Before installation, confirm that the proposed fixing method is compatible with the stone's thickness, density, strength and physical characteristics.

Where necessary, representative stone samples must be tested to verify fixing-point capacity and resistance to cracking or breakout.

Stone thickness must not be reduced or fixing locations modified without approval from the project designer or structural engineer.

Corrosion Resistance

Mechanical fixings must be manufactured from materials suitable for the intended environment and design life.

Stainless steel components are generally preferred for external natural stone cladding, subject to the required corrosion-resistance classification.

Additional consideration must be given to coastal, marine, industrial and other aggressive environments.

The appropriate stainless steel grade and any necessary isolation between dissimilar metals must be specified by the project engineer or fixing manufacturer.

Adhesive and Mechanical Fixing Systems

Where natural stone is installed using a combination of adhesives and mechanical fixings, both systems must be compatible and suitable for their intended functions.

The use of mechanical fixings does not automatically compensate for inadequate adhesive bonding, unsuitable substrates or incorrect installation practices.

Similarly, adhesives must not be assumed to provide structural support where the stone installation has been designed as a mechanically supported system.

The load-sharing arrangement between adhesives and mechanical fixings must be established by the approved engineering design.

Movement and Expansion Joints

Mechanical fixing systems must accommodate anticipated movement resulting from temperature changes, structural deflection, moisture movement and differences between adjoining materials.

Movement joints must be incorporated in accordance with the approved project design and relevant installation requirements.

Fixings must not unintentionally restrain movement where allowance is required.

Inspection and Quality Control

Before and during installation, confirm that:

- The approved fixing system and components are being used.
- Stone dimensions and thicknesses comply with the fixing design.
- Substrate conditions are suitable.
- Anchor types, embedment depths and installation procedures comply with the approved specifications.
- Fixing quantities, spacing and positioning match the approved drawings.
- Required corrosion protection is provided.
- Waterproofing penetrations are appropriately detailed.
- Any required testing and inspections have been completed.

Fixings must not be substituted or modified without approval from the relevant designer or engineer.

Technical References

For further information on proprietary natural stone mechanical fixing systems, refer to:

Stone Clip: www.stoneclip.com

Consult Stone Clip for current product specifications, installation instructions, fixing details and technical support.

Additional references include:

- AS 3958:2023 – Installation of Ceramic and Stone Tiles, where applicable.
- AS/NZS 1170 series – Structural Design Actions.
- AS 5216:2021 – Design of Post-Installed and Cast-In Fastenings in Concrete, where applicable.
- AS 3700:2018 – Masonry Structures, where applicable.
- Relevant National Construction Code provisions and project engineering specifications.

Engineering and Installation Responsibility

The selection and design of mechanical fixing systems must be undertaken or verified by a suitably qualified structural engineer where required.

AUSSIETECTURE supplies natural stone cladding products and provides general installation guidance. Mechanical fixing design, anchor selection, structural calculations and certification remain the responsibility of the relevant project designer, engineer and installing contractor according to their respective scopes of work.

These guidelines do not replace project-specific engineering documentation, applicable Australian Standards or the fixing manufacturer's technical specifications.

ADHESIVE SELECTION & INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

General Requirements

All AUSSIETECTURE natural stone wall cladding must be installed using an adhesive system specifically suitable for the natural stone, supporting substrate, installation height and anticipated environmental conditions.

Adhesive selection and installation must comply with the applicable provisions of AS 3958:2023 – Installation of Ceramic and Stone Tiles, relevant Australian Standards, the National Construction Code where applicable, approved architectural and engineering documentation, and the adhesive manufacturer's current technical specifications.

AUSSIETECTURE recommends consulting LATICRETE Australia for the selection of suitable natural stone wall cladding adhesive systems.

All installations must be undertaken by appropriately qualified, experienced and, where legally required, licensed tradespeople familiar with natural stone cladding.

Adhesive Selection Criteria

Before selecting an adhesive, the installer must assess:

- Natural stone type, density, porosity and moisture sensitivity.
- Stone thickness, dimensions and individual piece weight.
- Substrate material, strength, stability and condition.
- Internal or external exposure.
- Installation height and wind loading.
- Required adhesive bed thickness and coverage.
- Thermal expansion and differential movement.
- Compatibility with waterproofing membranes, primers and other installation materials.
- Mechanical restraint and structural support requirements.

Adhesives must be expressly approved by the manufacturer for the intended natural stone cladding application.

LATICRETE Adhesive Options

The following LATICRETE products may be considered for suitable natural stone wall cladding installations, subject to confirmation of product limitations and project-specific requirements.

- **LATICRETE 335 Premium Flexible Adhesive:** A high-performance, polymer-modified cementitious adhesive suitable for specified natural stone wall installations over compatible concrete and masonry substrates. *May be considered for internal and external cladding applications where the stone dimensions, weight, substrate and installation height fall within the manufacturer's approved limitations.*

- **LATICRETE 254 Platinum Adhesive:** A premium, high-performance cementitious adhesive offering strong adhesion to suitable substrates. *May be considered for demanding natural stone wall cladding installations where approved by LATICRETE.*

- **LATICRETE 4237 Latex Additive with 211 Crete Filler Powder:** A specialist adhesive system identified by LATICRETE for suitable adhered masonry veneer and natural stone applications. *This system may be considered for certain natural stone wall cladding installations where its suitability has been confirmed for the stone dimensions, thickness, weight, substrate and environmental exposure. The system must be mixed and installed strictly in accordance with LATICRETE's technical requirements.*

- **LATAPOXY 300 Adhesive:** A specialist epoxy adhesive that may be considered for certain moisture-sensitive natural stones or other applications requiring epoxy bonding characteristics. *Use must be expressly approved by LATICRETE for the specific natural stone cladding installation.*

Substrate Compatibility

Natural stone wall cladding must be installed over a structurally sound, stable and appropriately prepared substrate.

Potential substrates include:
- Reinforced concrete.
- Structurally adequate concrete masonry.
- Suitable clay brick masonry.
- Other engineered and manufacturer-approved substrates.

Substrate suitability must be confirmed before installation.

Render, existing coatings, waterproofing membranes and other intermediate layers must not be assumed suitable for supporting adhered natural stone cladding without verification.

Where render is used, the complete render and adhesive system must be approved for the intended cladding weight and installation conditions.

Surface Preparation

Before applying adhesive:

- Ensure the substrate is clean, stable and free from dust, oil, laitance and contaminants.
- Remove loose material, unsuitable coatings and other substances that may affect adhesion.
- Confirm the substrate has adequately cured.
- Assess cracks, movement, moisture and surface irregularities.
- Apply approved primers or surface preparation treatments where required.
- Confirm the surface is suitable for the selected adhesive and required bed thickness.

Do not commence installation where substrate conditions may compromise adhesion or structural performance.

Adhesive Application and Coverage

Adhesives must be mixed and applied strictly in accordance with LATICRETE's current technical data sheets.

Use the specified mixing ratios, trowel size, adhesive thickness and application method.

Where required, apply adhesive to both the substrate and the back of the natural stone to achieve the specified coverage.

Lift and inspect representative stones during installation to verify adequate adhesive transfer and contact.

Avoid unsupported voids, particularly behind larger or heavier pieces.

Spot bonding or isolated adhesive dabs must not be used as a substitute for the specified full-contact adhesive installation system.

Irregular and Random Ashlar Wall Cladding

Irregular and random ashlar stone products may vary in thickness, dimensions, shape and individual piece weight.

The installer must account for these variations when selecting the adhesive and installation method.

Adhesive bed thickness must remain within the manufacturer's permitted range.

Where substantial thickness variation exists, suitable substrate preparation or an approved bedding system may be required. The installer must not use excessive adhesive thickness to compensate for unsuitable substrate levels or stone thickness variations.

Installation Height and Stone Weight

Adhesive-fixed natural stone cladding must be assessed according to installation height, stone weight, dimensions and exposure conditions.

There is no universal installation height at which adhesive fixing alone can automatically be considered suitable for all natural stone products.

For elevated, large-format or heavy cladding installations, the fixing system must be assessed by a suitably qualified structural engineer.

Where required, supplementary mechanical restraint or independent structural support must be incorporated.

Mechanical Fixing and Structural Support

Mechanical fixing systems, including specialist products supplied by Stone Clip, may be considered where required by the project design.

Mechanical fixings must be compatible with the stone thickness, dimensions and physical characteristics.

The fixing design must distinguish between components intended to support the stone's dead weight and those intended to provide lateral restraint.

Mechanical restraints must not be assumed to provide vertical load-bearing support unless expressly designed and certified for that purpose.

All mechanical fixing requirements must be determined by the relevant structural engineer and fixing system manufacturer.

Moisture Management and Waterproofing

Appropriate moisture management must be incorporated where required by the project design.

Moisture migration through substrates may contribute to efflorescence, staining, discolouration and deterioration of installation materials.

Where waterproofing membranes or moisture-control systems are specified, compatibility with the selected LATICRETE adhesive must be confirmed.

Waterproofing membranes must not automatically be considered vapour barriers.

The position and suitability of membranes must be determined by the relevant project designer and installation system manufacturer.

Movement and Expansion Joints

Movement joints must be incorporated in accordance with the applicable provisions of AS 3958:2023 and approved project documentation.

Existing structural movement joints must be accommodated through the natural stone cladding installation.

Movement joints must not be bridged with rigid adhesives, mortar or grout.

Flexible adhesives do not eliminate the need for correctly designed movement joints.

Adhesive Testing and Verification

Where required by the project engineer, designer or adhesive manufacturer, representative adhesion testing must be undertaken before full-scale installation.

Testing may include substrate bond testing, adhesive pull-off testing or other relevant verification methods.

Testing requirements and acceptance criteria must be established by the responsible project professional.

Adhesive test results must not be considered a substitute for structural engineering assessment where such assessment is required.

Installation Curing and Protection

Allow adhesives to cure in accordance with LATICRETE's current technical requirements. Protect newly installed cladding from excessive moisture, temperature extremes, vibration and premature loading. Temporary support or restraint must be provided where required to prevent movement during curing.

Do not remove temporary supports until the adhesive system has achieved the required strength.

Qualified Tradespeople and Engineering Instructions

All natural stone cladding must be installed by appropriately qualified and experienced tradespeople.

Installers must follow approved architectural drawings, engineering documentation, manufacturer specifications and applicable regulatory requirements.

Any uncertainty regarding adhesive selection, stone weight, substrate suitability, installation height or fixing requirements must be resolved before installation commences.

Changes to specified adhesive or fixing systems must not be undertaken without approval from the relevant project designer, engineer or manufacturer.

Technical References

For further technical guidance, refer to:

Laticrete: www.laticrete.com.au

Relevant product systems include:
- LATICRETE 335 Premium Flexible Adhesive.
- LATICRETE 254 Platinum Adhesive.
- LATICRETE 4237 Latex Additive with 211 Crete Filler Powder.
- LATAPOXY 300 Adhesive.
- LATICRETE technical guidance for adhered masonry veneer and natural stone cladding.

All product selections must be verified against current technical data sheets and project-specific requirements.

Installation Responsibility

AUSSIETECTURE provides general installation guidance to assist architects, builders, designers and installers.

These guidelines do not constitute structural engineering advice, project-specific installation certification or approval of a particular adhesive system.

The suitability of the substrate, adhesive, mechanical fixing arrangement and overall cladding system must be verified by the relevant qualified professionals.

Responsibility for installation workmanship, regulatory compliance and the selection of third-party installation products rests with the relevant parties according to their contractual and statutory obligations.

Nothing in these guidelines excludes or restricts rights or remedies that cannot lawfully be excluded under Australian Consumer Law.

Where uncertainty exists, obtain written technical advice from LATICRETE Australia or the relevant project professional before commencing installation.

GROUTING & POINTING GUIDELINES

General Requirements

All AUSSIETECTURE natural stone wall cladding must be grouted or pointed using materials suitable for the selected natural stone, joint dimensions, installation method and environmental exposure.

The selected grout or pointing mortar must be compatible with the stone, adhesive system, substrate and any specified waterproofing or sealing treatments.

AUSSIETECTURE recommends consulting LATICRETE Australia for technical advice regarding suitable grouting and pointing systems.

All work must be undertaken by appropriately qualified and experienced tradespeople familiar with natural stone wall cladding.

These guidelines provide general advice and must be read alongside applicable Australian Standards, approved project documentation and current manufacturer instructions.

Selecting the Appropriate Grout or Pointing Mortar

Before selecting a grouting or pointing product, consider:

- Natural stone type, porosity, colour and surface texture.
- Joint width, depth and variation.
- Irregular, random ashlar, colonial or linear cladding format.
- Internal or external exposure.
- Potential moisture movement and efflorescence.
- Installation height and structural movement.
- Compatibility with the adhesive and fixing system.
- Desired joint colour, texture and finish.
- Cleaning requirements and risk of surface staining.

Conventional tile grout and masonry pointing mortar are not interchangeable. The product selected must be suitable for the actual joint dimensions and intended application.

LATICRETE PERMACOLOR Grout

LATICRETE PERMACOLOR is a high-performance cementitious grout designed to provide consistent colour, improved stain resistance and durable grout joints.

The Australian product range includes PERMACOLOR Grout and PERMACOLOR New and Improved Grout.

These products may be considered for suitable natural stone wall cladding installations where joint widths are between 1.5 mm and 12 mm and the stone surface is compatible with the grouting and cleaning process.

Typical applications may include:
- Linear stone cladding with controlled joint widths.
- Precisely cut stone walling.
- Selected colonial and ashlar cladding installations.
- Internal and external wall cladding with joints within the manufacturer's specified limits.

PERMACOLOR must not be used beyond its approved joint width, depth or application limitations.

LATICRETE PERMACOLOR Select

LATICRETE PERMACOLOR Select is a high-performance cementitious grout system incorporating separate colour pigment packs.

It may be considered where consistent grout colour is an important design requirement.

The installer must verify that the selected product is suitable for the stone, joint dimensions and installation conditions.

A sample panel should be prepared to assess colour, texture, surface staining and cleaning performance before proceeding.

Wider Joints and Irregular Stone Cladding

AUSSIETECTURE irregular and random ashlar wall cladding may incorporate wider or variable-width joints.

Where joints exceed the limitations of conventional tile grouts, a suitable masonry pointing mortar must be selected.

LATICRETE's Masonry Veneer Installation System (MVIS) includes specialist pointing products intended for adhered masonry veneer applications.

The specific pointing mortar must be selected according to joint width, depth, stone porosity, environmental exposure and the manufacturer's technical requirements.

Not all MVIS pointing products are suitable for all joint widths. For example, MVIS Premium Pointing Mortar Base is identified for certain low-porosity veneer applications with joints under approximately 12.7 mm.

For wider joints, obtain confirmation from LATICRETE regarding an appropriate pointing mortar or compatible masonry mortar specification.

Do not extend a product beyond its stated joint width limitations by altering the mixing proportions or adding unauthorised materials.

Joint Preparation

Before grouting or pointing:

- Allow the stone adhesive or bedding mortar to cure as specified.
- Remove loose adhesive, mortar, dust and debris from joints.
- Confirm that the joints have adequate depth for the selected material.
- Ensure the stone is securely installed and free from movement.
- Check that movement joints remain unobstructed.
- Assess whether the stone requires an approved pre-grouting protective treatment.

Joint preparation must comply with the grout or pointing mortar manufacturer's instructions.

Grout and Pointing Application

Mix grout or pointing mortar strictly in accordance with the manufacturer's specified proportions and procedures.

Use clean tools and mixing equipment.

Do not add excessive water or unauthorised admixtures.

Apply the material using a method suitable for the stone surface and joint profile.

For rough or highly textured natural stone, a pointing bag or suitable jointing tool may help reduce contamination of the stone face.

Ensure joints are adequately filled and compacted, without excessive voids.

Do not rely on surface-only pointing where the installation design requires a deeper, fully packed joint.

The grout or pointing mortar must not be used to conceal inadequate adhesive bonding or defective stone installation.

Joint Profiles and Finishing

The selected joint profile should be established before installation and demonstrated on a representative sample panel.

Common finishes include:

Flush joints: Pointing finished approximately level with the surrounding stone edges, subject to the desired appearance and suitability of the stone profile.

Recessed joints: Pointing finished behind the stone face to emphasize the individual stone shapes.

Tooled joints: Pointing compacted and finished with a suitable jointing tool to achieve a consistent profile.

Joint profiles must be suitable for the intended exposure and must not create unnecessary water traps or compromise the durability of the installation.

Deeply recessed joints should be assessed carefully for external wall applications.

Colour Selection and Sample Panels

Grout colour can significantly influence the appearance of natural stone wall cladding.

Before commencing work, prepare a representative sample panel incorporating the selected stone, joint width, grout colour and finishing method.

Allow the sample to dry and cure sufficiently before assessing its final appearance.

Natural stone porosity, lighting, joint depth and installation techniques may influence the perceived grout colour.

Approval of the sample panel should be obtained from the relevant architect, designer or client where required by the project specification.

Surface Protection and Cleaning

Natural stone surfaces must be protected from excessive grout contamination during installation.

Particular care is required with porous, split-face, sandblasted and heavily textured sandstone or limestone.

Where appropriate, undertake a compatibility test using an approved pre-grouting protective treatment.

Remove excess grout in accordance with the manufacturer's specified cleaning procedure.

Do not allow cementitious grout or pointing mortar to harden unnecessarily on the stone surface.

Avoid excessive washing, which may affect joint strength, colour consistency or surface appearance.

Acidic cleaning products must not be used on limestone or other acid-sensitive stone.

Cleaning chemicals must be tested and approved for the specific natural stone and grout system.

Movement and Expansion Joints

Structural movement joints and designated movement accommodation joints must remain functional through the stone cladding installation.

Rigid grout or pointing mortar must not bridge these joints.

Where a flexible sealant is required, an appropriate product such as LATICRETE LATASIL may be considered, subject to confirmation of substrate compatibility, joint design, primer requirements and service conditions.

Movement joint locations, dimensions and sealant requirements must follow the approved project documentation and relevant manufacturer instructions.

Grout must not be relied upon to accommodate structural movement.

Moisture Management and Efflorescence

Natural stone and cementitious pointing materials may be affected by moisture migration and soluble salts.

To reduce the risk of efflorescence and moisture-related staining:

- Confirm that appropriate waterproofing and moisture-management provisions are incorporated.
- Prevent uncontrolled water entry behind the cladding.
- Use suitable materials and approved mixing procedures.
- Avoid excessive water during mixing and cleaning.
- Provide appropriate drainage and flashing details.
- Allow adequate curing before exposure to adverse conditions.

Grout and pointing mortar must not be considered waterproofing systems.

Curing and Protection

Allow grout and pointing mortar to cure in accordance with the manufacturer's technical requirements.

Protect newly completed joints from heavy rain, excessive moisture, temperature extremes and premature cleaning.

Do not apply sealers or protective treatments until the grout, pointing mortar and stone have reached the condition required by the relevant product manufacturers.

Engineering and Installation Responsibilities

All grouting and pointing work must be undertaken by appropriately qualified and experienced tradespeople.

Where the cladding forms part of an engineered installation, all works must comply with the approved engineering and architectural documentation.

The structural engineer or responsible project designer must determine any requirements for movement joints, drainage, restraint systems and other structural details.

Grout and pointing mortar are not substitutes for correctly designed adhesive bonding, mechanical restraint or structural support. Any departure from the specified installation system must be referred to the relevant project professional or product manufacturer before proceeding.

Technical References

For current technical information, refer to:

Laticrete: www.laticrete.com.au

Relevant products and technical resources include:

- LATICRETE PERMACOLOR Grout.
- LATICRETE PERMACOLOR New and Improved Grout.
- LATICRETE PERMACOLOR Select.
- LATICRETE Masonry Veneer Installation System (MVIS).
- LATICRETE MVIS pointing mortar products.
- LATICRETE LATASIL sealant.
- LATICRETE Grout Guide

FINAL CLEANING & POST-INSTALLATION CARE

General Requirements

Following installation and grouting, all AUSSIETECTURE natural stone surfaces must be thoroughly cleaned to remove construction dust, grout haze, adhesive residue and other installation-related contaminants.

Cleaning methods and products must be appropriate for the stone type, surface finish, grout system and installation conditions.

AUSSIETECTURE recommends the use of specialist natural stone cleaning products, including those manufactured by Aqua Mix Australia, in accordance with the manufacturer's current technical data sheets.

Initial Cleaning Following Installation

- Remove loose construction debris, dust and surface contaminants using a soft broom, brush or vacuum.
- Allow adhesives, bedding mortars and grouts to cure for the periods specified by their manufacturers before commencing final cleaning.
- Use clean water and suitable non-abrasive cleaning equipment for initial residue removal.
- Avoid excessive water saturation, particularly where bedding materials or grout have not fully cured.
- Do not allow cleaning solutions or contaminated rinse water to dry on the stone surface.
- Remove dirty cleaning solutions completely and rinse as directed by the cleaning product manufacturer.

Removal of Cementitious Grout Haze

Residual cementitious grout haze should be removed promptly using a cleaning method compatible with the natural stone.

Aqua Mix recommends non-acidic cleaning methods for acid-sensitive natural stone, including limestone and certain sandstones.

For light grout haze, Aqua Mix Grout Haze Clean-Up may be suitable where specifically approved for the stone finish.

For more persistent residue on acid-sensitive stone, Aqua Mix NanoScrub may be considered in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

All cleaning products must be tested on a representative sample before use.

Acidic cement and grout haze removers must not be used on limestone, marble, travertine or other acid-sensitive natural stone.

Removal of Epoxy Grout Residue

Epoxy grout residue requires specialist cleaning products and must be addressed within the timeframes specified by the grout manufacturer.

Aqua Mix Non-Cement Grout Haze Remover may be suitable for light epoxy grout haze on compatible natural stone surfaces.

For heavier or cured epoxy residue, Aqua Mix Sealer & Coating Remover may be considered following manufacturer approval and successful testing.

Excessive scrubbing, aggressive mechanical cleaning and unsuitable solvents must be avoided.

Final Wash and Surface Cleaning

Once installation materials have sufficiently cured and grout residue has been removed, the stone should receive a final clean using a suitable pH-neutral natural stone cleaner.

Aqua Mix Concentrated Stone & Tile Cleaner is a pH-neutral cleaning product formulated for natural stone, tile and grout surfaces.

The cleaner must be diluted and applied in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Cleaning should be undertaken using soft-bristle brushes, suitable non-abrasive pads or other approved equipment.

All contaminated cleaning water must be removed, and surfaces allowed to dry thoroughly.

Prohibited Cleaning Methods

Unless specifically approved in writing for the stone and application, the following cleaning methods must not be used:

- Hydrochloric acid, brick acid or acid-based cement removers.
- Aggressive high-pressure water blasting.
- Wire brushes, steel wool or abrasive grinding equipment.
- Highly concentrated alkaline or chemical cleaners.
- Cleaning products containing substances that may bleach, etch, stain or discolour natural stone.
- Cleaning methods that may damage grout joints, sealants or surface finishes.

Acidic cleaning products can permanently alter the appearance and texture of acid-sensitive natural stone.

Efflorescence and Mineral Deposits

Efflorescence may occur when moisture transports soluble salts through concrete substrates, bedding materials, grout or natural stone.

Where efflorescence is present, the source of moisture should be investigated before corrective cleaning is undertaken.

Aqua Mix Eff-Ex is a non-acidic efflorescence treatment that may be suitable for compatible natural stone installations. Cleaning alone may not prevent recurrence where underlying moisture migration remains unresolved.

Drying Prior to Sealing

Following final cleaning, natural stone must be allowed to dry sufficiently before applying any penetrating sealer or protective treatment.

Drying periods depend on stone porosity, substrate moisture, weather conditions, cleaning methods and the selected sealer.

Sealers must not be applied to excessively damp stone unless specifically permitted by the sealer manufacturer.

The installation must be inspected to ensure that grout haze, adhesive residue and other contaminants have been removed before sealing.

Cleaning Product Compatibility
Natural stone varies in mineral composition, porosity, density, surface texture and chemical sensitivity.

Cleaning products suitable for one stone type may not be appropriate for another.

Before commencing full-scale cleaning, the installer must complete a representative test area to confirm compatibility and the resulting appearance.

AUSSIETECTURE recommends obtaining technical advice from the cleaning product manufacturer where uncertainty exists.

Ongoing Maintenance
Following completion, natural stone should be maintained using pH-neutral cleaning products formulated for natural stone. Aqua Mix Concentrated Stone & Tile Cleaner is recommended as an example of a suitable routine maintenance cleaner, subject to stone and sealer compatibility.

Harsh acids, aggressive chemical cleaners and abrasive cleaning methods should be avoided.

Technical References and Responsibilities
For further technical guidance, refer to:

Aqua Mix: www.aquamix.com.au

Relevant products and resources include:
• Concentrated Stone & Tile Cleaner
• Grout Haze Clean-Up
• NanoScrub
• Non-Cement Grout Haze Remover
• Sealer & Coating Remover
• Eff-Ex Effloresence Remover
• Aqua Mix Technical Bulletins and Product Data Sheets

The installer is responsible for selecting suitable cleaning products, completing compatibility testing and following manufacturer instructions.

AUSSIETECTURE provides general cleaning guidance but does not assume responsibility for damage caused by unsuitable chemicals, incorrect cleaning methods or failure to follow product manufacturer requirements.

Aqua Mix Technical References
The wording above draws on Aqua Mix's published cleaning guidance, particularly its distinction between acid-resistant and acid-sensitive stone.

→ Aqua Mix – Grout Care and Cleaning Guidance
→ Aqua Mix – Product Technical Data Sheets
→ Aqua Mix – Removal of Cement or Grout Haze (PDF)

SEALING & PROTECTION GUIDELINES

General Requirements

AUSSIETECTURE recommends that natural stone paving, pool coping and other exposed stone surfaces be assessed for sealing to assist with protection against water absorption, staining and environmental contaminants. Where sealing is specified, a high-quality penetrating or impregnating sealer suitable for the particular natural stone and application is recommended.

All sealers must be selected and applied in accordance with the manufacturer's current technical data sheets, including requirements relating to substrate preparation, moisture content, application methods and curing periods.

AUSSIETECTURE recommends specialist natural stone sealing systems, including those manufactured by Aqua Mix Australia.

Selection of Suitable Sealers

The appropriate sealer must be selected according to stone type, porosity, surface finish, location and desired appearance.

Natural-Look Penetrating Sealers

Natural-look penetrating sealers are generally preferred where the original colour, texture and appearance of the stone are to be maintained.

Aqua Mix Sealer's Choice Gold is an example of a premium penetrating sealer formulated to provide stain resistance while maintaining the natural appearance of stone.

Aqua Mix Penetrating Sealer may also be suitable for porous sandstone, limestone and other compatible natural stone surfaces.

Colour-Enhancing Sealers

Where a darker or enriched stone appearance is desired, an appropriate enhancing sealer may be considered.

Aqua Mix Enrich'N'Seal is formulated to deepen and highlight the natural colour characteristics of suitable stone surfaces.

Enhancing sealers must be tested before use, as colour changes may be significant and difficult to reverse.

Surface Coatings

Film-forming or topical coatings are not generally recommended for external natural stone paving unless specifically approved for the application.

Such products may alter surface appearance, affect slip resistance or require additional maintenance.

Pre-Sealing Before Installation

Certain porous natural stones may benefit from pre-sealing before installation or grouting to minimise the risk of staining and assist with grout residue removal.

Aqua Mix ProBlock Pre Sealer is designed to help resist staining associated with water-soluble minerals and moisture migration, including picture framing and efflorescence-related effects.

Where specified, pre-sealing may include treatment of the stone's exposed face, edges or all six sides, provided the treatment is compatible with the selected adhesive and bedding system.

Pre-sealing must not interfere with adhesive bonding or the performance of the installation system.

Pre-sealers must not be considered substitutes for waterproofing membranes, vapour barriers or adequate drainage.

The use of pre-sealers must be confirmed with the stone supplier, adhesive manufacturer and sealer manufacturer before installation.

Surface Preparation Before Sealing

Before applying any sealer, the natural stone must be:

- Clean and free from construction dust, grout haze, adhesive residue and contaminants.
- Adequately dry in accordance with the sealer manufacturer's requirements.
- Free from incompatible existing coatings, waxes or sealers.
- Inspected for staining, efflorescence and moisture-related discolouration.

Sealers must not be applied to excessively damp or contaminated stone.

Newly installed paving must be allowed to cure and dry sufficiently before sealing. The required period will depend on the bedding system, grout, weather conditions and selected sealer.

A representative test area must be completed to confirm the desired appearance and product compatibility.

Sealer Application

Sealers must be applied strictly in accordance with the manufacturer's current instructions.

Aqua Mix recommends applying penetrating sealers using suitable applicators such as a paint pad, sponge, brush or approved sprayer.

The sealer must be distributed evenly and allowed to penetrate for the specified period.

Excess sealer must be removed before it dries on the surface.

Sealer must not be allowed to dry as a residue or film on the stone surface, as this may cause hazing, streaking, patchiness or discolouration.

Porous stone may require additional applications to achieve the intended level of protection.

Application rates, drying periods and the number of coats must be determined by the selected product and stone characteristics.

Sealing Pool Coping and Surrounds

Natural stone pool coping and surrounding paving are exposed to water, pool chemicals, sunlight and regular wetting and drying cycles.

A penetrating sealer specifically approved for external natural stone and swimming pool surrounds is recommended.

Aqua Mix Sealer's Choice Gold – Rapid Cure is identified by Aqua Mix as suitable for natural stone surrounding saltwater swimming pools.

The selected sealer must be compatible with the stone, grout, movement-joint sealants and anticipated pool-water exposure.

Sealers must not be used as substitutes for waterproofing, drainage or correctly designed movement joints.
For submerged stone installations, the sealer manufacturer's written approval must be obtained before application.

Moisture and Vapour Transmission

Natural stone and cementitious substrates may permit moisture and water vapour movement.

Where moisture migration is anticipated, the selected sealing system must be appropriate for the installation conditions.

Breathable penetrating sealers that permit moisture vapour transmission may be preferred where suitable.

However, sealing does not prevent rising damp, hydrostatic pressure or moisture migration through inadequately designed substrates.

Adequate drainage, waterproofing and vapour management must be addressed as part of the overall installation design.

Drying and Curing

Following application, sealed surfaces must be protected from water exposure, contamination and traffic for the period specified by the sealer manufacturer.

Curing times vary according to product formulation, temperature, humidity, stone porosity and ventilation.

Rain, pool water, irrigation and cleaning activities must be restricted until the selected sealer has achieved the required cure.

MAINTENANCE

Maintenance needs vary according to the stone, finish, location, exposure and level of use. Depending on these factors, ongoing care may involve regular cleaning, periodic resealing, or both. Use cleaning and sealing products specifically suited to the installed stone and follow their directions.

Contact Aussietecture to discuss a maintenance approach suited to the selected product and installation environment.

Important: This guide provides general installation guidance only and is not a substitute for project-specific design, professional advice, applicable Australian Standards or the current technical data sheets for the products used. The installer is responsible for confirming suitability of the substrate, materials, methods and site conditions before commencing work.

AUSSIETECTURE.COM.AU