



Quick and Easy Installation Instructions for Artistic Stone, Inc. ®

Artistic Stone is easy to install, even for the most inexperienced do it yourselfer. With **Artistic Stone** two persons can easily install up to 200 square feet of stone per day. Artistic Stone can beautify any interior or exterior structure regardless of age, size or application.

1) THE SURFACE*

Artistic Stone can be easily applied to any structurally sound surface without any wall ties, footing or structural supports. Install the stone directly to the surface of any clean (unsealed, unpainted or untreated) brick, concrete block, or other masonry surfaces.

2) ARTISTIC STONE AT GRADE LEVEL*

Artistic Stone recommendation for applying handcrafted stone veneer at grade level is for the stone veneer to be held above grade a minimum of 3". In regions where there is high accumulation of snow, flashing should be applied. In areas where stone veneer meets concrete (driveways, sidewalks, patios, etc.), if proper drainage allows water to drain away from the project, stone can be installed to come in contact with the concrete. If proper slope is not provided, installer should hold with the concrete. If proper slope is not provided, installer should hold stone veneer to a minimum of 1/2" off the concrete slab. Artistic Stone is not a load bearing product.

3) MEASURING YOUR PROJECT*

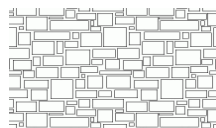
Square Footage (Stone):

- Multiply length times the height of each surface area.
- Deduct all open areas such as windows and doors.
- Deduct Corner Stone Area.

Linear Feet (Corners)

- Measures vertical height of wall or area.
- Use 3 - 4 bags of cement per 100 s/f
- Mix 7 - 8 shovels of sand to 1 bag of cement

4) DESIRED PATTERN



Before starting the project, it is helpful to preplan by organizing the loose stones in to the desired pattern. Lay out about 25 square feet on the floor near your work area. You'll want to achieve a balanced pattern of shapes, sizes and colors on the wall. Mix and select pieces from different boxes to ensure a better blend and a balanced appearance.

Visit www.artisticstone.com for other stone patterns.

5) SUBSURFACE PREPARATION*

Install over Concrete, masonry, Stucco, CMU, and other Masonry Surfaces



The lath is not required if the entire surface is cleared of any paint, waterproofed or Stucco coated product. Pressure wash and score the surface with a wire brush if necessary.

Installing over wood or other Framing (Plywood, Paneling, Wallboard etc.)



On wood surfaces & Gypsum board, cover sheathing with a weather resistant barrier (breather type) of waterproof building paper in 4" shingle fashion. Expand metal lath using galvanized nails or staples every 4-6 inches on center horizontally penetrating the stud by a minimum of 1 inch", hitting the studs whenever possible. Metal lath must be overlap at vertical and horizontal joints. The metal lath should be applied so that it is smooth to the touch going up, and rough to the touch coming down. The rougher texture provides a better hold for the mortar and cement.

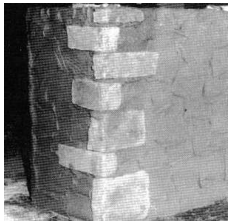
Remember that it is difficult to apply stone to loose lath so keep it tight and wrinkle free.

6) APPLYING MORTAR AND INSTALLING ARTISTIC STONE®*



MORTAR

Type S Premix Mortar is recommended with type 1 Portland cement added if desired. Mix mortar with just enough water for a workable moist consistency. Apply ½" scratch coat by spreading a thin coat of mortar over the lath. Allow mortar to cure for a minimum of 12 hrs before applying the manufactured stone. It is recommended that mortar color be chosen that compliments the darkest stone color. This can be obtained by adding iron oxide to the mixture. Mortar color dramatically affects overall appearance.



CORNER STONES

First apply corner stones. Corner stones have one long and one short side. Alternate sides in opposite manner in application. Using a mason's trowel, coat the back of the stone with ½" thick layer of mortar. Press stone firmly into place with a gentle wiggling motion to promote bonding. The mortar on the back of the stone should squeeze out and surround the stone.



APPLYING MORTAR

Install stones starting from the top of the wall and working downward. By starting at the top you avoid dripping mortar onto stone areas below. Using a mason's trowel, coat the back of the stone with ½" thick layer of mortar. Always wiggle the stone gently yet pressing firmly into place. Clean off the excess with a margin trowel. If mortar accidentally gets in the stone face, do not wipe it off with water, which will cause it to smear and stain the surface: instead, allow the mortar to dry and then brush it off with a dry whisk broom.

- Keep in mind an average of 5% waste on projects due to cutting and trimming.

7) SIZING AND SHAPING



TRIMMING

Some stone pieces may need to be cut and shaped to fit installations or maintain uniform joints. The most precise cuts are obtained with a diamond blade using a circular saw resulting in a more finished look. A hatchet can be used or use wide-mouth nippers, similar to those used for tile work. We recommend you turn any cut edges away from view. Always use safety glasses and dusk mask when trimming and cutting.



GROUTING

After stone has set, grout joints with mortar using a grout bag. Grout finishing is often the most labor-intensive part of stone installation. After about 30-60 minutes when mortar has become brittle, mortar smears should be removed using a dry stiff brush or whiskbroom. If using a traditional recessed grout line, point the joints with a stick or pointing tool. Do not use a brush on wet grout to clean smears as it will stain the stone permanently.

CLEANING

With time the stone may become dirty. This dirt may be removed by using a strong solution of soap or detergent and water with a bristle brush. Do not use wire brush as it will cause damage to the surface. Do not clean stone with acid or acid based products. Pressure washing is not recommended by Artistic Stone, Inc.

Artistic Stone® goes to additional steps to ensure the highest quality product. We add a latex type product and other polymers in our mix during the manufacturing process. This gives the stone inherent water-repellent properties from the inside out.



ARTISTIC STONE, INC.

Specializing in Lightweight Hand-Crafted Stone.

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