Installation Guide for Natural Stone on Mesh

(Exterior and Interior Installation)

Important Notes

Several Impex Stone natural stone models can be installed both indoors and outdoors, provided that the standards of the National Building Code or any other applicable regulations are followed. Installation must comply with CSA A371 - Masonry as well as the requirements of the applicable building code.

Definition of a natural stone on mesh: Stones preassembled on galvanized metal mesh.
If your product does not fall within this definition, please consult the appropriate guide.
Although rare, some stones may oxidize if they are constantly exposed to moisture. To reduce the effects, a sealer may delay or lessen this phenomenon. Impex Stone cannot under any circumstances be held responsible for this natural process.

Before proceeding with product installation, the installer and the owner must ensure that the wall meets the conditions specified in this document. The installer and the purchaser are responsible for inspecting the products upon receipt of the merchandise. If the installer has doubts about product selection, manufacturing or finishing quality and cannot place the product in a less visible location or eliminate the imperfection, the product must not be installed. Once the product has been installed, it is considered accepted by the installer and the owner, even if the owner is absent at the time of installation.

The consumer is responsible for ensuring that the product is designed for the intended use. Again, if you have any doubts or questions, contact our Customer Service Department. Since Impex Stone has no control over proper surface preparation, the application method, or the installer's skill, no warranty of results, express or implied, is offered.

Step 1 - Required Tools

In preparation for installation, make sure you have the following tools:

Saw with diamond blade	Bucket	Safety glasses
Jointing tool	Sponge	Measuring tape
Level	Chalk line	Mask
Mortar bag, if needed	Joint brush	Straight trowel

Step 2 - Adhesive Products and Joints

The recommended adhesive for exterior installation is Mason Bond 400.
The recommended adhesive for interior installation is LTC.
For the use of any other adhesive product, refer to the mortar manufacturer's technical data sheet before installation.
If desired, the recommended mortar for filling the open spaces between the stones is Type N-1-16 mortar.

Step 3 - Surface Preparation

Surface preparation is an essential step. Most problems attributed to natural stone are actually caused by inadequate surface preparation.
The surface must be porous, clean, uniform, and free of dust, dirt, oil, soot, wax, mould, powder, flaking, etc.

■ Note - Galvanized Lath

The term galvanized metal lath may be mentioned at certain steps. Installing galvanized lath ALWAYS means that the lath must be installed with the sheets overlapping by approximately 2 in. Fasteners must pass through the substrate and be securely anchored into the structure.
The lath must be filled with adhesive to create the scratch coat. This lath will require an additional amount of adhesive when ordering. Calculate 30 sq. ft. per bag to fill the lath.
These steps are always required when installing lath, even if the guide does not mention them.

Step 3a - Surface Preparation - Exterior

For exterior installation - Lightweight concrete:
The recommended installation is over lightweight concrete panels, such as DuROCK® or PermaBASE®.
Installation of galvanized metal lath is mandatory.
A maximum of 4 feet per day may be installed, unless anchoring is used during installation.
For exterior installation - Insulated concrete forms:
For any exterior installation of this product over insulated concrete forms (ICF), refer to the manufacturer for the required preparations before installing the lath.
Installation of galvanized metal lath is mandatory.
For any other alternative solution, refer to the building code, an engineer, or an architect.

Step 3b - Surface Preparation - Interior

For interior installation:
The recommended installation is over lightweight concrete panels, such as DuROCK® or PermaBASE®.
Metal lath is not mandatory over lightweight concrete sheets.
For an installation up to a maximum height of 4 feet, installation may also be carried out over gypsum panels with galvanized lath.
For heights greater than 4 feet, installation must be carried out over lightweight concrete.

As an alternative, a plywood panel may be considered, but it requires the installation of asphalt paper followed by metal lath for any height.
Refer to the National Building Code or any other applicable regulations.

Step 4 - Mortar Preparation

Quantity calculation:
For exterior and interior installation, one bag of adhesive (Mason Bond or LTC) can cover 30 square feet using the recommended tools.
To fill the galvanized lath, calculate 30 square feet per bag.

Mixing:
Follow the instructions indicated on the product packaging.

Important note:
- With an electric mixer, mix for at least 3 to 5 minutes; 5 to 7 minutes if mixing manually.
- Let the mixture rest for 5 minutes, mix again for 30 seconds, and the mixture is ready to use.

Step 5 - Stone Installation

1. Open and mix pieces from several boxes to obtain a good selection of colours and shapes.
2. In a clean bucket, prepare the adhesive according to the manufacturer's instructions.
3. If cuts are required, dip the cut stone in a bucket of water to remove any dust or cutting residue that may be present.
4. Stone installation requires double bonding, meaning that adhesive must be applied both to the wall and to the stone. Use a straight trowel to apply the adhesive to the wall and to the stone. On the stone, apply the mortar while making sure that the mortar penetrates between the stones to fill the empty spaces and make the stone watertight. It is important to pay special attention to this step to prevent water infiltration behind the stone once it is installed on the wall.
5. Place the stone on the wall, applying sufficient pressure so that the stone adheres firmly, and ensure perfect contact between the stone and the wall. Apply to a maximum area of 15 square feet at a time to prevent the adhesive from hardening too quickly on the wall.
6. Begin installation from the bottom. If corners are required, start with them.
7. Allow to dry.

Important: Take the necessary precautions to avoid spreading adhesive on the stones. If mortar gets on the stone, wait 15 to 20 minutes before removing it with a dry cloth. Do not use water, as this will only spread the mortar.

Step 6 - Applying Mortar to Fill the Front Gaps (Optional)

If desired, the following day, mortar for the joints may be applied according to the following steps:

1. In a clean bucket, prepare King 1-1-6 mortar according to the manufacturer's instructions. Mix thoroughly and evenly.
2. Fill the mortar bag using a trowel.
3. Align the tip of the mortar bag with the joint and twist the bag. The mortar will be forced between the stones to form the joint.

Important: Take the necessary precautions to avoid spreading mortar on the stones. If mortar gets on the stone, wait 15 to 20 minutes before wiping the mortar with a dry cloth.

4. After applying the mortar, wait 20 to 40 minutes (depending on the ambient temperature), then scrape the joints with a jointing tool. Important: Do not wait until the next day.
5. Allow to dry.

Important: Take the necessary precautions to avoid spreading mortar on the stones. If mortar gets on the stone, wait 15 to 20 minutes before removing it with a dry cloth. Do not use water, as this will only spread the mortar.

Warranty

Impex Stone Inc. products are covered by a limited 10-year warranty from the date of purchase (proof required) when they are installed in compliance with the standards of the National Building Code and the installation instructions contained in the manufacturer's product specifications. The original invoice from the authorized distributor must be provided.

The warranty does not cover damage resulting from:

- Improper installation.
- Wall movement caused by soil settlement or otherwise.
- Contact with chemicals, paint, or other substances.
- Discolouration caused by atmospheric pollutants, water, or abrasion.
- Natural staining and oxidation or discolouration caused by an external agent or abrasion.

The warranty covers only defective Impex Stone Inc. materials (labour not included) and is limited to the original purchaser.

Installation Recommendation

Layout of Natural Stone Modules on Mesh

Impex Stone recommends, when desired, a staggered installation of the modules to avoid the formation of continuous straight lines and to achieve a more natural and balanced visual appearance. This layout is provided as a recommendation only; the final choice of pattern and appearance remains at the customer's discretion.

• Continuous layout

Example of a layout creating more regular and continuous lines.

• Staggered layout

Example of a layout that helps reduce continuous straight lines.

Important: The staggered layout is Impex Stone's general recommendation to achieve a more natural result and limit continuous lines. This recommendation is for guidance only, and the customer may choose another layout according to the desired appearance.

The images shown in this installation guide are provided as examples only and do not necessarily represent a result completed by Impex Stone. The visible spaces between the pieces are intended solely to illustrate the recommended layout. The final result may vary depending on the installation method, adjustments, cuts, and the work performed by each installer or customer.