



## **INFORMATION & GUIDELINES FOR THE INSTALLATION OF HAISA MARBLE MOSAICS**

### **RECOMMENDED INSTALLATION**

With unique pattern variations and color depth rivaling the most vibrant artist's palette, SOLISTONE Haisa Marble bring classical elegance to any environment. The distinctive veining and refined polished finish makes a beautiful impression on floors and walls in foyers, bathrooms, kitchens, dining rooms, and anywhere you want to make a statement.

**NOTE:** this document contains only guidelines for the installation process. A professional installer should always be consulted to discuss the specific parameters surrounding your project.

### **CURVED SURFACES**

Haisa Marble mosaics can be installed around gently curved surfaces. Some manipulation of the tiles may be required in order to create uniformity between each sheet.

### **SUBSTRATES**

All substrates should be firmly fixed, flat, clean, dry and free of contaminants such as dust, oil, paint, sealers etc. to ensure proper adhesion. Painted surfaces must be scuffed or sanded for the product and adhesive to bond correctly. Wet areas need special attention and require appropriate substrates, e.g. concrete, cement boards (compressed sheet), and/or treated plywood. The use of reinforced waterproof membranes is suggested, and in the case of floors, a fall to the drainage point of no less than two inches.

### **WATERPROOF MEMBRANES**

Waterproof membranes prevent leakage of water through to the sub-floor framing and/or habitable spaces below. Particular attention must be paid to: carrying the membrane up the wall, outside shower boxes, installation of bond breakers, and sealing around penetrations. It is strongly recommended that membrane systems be used in all wet areas. Some systems may involve the use of a primer.

### **CUTTING**

All cuts to SOLISTONE Haisa Marble tiles can be made with a wet saw using a diamond blade. The mesh backing can be easily cut with a utility knife. Some individual mosaic pieces may need to be removed and replaced by hand to make the installation look more seamless. For certain applications, cuts may not be necessary.

### **ADHESIVE**

Follow the adhesive manufacturer's instructions carefully. We do not recommend one brand of adhesive over another. Please check with your local tile supply store for alternative and comparable products.

The manufacturer's literature will explain if the adhesive product is suitable for interiors and/or exteriors, as well as walls and floors. Most thinset mortars (multi purpose and polymer modified



thinsets) are adequate for installing natural stones. A cement-based adhesive is generally suitable on masonry substrates where no movement is anticipated. Where slight movement could occur through thermal or pedestrian loads, a modified cement adhesive should be used as a minimum. A bonding agent is recommended for larger heavier stones.

It is very important that each stone is embedded in the adhesive. To make sure there is 100% coverage, you can tap the stones into the adhesive with a rubber mallet. If using these tiles in a wet application and the back of the tile has nylon mesh glued to it, it is recommended that you lightly score the back of the tiles diagonally in a grid pattern with a masonry grinder. Stay 1/4" away from the perimeter edge of the tile when doing this. In addition, it will be necessary to back-butter the product with the flat edge of a trowel. This process will ensure that each individual sheet will adhere to the surface and guarantee longevity of the product in a wet application.

## **GROUTING**

If you are doing a butt-joint installation, as we recommend for the split face mosaics, grout may not be necessary. Grout should be designed for external or internal conditions whichever may be the case. If you are leaving a grout joint 1/8" or smaller, non-sanded grout is recommended.

Grout should be suitable for joints up to 3/4" in width and designed for external or internal conditions whichever may be the case. Sanded grout is generally recommended for any grout joint larger than 1/8". Grouts are ordinarily a water mix but where some flexibility may be needed, a latex additive or similar product should be used. It is important to wait the interval recommended by the adhesive manufacturer before grouting to minimize dirt ingress between the individual mosaics and avoid the opportunity for dislodging of the mosaic pieces.

## **SEALANTS**

To bring your application to its full potential, we suggest sealing BEFORE and AFTER grouting. There are various products available on the market, however, we recommend contacting your nearest tile supplier for the most appropriate sealer for your application. You can change the look and color of the stones depending on the sealer you select ranging from color enhancement, to different levels of gloss finishes, or just leaving them natural. Whenever using sealants and acids, please ensure that you follow the manufacturer's recommended method of application.

## **CARE & CLEANING**

SOLISTONE Haisa Marble mosaics must be regularly cleaned and maintained to extend the life and beauty of the tile. The tiles can be cleaned with a neutral mild detergent, or a PH neutral cleaner. Staining may occur if the tile is left unsealed. Consequently, any spills should be cleaned quickly to lessen the degree of the stain. For tiles in high traffic areas keep surfaces clean from abrasive dirt. Do not use abrasive cleaners, powders, scouring pads, steel wool or sandpaper. Do not let soap, bleach or other cleaning solutions set on the surface.