

This information should be considered to be informal and non-binding. The products must be used according to local conditions and materials. Instructions must be read carefully and followed closely. Where no previous experience is available, or in cases of doubt, test the product in an inconspicuous area.

PLASTER BOARDS



Plasterboard that has not been skim-coated with a finish coat of plaster will take most 10 and 12mm stones (32kg/m^2 approx). In these cases the paper face of the board should be primed with ibotac and the tiles fixed with stoneset adhesives.

- This is a very common substrate
- It can only be used in dry locations
- **Tanking will be required in wet areas.**
- **Tile weight must not exceed 32 kg/m².**

PLASTERED WALLS

These are not deemed suitable substrates as they do not have the weight bearing capacity required for stone tiles due to the risk of loss of adhesion between plaster and background. If the underlying substrate is capable of supporting the installed load then backer-board, plasterboard or plywood should be suitably primed, where necessary, and then screw fixed to apply the stone tiles.

n.b. although this background is not suitable for natural stone, some ceramic wall tiles can be applied. If you are fixing ceramic tiles please read the following information:



- The most common interior wall substrate
- Surface texture is variable – can be anywhere from dusty to very highly polished. Code of practice says it must have a finishing coat.
- Gypsum plaster is a relatively weak material and is unable to withstand water.
- Polished plaster needs to have the surface broken.
- Any loose dust needs to be removed.
- Priming normally helps.
- **If a cement-based adhesive i.e. any stoneset adhesive is to be used, priming with ibotac is mandatory.**
- **Max load carrying capacity is 20 kg/m².**
- **Tanking may be required for power showers etc.**

RENDERED WALLS



This is a good vertical base for fixing stone tiles up to a thickness of 15mm (38 kg/m² approx) with a maximum fixing height of 3.6 metres with stoneset adhesives. To accommodate 20mm thick stone (50 kg/m² approx) the render must be reinforced with stainless steel EML or similar. New renders need a minimum of two weeks to dry out.

- Ideal background.
- 1:3 or 4 cement / sand with the strong coat to the wall, working out to the weaker coat.
- The most common finish is the wood float finish which brings the sand to the surface.
- Allow 21 days drying time.
- If using a quickset cement allow 24 hours drying time.

EXISTING TILES

- Check that the existing tiles are fit securely with no hollow voids by tapping the surface.
- The surface must be clean, dry & free from dust dirt etc.
- Above 3m it is recommended to remove the existing tiles & make good before doing any tiling.
- It is unwise to over tile with large tiles as they are a lot thicker.
- Drying time will be delayed.
- Remember, that if the tiles are adhered to a plastered wall, that tiling onto these with natural stone will exceed the load bearing capacity of 20kg/m²

PAINTED WALLS

- Do not tile onto emulsion painted surfaces.
- Always sound the strength of any other paints by using a high bonded carpet tape.
- Wash down surface to remove any grease & dry.
- Lightly abraise the surface and remove all dust.
- Drying time will be delayed
- Remember, that if the painted wall is a plastered wall, that tiling onto these with natural stone will exceed the load bearing capacity of 20kg/m²

BLOCK WORK

- Allow 6 weeks before tiling onto new block work.
- The surface must be flat.
- Lightweight block needs priming with hi-flex.
- Tiling over 3m from the ground should be mechanically restrained

TIMBER WALLS-PLYWOOD

- Ensure that the boards are WBP grade.
- It is to be rigidly supported.
- Prime the back and edges of the boards and allow to dry.
- Weight of tiling.

18mm exterior grade WBP plywood can be used and should be sealed on all sides/faces with ibotac before suitably batten fixed with vertical and horizontal wooden supports at 300mm centres and crewed firmly at all joints and edges.

MOVEMENT JOINTS IN WALLS

- All existing movement joints in the base substrate must be carried through to the finished surface with a surface movement joint positioned directly over background or plane changes within the substrate.
- Intermediate movement joints should be placed vertically at 4 metre centres and at internal corners and columns, etc.
- Horizontal movement joints should be positioned at floor and ceiling positions.