



STONEPLY

real stone • real strong • real thin

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StonePly Floors Installation Guidelines

Proper installation is the responsibility of the Owner and Installer.

- StonePly is a natural stone bonded to a composite backing. It is installed with flooring adhesive (either urethane or epoxy). It is *not* intended to be installed with cement based products, mortar or thin-set.
- Stone is a product of nature and therefore variations, veins, minor chips and fissures are to be expected.
- Only a qualified professional floor installer should perform your StonePly Stone Floor installation.
- While every installation is different, following these guidelines will help to ensure the proper installation of your new StonePly Stone Floor.

Product Inspection

Before installation proceeds the owner/purchaser should compare the stone received against the approved sample to verify that it is the expected product and that any variations are acceptable. **Installation or use constitutes full and final acceptance.**

Before installing, the installer and owner should verify that the jobsite and the sub floor meet all StonePly Floors installation requirements as outlined here. StonePly flooring derives its support from the subfloor and must be fully adhered to a flat, smooth, continuous, rigid subfloor with no high or low spots.

As with most thin sheet type materials some bowing is to be expected in the StonePly panels prior to installation. The installer will need to glue and press the panels flat in place until the adhesive dries. Ensure you have adequate weights, braces or hold downs before installation begins.

Handling

Care should be taken when handling panels to avoid breakage, chipping, damage or scratching of the stone face. When loading and unloading, sheets should be lifted, not slid. Individual sheets should be carried on edge, with the stone face towards the body. Large sheets should always be handled by two or more people.

Storage

Panels should preferably be stored face to face, with foam sheet between faces, flat in horizontal racks. The use of a cover board for covering the top panel and keeping it flat is recommended. Where horizontal storage is not possible, panels can be stacked on edge in slightly inclined vertical racks with support over the entire surface area. The recommended angle for such racks is approximately 80° from the horizontal.

Panels should always be kept in an enclosed dry storage area, along with corresponding substrate materials and adhesives, at a temperature of not less than 18°C (65°F). When materials are brought into an area where temperatures or humidity levels are different from ambient (e.g. after delivery), they should be allowed to stabilize before installation.

Installation Tools Needed

Each project is different, but generally the tools needed for installation are: Wet power saw with diamond blade, tape measure, pencil, chalk line, plastic spacers, tapping block, adhesive trowel, carpenters square, weights or braces to press the flooring flat, urethane or polymer flooring adhesive.

Pre-Installation and Jobsite Requirements

All issues involving the subfloor, water or moisture should be resolved prior to the installation of StonePly stone flooring. The flooring should be one of the last items installed. If you are installing a StonePly floor over concrete, make sure the concrete is sound, clean, dry and has no sealer.

Subfloors

The quality and preparation of the subfloor is important in installing your StonePly stone floors. Acceptable subfloor types include plywood and concrete. The subfloors must be structurally sound, clean and free of all debris, wax, grease, paint, sealers, and old adhesives and other substances which may impair proper installation. Subfloors should be rigid, smooth and flat, with no voids or low spots. A smooth flat rigid subfloor is needed to ensure a continuous support and bond between the floor and subfloor and to prevent any transfer of defects (commonly known as telegraphing) through the StonePly flooring.

Glue Down Installation

Always dry fit the floor first, to ensure all parts fit and layout is accurate.

Use only high quality flooring adhesive recommended for composite materials.

Follow instructions for the adhesive carefully.

When needed, use weights, braces or straps to hold the flooring flat and in full contact with the adhesive until the adhesive cures.

Do not allow any spilled or excess adhesive anywhere on the surface of the stone floor.

Finishing the Job

Remove expansion spacers. Reinstall base and/or quarter round moldings to cover the expansion space. Do not allow any foot traffic or heavy furniture for at least 24 hours. Do not leave masking tape or any other high tack tapes on your newly installed floor for an extended period of time. If masking tape must be used, it should be removed from the floor on daily basis to avoid damaging the finish. Clean and remove all dirt and debris from floor by dust mopping. Apply stone sealer/ protector as selected. The finished floor should be treated appropriately to the stone type selected.

Important Note

All information presented is given subject to StonePly's current Terms and Conditions of Sale. This information is only a general guide to good practice and constitutes no form of warranty or representation as to fitness for purpose in respect of the products and processes described. Since all projects are different, the installer should satisfy themselves that the install method they use is appropriate to the site conditions. The company reserves the right to change specification at any time without prior notice.

Notice: StonePly can't anticipate every possible potential hazard during the installation of our products. Warnings and instructions in this guide are therefore not all-inclusive. The installer should satisfy themselves that the tool procedure or system they are using for the installation is safe and meets all building codes and safety requirements. Because each home or building is different, installation will vary slightly from unit to unit.

Lifting Hazard

While StonePly panels are much lighter than solid slab stones, they can still be heavy. Keep in mind the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health recommends maximum safe-lifting weight of 51 pounds when all lifting conditions are perfect. In order to avoid injuring yourself, always use proper lifting techniques and use two people to move cartons and panels that weigh more than 51 pounds. Always carry panels on edge.

Slipping Hazard

Do not attempt to install this product if the floor or the surfaces are wet. You should dry all surfaces prior to installation. Stone floors can be slick, especially if wet or waxy. Avoid use of wax. If installing in areas where the floor may become wet, take precautions to avoid slipping and to protect the public from slipping.

Dust Hazard

When cutting or drilling the StonePly panels, use a dust collection method which will prevent dust from going into the air. Always work at a well-ventilated area. It's best to take the panels outside for cutting,

drilling or sanding. Some stones, especially granites, contain silica. During cutting or grinding operations silica can become respirable silica dust which, if inhaled can lead to a condition known as silicosis.

When Cutting

1. Take panels outdoors if possible or, if you must cut indoors only cut in a well-ventilated area.
2. Position cutting location so that wind will blow dust away from user and others in working area.
3. Use a wet blade stone saw or use a dust reducing circular saw equipped with a diamond blade and HEPA vacuum extraction.

NIOSH-approved respirators can be used in conjunction with above cutting practices to further reduce dust exposures. If concern still exists about exposure levels or you do not comply with the above practices, you should always consult a qualified industrial hygienist.