



## GUIDE TO THE INSTALLATION OF STONE FLOORING

**Earth Wood and Stone** select their range of **Natural Stone Flooring and Walling** for its colour, character, durability and suitability for a wide range of applications. It's individual and natural variation in colour, surfaces and textures, makes every installation unique. This variation should be allowed for, and care taken to ensure that it is used to its best advantage, whilst being aware that colours and texture can vary, even within the same quarry and seams.

We recommend the opening of boxes and containers, to mix and dry lay to ensure an even look to the finished surfaces.

Careful installation with the correct materials is essential as stone floors are designed to last for decades or even centuries. To achieve the correct appearance and durability, only suitable **Weber** cement based adhesive and grouts can be used in accordance with following guide.

We recommend that if any other method or materials are to be used that the installer provides the details in writing to both the end user and **Earth Wood and Stone** for assessment as to its technical suitability.

### PRE-INSTALLATION

A basic requirement for any stone or tile flooring is structural stability and integrity. Concrete and other hard surfaces must be sound, clean and level with a flatness suitable for the size of tile installed.

Timber floors must be structurally rigid and capable of supporting the additional load of a natural stone floor. Fixing 18mm exterior grade WBP plywood by screwing and gluing, using **Adesivil D3 or any PVA** to existing floorboards can provide the support required. We recommend that reference is made to a qualified installer or engineer to ensure that the floor is structurally suitable.

For repairs or leveling concrete surfaces the **Weber** range of products must be used in conjunction with the **Weber** adhesive/grouting systems.

The **Weber** range is stocked by **Earth Wood and Stone** to cover all installation demands.

An allowance of 5-10% should be made for wastage when measuring quantities required. Tiles must be clean and dry before installation. It is advisable to open and shuffle all stone to achieve an even mix. Uncalibrated tiles should be carefully inspected and allowance made during installation. Sizes are nominal, and allowance must be made for variation of natural products.

Expansion joints should be installed in accordance with structural requirements.

At doorways, room intersections, etc., thresholds or other forms of 'breaks', with an allowance for movement should be installed.

Concrete, Tile, Brick, Screed and similar hard surfaces must be clean, sound, and even, with repairs made to cracks, holes, damage etc, using **Nivorapid Mortar**. Add **AD250** to increase flexibility. The

area should be primed with **Weber PR301** prior to application of leveling compounds. Wood, and absorbent/ porous surfaces should be primed with **Weber PR301**.

Leveling of an uneven surface should be carried out using **Nivtop**, or a similar leveling compound. As a polymer-modified material it is suitable for underfloor heating systems.

Timber floors must be of sufficient strength and rigidity as detailed on page one and must be primed with **Weber PR301**.

Studwork with plaster board or plywood finish should be treated as for timber floors. Where ever possible walls should be left as render or unplastered boards, using the **Weber PR301**. Where plaster is present the area should be mechanically keyed prior to primer. Care should be taken to ensure that wall surfaces have sufficient strength to accept the loading of the stone covering.

## PRE-INSTALLATION CHECKLIST

If EWS is installing your stone, then please ensure the EWS pre-installation checklist sheet, which will be provided by the EWS installer, is completed and signed before work commences.

If you are laying the stone yourself or have arranged for an outside installer to lay your stone, please do the following prior to laying to ensure you are happy with the stone.

- Open boxes and containers of stone, mix and dry-lay a sample area of stone
- Wet the stone to check you are happy with the colour, texture, shape and edging (round, bevel etc) of the stone as it will appear after sealing

To ensure that you are satisfied with your new floor, we recommend you agree the following with your installer:

- Bond of tiles, joint size and grout colour
- Direction the stone is to be laid
- Details of thresholds including: widths, shapes, sizes, positioning
- Details of skirting, e.g. undercut, trimmed, removed and replaced etc
- The final finish e.g. H.G./ Stainstop / Stonewax, etc

## INSTALLATION

Adhesive choice is dependant on the need for speed, flexibility or underfloor heating or a combination of conditions, together with stone size. For all standard installations to concrete or sand/cement screeds, **Weberset WF** can be used in Grey or White. White for light/pale stone, terracotta (to avoid staining) and porcelain tiles, and grey for darker stones such as slate. **Weberset SPF** should be used for vertical applications, stud walls, wood floors, underfloor heating and for porcelain tiles and all areas where high performance is needed.

Use a notched trowel to achieve a bed of thickness of 3-6mm. Large or uncalibrated tiles such as slate will consume more adhesive than normal.

Leave appropriate clearance joints for grouting, and carefully clean off any excess adhesive from the tiles with a damp cloth or sponge, before it sets.

The tiles should be cleaned after installation and allowed to dry completely before applying one coat of **Seal-Guard Impregnator**. In the case of terracotta pampments they should be sealed with boiled linseed oil:white spirit 80%:20% applied to saturation point by brush or roller and left over night.

Leave for at least 24hrs before grouting, longer is required at lower temperatures.

The **Weber Stoneset** range of grouts is the finest available for durability and consistency. The colours range from Blue to Pink, and are fully flexible, and suitable for interior and exterior use.

Finally the floor will need to be sealed to protect your new floor from staining and marking. **Seal-Guard Impregnator** should be applied in 2 coats. The first coat should be applied before grouting the tiles, the second, to encapsulate the grouting. For maintenance, **Filasatin Stonewax** can be used in water for quick 'squeegee' application.

For Terracotta further coats of boiled linseed oil/white spirit should be applied to the tiles and grout until absorption is complete. After 3 days **Seal-Guard Impregnator** can be applied.

We offer a full site survey to provide a detailed written Specification at no cost and it is recommended for all installations when using the Earth Wood & Stone range of flooring materials.

Any alternative materials or methods should be detailed in writing by the installers for approval by the customer, or our company's Technical Department, to guarantee a successful installation.