



STONEPLY

real stone • real strong • real thin

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Installing StonePly Counters

General

Proper installation is the responsibility of the Owner and Installer.

Installers should be craftsmen with construction experience. Installers should read the instructions. Follow all OSHA and other safety requirements. StonePly panels are a finished natural stone product. Use care to protect them during installation. While every installation is different, following these guidelines will help to ensure the proper installation of your new StonePly panels.

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 substrate meet all StonePly installation requirements as outlined here. As with most thin sheet type materials some bowing is to be expected in the StonePly panels prior to installation.

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, and 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.

Panels should be fully supported on a flat plane lined with foam, carpet or similar while installing z-clips onto backs of panels.

Storage

Panels should preferably be stored face to face, with foam sheet between faces, flat in horizontal racks in a clean dry area. The use of a cover board for covering the top panel and keeping it flat

is recommended. Limestone, marble, travertine and other softer stones can be stained by dirt, mud and other construction materials.

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.

Some care should be used in staging the stone panels. By arranging the panels in the order needed for installing, productivity of the installation is improved.

Each project is different but generally the tools and supplies needed are as follow:

Materials

1. StonePly Sheets
2. Cotton rag
3. Caulk (100% silicone)
4. Masking Tape
5. PL Polyurethane construction adhesive, PL-200 or Liquid Nails for subfloors panel adhesive
6. Clean Water
7. Screws (optional)

Tools

1. Sandpaper
2. Compressed air or small vacuum cleaner
3. Tape measure
4. Carpenter's square
5. Circular saw with continuous rim diamond blade
6. Pencil
7. Safety goggles
8. Flat scraper

Making Preparations

StonePly can be installed directly onto an existing laminate countertop that is not loose or damaged. Removing old laminate is time-consuming and often results in damage to the underlayment. If the existing laminate is damaged or loose, screw a sheet of cement tile backer board on top of it to provide a solid base for the new surface.

- Sand and clean the surface, making sure it is even. Completely remove any dust, paint or varnish, so the StonePly will stick properly. If StonePly is going directly over old laminate, roughen the surface of the laminate so the adhesive will bond.
- Measure the dimensions of the countertop, including the backsplash if it will be covered.

Getting Ready to Install

For cutting use a wet diamond handheld circular saw or a 4" angle grinder with a dry cut diamond blade. Place a strip of masking tape over the area to be cut to prevent chipping, and mark the cut line on the masking tape.

- Shut off the power to any electrical appliances in the work area, and disconnect. Remove anything, such as a drop-in range, that may be attached to the countertop.
- Remove the sink.
- Cut the StonePly material to size.
- Dry set (test set) the StonePly panels to ensure that everything fits. Cut out the sink opening. If a drop in sink, the edge of the cut will be hidden. If an under mount, then carefully cut the opening and bevel the backing material on the StonePly so that the StonePly backing is not readily visible from above.

Applying the Adhesive

Apply 1 ¼" diameter dabs of PL 400 at approximately 6" on center, to the counter top. Spread it with the notched trowel. Press the StonePly panels into place starting at one end.

Cutting Corners

When cutting out corners, it is simpler to fit the corners with two square-ended pieces of StonePly. Miter cuts will require more precise measurements to fit together properly. If you are unsure, you may want to cut templates in thin plywood or other thin material to test your sizes, then use the templates to cut the StonePly.

Covering the Edges

- Metal, wood or plastic moldings are available to finish the edges of the countertop. You can also cut strips of the StonePly and apply them with the contact cement or Construction adhesive.
- Use two beads of adhesive on the front edge of the counter and one on the StonePly strip. Align the strip along the top with your fingers as you press it into place.
- Hold the edge strips in place with pieces of tape or blocking until the adhesive is thoroughly dry.

Use the same method to cover the backsplash.

Finishing Touches

- Seal all seams and edges with caulk to keep moisture and dirt from collecting.
- Replace the sink and reinstall water connections. Replace and reconnect any appliances, and turn power back on to the work area.

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

If installing on a floor or horizontal application. 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.

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 building or home is different, installation will vary slightly from unit to unit.

WARNING: This product contains chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.