



Hoobler Stone

Instructions for Stone Application

IMPORTANT: Please read the following information before applying the stone

Fixing Procedure for Walls

1. WALL PREPARATION

1.1 Existing Wall Structure

If the existing wall is brick, polystyrene, hebel panel, cement sheet, concrete or similar, clean down thoroughly, removing enough paint (if any) to ensure a mortar key. Go to No 2.

1.2 New Structure

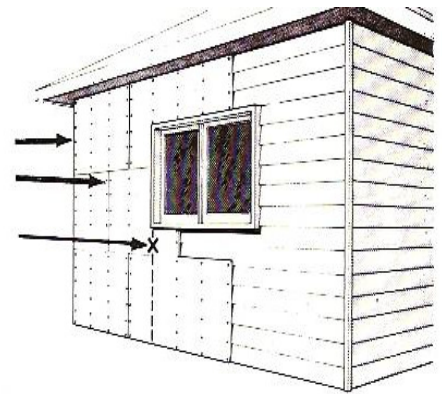
Using flathead gal nails (40mm clouts), fix Stonesheet or Ezilap board horizontally to the frame at 300mm centres penetrating the stud by 25mm. Ensure vertical joints are staggered i.e. not under each other or under the edge of a window (see diagram on the right).

1.3 If Waterproofing Is Required

Ensure all joints, nail and screw holes are sealed to prevent water penetration. Sealers are available at all major hardware stores.

IMPORTANT: If studs are spaced:

- 400mm apart, clad using 6.0mm cement sheet (excluding villaboard).
- 450mm apart, clad using 9.0mm Ezilap or Stonesheet.



2. SURFACE PREPARATION

Mix together 2 cups of Abacrete, 2 cups of gritty sand and 2 cups of cement (for approximate coverage of 3 square metres of wall). Apply this paste to the wall surface with a roller, leaving a rough finish. Allow to dry for 24 hours.

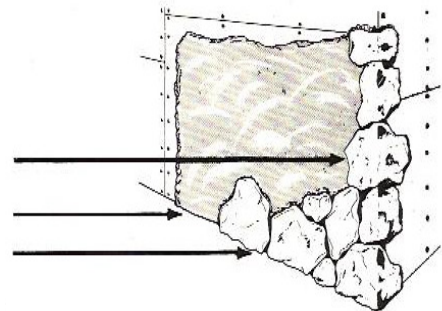
3. MORTAR PREPARATION

Using a 20-litre bucket, put in the following:

- One litre of Abacrete adhesive;
- 4 litres of cement; and
- ¾ of a 20-litre bucket of brickies sand.

Mix to a smooth consistency. In hot, dry weather ensure the substrate is damp to prevent absorption of moisture from the mortar mix.

Note: The MORTAR COLOUR is determined by the colour of sand and cement. For a LIGHT-coloured mortar use light brickies sand and white cement. For a DARK mortar, use dark brickies sand and grey cement. Adding colour to the mortar mix is a personal choice.



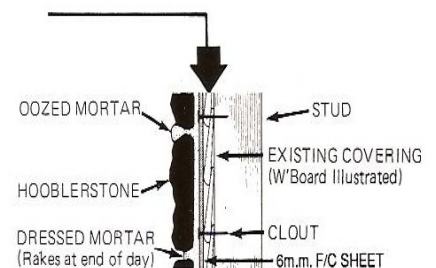
4. FIX CORNER STONES

Corner stones are always fixed first as they provide the 'framework'. Spread the mortar to a thickness of approx 20mm over the back of the stone and press firmly into position for several seconds.

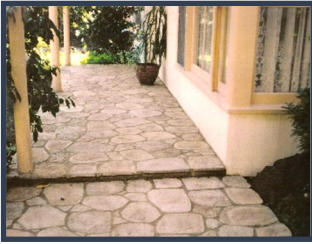
5. FIX FLAT STONES

Lay out the stone on the ground before you start. Ensure the shape and size of stones are varied during installation. Starting at the bottom, butter the back of each stone with the mortar to a thickness of approx. 10mm - 12mm and press onto wall as hard as possible. When mortar has oozed from around the edges, hold in position for several seconds then release. This ensures air is expelled from behind the stone creating a vacuum. When mortar has cured to a crumbly consistency (at day's end), rake out to the desired depth.

Note: If smudging occurs on the face of the stone, leave until it is touch dry then lightly brush it off with a whiskbroom (made of straw).



DO NOT USE A WIRE BRUSH, SPIRITS OF SALTS OR ACID TO CLEAN THE STONE

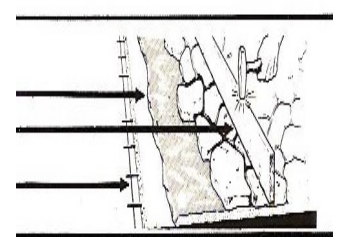


Level and compact the surface where paving is to be laid.

Spread a 40mm thick layer of mortar made of **1-part cement and 6 parts sand**. Press pavers securely into position and tap level with a straight edge. Grout with same mortar mix and wipe clean.

For driveways, lay a reinforced concrete bed 8mm thick then proceed as above.

DO NOT lay stone on unstable surfaces (e.g. timber floors) as flexing may cause cracks.



Other Important Information

COUNCIL PERMIT

Obtain a Council Permit for any extensive renovation or home improvement works. If unsure, check with your local Council.

EXISTING STRUCTURE

- Existing structure must be stable. If unsure, seek the opinion of a qualified engineer.
- If cement sheet is not firmly fixed to the frame, drive additional nails through to the studs. Any drumminess will make it harder to fix the stone and if flexing occurs, will cause the stone to snap off.
- Old cement sheet should be replaced if it has become brittle. An alternative is to secure expanded metal over the cement sheet then apply a scratch coat as in Point No 2. on previous page.
- Incorporate expansion joints where there is significant change in stone pattern or long unbroken areas to be clad.

NEW STRUCTURE

- When building a new structure, space studs at 450mm centres.
- If building on stumps, ensure the spacing and sole plates are suitable to take the weight of the stone. If not, build a frame in between stumps. Fix cement sheet to frame as in Point No. 1 on previous page.
- If cladding over polystyrene blocks, use a soft brush or gurney to roughen the exterior prior to surface preparation (see Point No 2).

BROKEN STONES

- A small amount of stone in each batch will be broken. These are necessary to fill in smaller awkward spaces between stones.
- When fixing a broken piece of stone, smear the broken edge with mortar mix.

CUTTING STONES

Using an abrasive or diamond disc, run a groove about 2mm deep along the face of the stone then tap to break.

FIXING DIFFERENT STONE TYPES

- RANDOM** - Do not attempt to predetermine stone pattern before fixing. Fix pieces randomly "as they come".
- PITCHERS** - Run a horizontal string line to ensure straight courses.

EXTERNAL APPLICATION

- False Lintels**
When fixing stone externally over an opening (e.g. door or window) a more realistic appearance can be achieved by fixing a false lintel (e.g. timber) that is about 20mm thick.
- Windows and Doors**
Discuss procedure with manufacturer.
- Wet Weather**
Do not fix Hoobler Stone externally in wet weather. If it rains during application, cover the area as quickly as possible.

INDOOR APPLICATION

- Skirting, Cornices & Architraves**
Remove skirting so that stone appears to rest on the floor. There is no need to remove cornices, but it looks better without them. Do not remove architraves as these provide a frame for the stone to butt up to.
- Fireplaces**
After application to a fireplace, do not light a fire for at least 3 weeks as the heat will prematurely cure the mortar.

CURING OF STONE & ADHESIVE

- Stone is packaged in bags for convenience of transport, to retard the curing process and to ensure maximum strength. It may be surface damp when unpacked, giving a darker and less interesting appearance until the stone has cured properly.
- The final appearance of the application will not be known until the mortar has completely cured. This can take several weeks.

AVERAGE WEIGHT

- Random wall stones weight approximately 35kg per m².
- Paving, bluestone & sandstone pitchers are heavier at approximately 50kg per m².

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DISCLAIMER

Hoobler Stone accepts no responsibility for cracks or damage caused by expansion, contraction or movement of the structure to which stone is applied, or for any other structural cause. Nor does it accept responsibility for the use of any other products, even if suggested in this brochure. If any doubt exists as to application of the stone, contact the manufacturer. Procedures and mixtures described are suggestions only and further advice should be sought for applications that are unusual or at heights over 3 metres. Flashing may be required in external use where moisture could be a problem. Application of undiluted chlorine or other chemicals may affect the colour of Hoobler Stone and mortar.