Installation Tips & Instructions

Installing FlexRealStone veneers using Heavy Duty Liquid Nails or Loctite PL 375 for Exterior Applications

For exterior installations, create a drip with the adhesive to allow water out behind the panel. The adhesive must be 1/2” from the edges and allow 3” between the vertical adhesive lines as shown in the diagram above.

Installing FlexRealStone veneers using Heavy Duty Liquid Nails for Interior Applications

Using a calk gun, apply glue leaving a 1/4” border from the outside edge of the panel. Apply glue as shown here on the diagram.

General Applications

- FlexRealStone stone veneers can be used virtually anywhere: interior walls, exterior walls, ceilings, showers, countertops, cabinets, indoor and outdoor furniture, on exterior facades, and much more.

- FlexRealStone stone veneers can be directly applied to concrete, wood, ceramics, stone, dry wall, cement, MDF, gypsum, and most other surfaces.

- Different adhesives are used depending on the type of surface and exposure to wet/dry, rain/shine, freeze/thaw environments. In general, adhesives should be polyurethane based. Recommended adhesives:
  
  - Liquid Nails Heavy Duty Construction Adhesives
  
  - Loctite PL 375 Heavy Duty Construction Adhesives

- For heavy wear surfaces expected to be subject to a variety of stains, seal the surface with 2K-PU Sealant, which are available through most brands at virtually all home improvement and hardware stores.
For lighter wear areas with low chances of staining, surface can remain unsealed and cleaned with normal stone cleaning materials, available at virtually all home improvement stores.

A hand roller is recommended to remove air between the stone veneer and substrate. To properly roll out trapped air, start in the middle of the sheet and firmly roll to the edge. Do not press too hard while rolling as this may cause back-filled areas to push adhesive out and leave an air void. By using proper pre-back-filling and using good rolling techniques, a solid, hard surface will be achieved.

Tiling, grouting & jointing

FlexRealStone stone veneers can be used to create a tiled effect by leaving a grout joint between cut pieces. Sheets may also be butt-jointed for the look of a smaller seam. Due to the thin nature of the veneer, a 1/8” to 1/4” grout joint will produce better results. Tests show the use of water-based epoxy and acrylic premixed grout work well to fill between the cut veneers. During the sponge-off process the epoxy will seal the surface of the stone veneer as well. These grouts are available in several colors to match the existing decor. If a deeper grout joint is desired, it can be achieved by removing material just under the grout joint area with a scrapper tool. Modified grout and caulking grout can also be used.

Applying FlexRealStone to different surface types

- Georgia Pacific Denglass, Green Guard, and similar surfaces. First waterproof the area with perma-barrier (W.R. Grace) or equivalent for a cured, resilient, monolithic, fully bonded, elastomeric sheet.

- Tilt-up wall. When applying FlexRealStone to a tilt-up wall, apply adhesive (after waterproofing, if desired) using the Natural Drive Method.

- Unpainted drywall. When applying to unpainted drywall, make sure all dust is removed from compounds before gluing. We recommend Heavy Duty Liquid Nails Construction Adhesive of Loctite PL 375.

- Moist areas When applying FlexRealStone to areas subjected to moisture (bathroom, showerwall, etc.), stone veneer may be applied directly over the existing tile (tile must be secured to the wall).

- Flooring For application onto floors, the recommended adhesives for the specific floor type (wood, tile, concrete, etc.) may be used in bucket form (Liquid Nails PL375 Exterior Grade) but should first be tested on an area to ensure secure adhering. This adhesive should be applied directly to the floor using a 1/4” notch troll, section by section, adjusting the veneer using a level.

Sealing and enhancing low wear surfaces
(interior and exterior)

- While sealing of low-wear and dry surfaces, a single annual treatment with a common Single Component Sealer will make such applications virtually maintenance free, and ensure that the surface will not be penetrated by any oil, water, grease, etc.
For low-wear surfaces with a higher likelihood of stains and wetness (furniture, kitchens, bathrooms, etc.), this single treatment of sealant is highly recommended.

An annual treatment with basic stone enhancers will be more than sufficient in such installations.

Sealing and enhancing high wear surfaces
(interior and exterior)

For high wear surfaces, we recommend multiple treatments annually. Utilize thick coats of Multi Component sealers/enhancers during each treatment. Frequency of treatments should be dictated according to directions provided by the sealant manufacturer.

Cleaning and Maintenance

When handling FlexRealStone during the installation process, sheets should be faced down so as to prevent contact of the surface with adhesives, grouts, cements, etc.

Oil and grease stains can usually be eliminated using intensive stone cleaners from a variety of brands. Make sure that the cleaner is safe for the specific type of stone on the veneer. It is best to use cleaners after stone veneer sheets have dried.

Calcium deposits resulting from regular exposure to flowing water can be easily cleaned using chlorine tablets.

Both sealed and non-sealed surfaces can collect dust, and should be wiped down with a slightly damp or moist cloth with some degree of regularity.

AVOID ACIDIC STONE CLEANERS ON SEALED/ENHANCED SURFACES, AND AVOID USING ABRASIVES OF ANY KIND ON ANY FLEXREALSTONE SURFACES.

Storage

FlexRealStone veneers should be stored in environments free of climactic influences (dry and covered). Extreme temperature fluctuations can cause the sheers to deform (temporary curling), making handling during installation slightly more difficult. Avoid storage where temperatures change drastically, if possible.

Installation tools

- Adhesives such as Liquid Nails Heavy Duty Construction Adhesive or Loctite PL 375 Heavy Duty Construction adhesive.
- Caulk gun, used for application of adhesives.
- Roller, used for rolling out air that be trapped behind sheets.
- Measuring tape and metal square.
- Cutting tools such as a fine blade wood-cutting saw.