



Laying Pebble Mesh Tiles

Laying Pebble Mesh Tile – General Guidelines

Substrates

All substrates should be firmly fixed, flat, clean, dry and free of contaminants, deflections should be a maximum of 1/360 of the span for walls and floors. Wet areas require special attention involving appropriate substrates (e.g. Concrete, compressed sheet, gib-aqualine, H3 treated plywood, the use of reinforced waterproof membranes and in the case of floors a fall to the drainage point of not less than 50mm.

Waterproof membranes

These prevent leakage of water through to sub-floor framing and or habitable spaces below. Particular attention must be paid to carrying the membrane up the wall, outside shower boxes, installation of bond breakers and sealing around penetrations. It is strongly recommended that membrane systems are used in all wet areas, including exterior suspended decking.

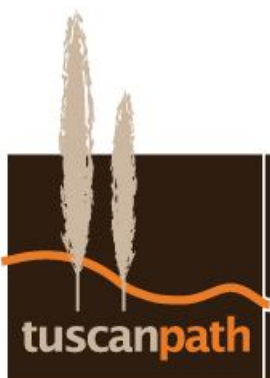
Adhesive

The manufacturer's literature will explain if the product is suitable for interiors and or exteriors, as well as walls and floors. A cement based adhesive is generally suitable on masonry substrates where no movement is anticipated. Where slight movement could occur through thermal or pedestrian loads, a modified cement adhesive (such as Abaflex by A.B.A™) should be used. It is important that each pebble is embedded in the adhesive. Select a product suitable for application with a 10mm notched trowel and apply no more than 1sq metre of adhesive at a time.

Grouting

The grout should be suitable for joints up to 10mm in width and designed for external or internal Conditions, which ever may be the case. Generally grouts are a water mix but where some flexibility May be needed then a latex additive or similar should be used in the water. It is important to wait the interval recommended by the adhesive manufacturer before grouting to minimise dirt ingress between the pebble and avoid the opportunity for dislodging of pebbles.

-1-



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Control joints

There are many reasons for building movement and control joints divide a larger tiled area into a series of smaller ones. Joints can be easily formed with two angles, sealant and bond-breaker between them. Designers may show points at which joints are needed but they are certainly required where tiles join walls or some other building material in the substrate.

Curved surfaces

Pebble sheets can be easily fitted around a gently curved surface such as a column. If the sheet is turned around a right angle, some pebbles will need to be plucked off the mat where they are distorted at the corner and replaced with smaller pebbles to maintain uniformity at this point.

Recommendations and Hints

To clean you can use a vinegar solution or a 10% hydrochloric acid solution with water applied with a stiff bristled broom. Alternatively, the pebbles can be cleaned with a neutral mild detergent. The porosity or water absorption in pebbles varies and therefore staining will occur in different degrees if the stone is unsealed. Consequently, any spills should be cleaned quickly to lessen the degree of the stain.

If cleaning with acid, please ensure that all safety precautions are used. To bring your pavers to their full potential, we recommend sealing your pebble mesh tiles. There are many sealing products available on the market and we recommend you contact or visit your nearest Bunnings store to determine the appropriate sealer for your application. Whenever using sealants and acids, please ensure that you follow the manufacturers recommended method of application.

For more information about our range of quality Pebble Mesh Tile products, please:

- visit us at www.tuscanpath.com.au
- Visit your nearest Bunnings store (our Range is available Australia wide)
 - Contact us on (03)8339 0250. We're always here to help!

Please Note: While we have taken every care to ensure the accuracy of this DIY information, Tuscan Path cannot be held responsible for any of the advice contained in our website and where appropriate we advise you to consult a professional.

-2-



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