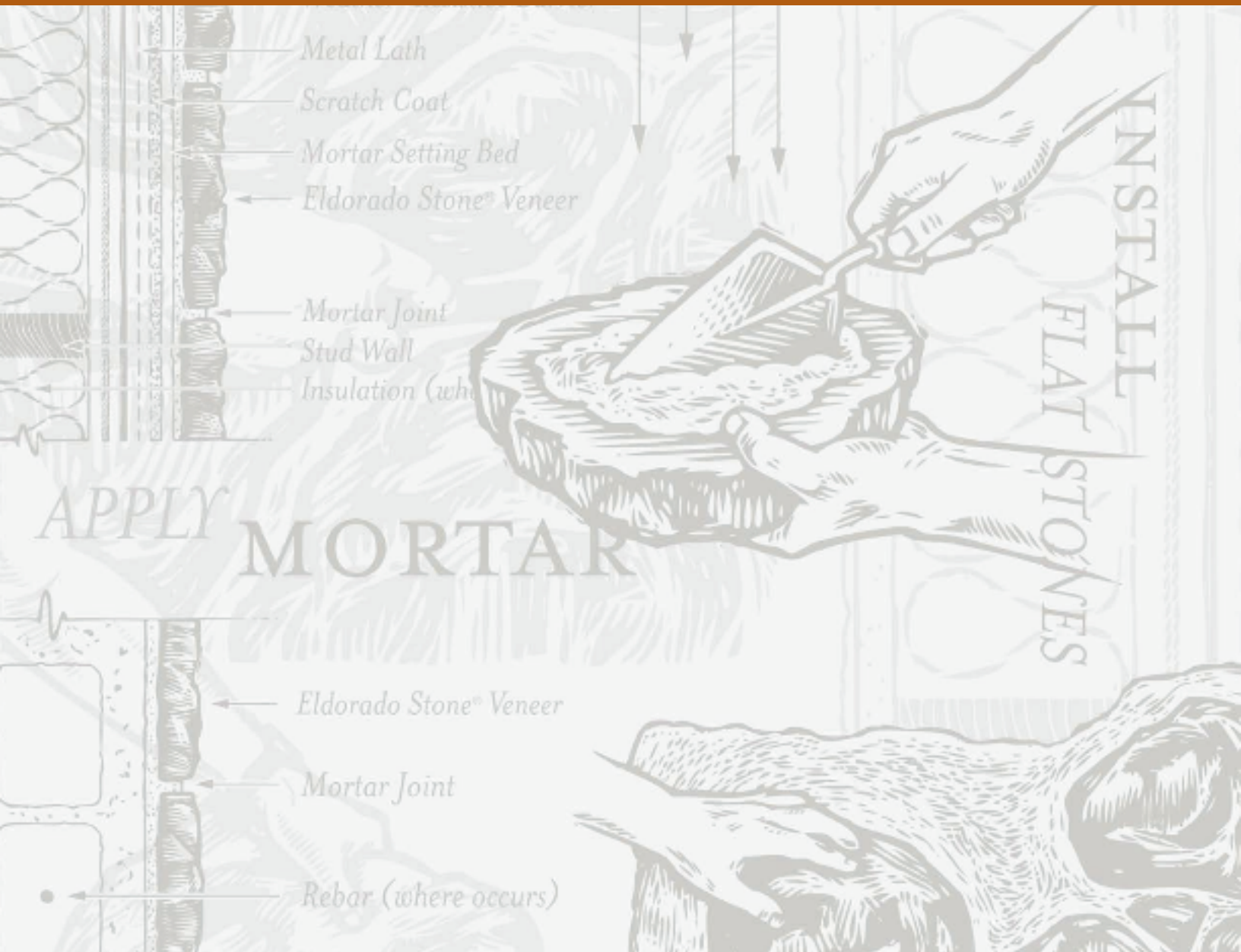


ELDORADO STONE®

# INSTALLATION PROCEDURES



# GROUT JOINT

Believability has always been the ultimate goal of the craftsmen of Eldorado Stone®. As our product line has developed, so has our understanding of what it takes to achieve the true art of stone masonry. The following pages are intended to share with you what we have learned about the installation of manufactured veneer products. Given this, we present the following information to assist you in your creative endeavors.

# APPLY MORTAR

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Sheathing

Weather-Resistive Bar

Metal Lath

Scratch Coat

**PROPER USE OF ELDORADO STONE® VENEER** *Eldorado Stone veneer should only be applied to structurally sound surfaces incorporating good building practices meeting all local code requirements. Before starting any stone application, check with your local building code requirements and read all manufacturers' installation instructions.*

# 1 MATERIALS NEEDED

## FLASHING

Install flashing type and location in accordance with local building code requirements. Corrosion resistant flashing must be installed around all penetrations and terminations of the veneer application. The lower ends of the veneer installation shall terminate 4" above earth surfaces or 2" above paved surfaces with a foundation weep screed unless an alternative method for flashing is approved by the building official. The perimeter of the scratch should incorporate the use of casing bead (minimum 0.5" depth), control joints, or other approved accessories.

## WATER-RESISTANT BARRIER OR WEATHER RESISTIVE BARRIER (WRB)

It is recommended to use two separate layers of WRB in all applications\* where WRB is specified. The WRB must meet the requirements of ICC-ES AC308: *Acceptance Criteria for Water-Resistive Barriers*. When using Grade D paper, a 60 minute rating is recommended. Felt paper must be clearly marked that it meets the requirements of ASTM D 226 for #15 or #30 asphalt saturated felt.\*\* It is acceptable to use one layer of housewrap covered by a second layer of WRB meeting the requirements above. The WRB should be free of tears or holes.

\* It is acceptable to use one layer of WRB on interior applications.

\*\* Felt meeting ASTM D 4869 or non-ASTM #15 felt is not recommended for use behind veneer.

## MORTAR

The ingredients and directions for the correct mortar mix for all applications are found on page 9.

Premixed mortars may be used provided they meet the requirements of ASTM C 270 for Type N or Type S mortars and are designed for use with manufactured stone veneers. Polymer modified premixed Type N or Type S mortar meeting ASTM C 270 is also acceptable. Not all premixed mortars will provide the minimum required 50 psi shear bond strength. Check with the mortar manufacturer to ensure that their product meets or exceeds ASTM C 270 requirements and will meet the minimum bond code requirements.

## Tools Needed

MASONRY TROWEL

WHEEL BARROW AND BUCKETS

WIDE MOUTH NIPPERS

MASONRY HAMMER

DUST MASK

TUCK POINTER

WHISK BROOM

SPONGE

WATER

CHALK LINE

PLUMB BOB

CIRCULAR SAW WITH CARBIDE OR DIAMOND TIP BLADE

GLOVES

PNEUMATIC STAPLER OR SCREW GUN

SAFETY GLASSES

FINISHING TROWEL

GROUT BAG

STAPLER

METAL SHEARS

UTILITY KNIFE

MEASURING TAPE

LEVEL

CONCRETE HOE

WET SAW WITH CARBIDE OR DIAMOND TIP BLADE

## METAL LATH

All lath and lath attachments must be made of corrosion-resistant material.

*Self-furred 2.5 lb. metal lath meeting ASTM C 847.*

*3.4 lb., 0.375" rib lath meeting ASTM C 847, for open stud applications (no sheathing).*

*Self-furred 17 or 18 gauge woven wire mesh meeting ASTM C 1032*

*Use of flat woven wire mesh meeting ASTM C 1032 is also acceptable but must be attached using self-furring fasteners.*

## FASTENERS

*Galvanized nails, staples or screws that penetrate the stud (min. of 1").*

*Corrosion resistant, self-tapping screws with a 0.4375" head that provides 0.375" minimum penetration beyond the inside metal surface.*

## 2 ESTIMATING QUANTITIES NEEDED

Two components, flats and corners, are used for most installations. Flats are applied to the flat wall surface and are ordered in square feet. Corners are applied to outside corners and are ordered in linear feet. Using corners around window and door openings provides added dimension and depth and enhances the finished design.

### 1: DETERMINE THE TOTAL PROJECT SQUARE FOOTAGE

Multiply the length (in feet) times the height (in feet) of each surface area to be covered.

### 2: SUBTRACT WINDOWS, DOORS OR OTHER OPENINGS

Calculate the square footage occupied by windows, doors and other openings. Subtract this amount from the project square footage.

### 3: DETERMINE THE LINEAR FOOTAGE OF CORNER PIECES NEEDED

Measure the linear feet of outside corner areas to be covered including any doorways and windows that will have corners.

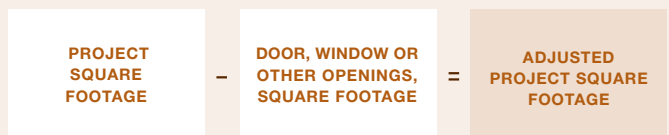
### 4: DETERMINE THE SQUARE FOOTAGE OF FLAT PIECES REQUIRED

Divide the linear footage of corner pieces needed by 2 (One linear foot of corner veneer equals approximately 0.5 square foot of flat veneer) and subtract this corner square footage from the total project square footage. This will give you the square footage of flat veneer required. However, some extra quantity of flats is desirable for best fitting, including cutting and trimming.

## Estimation Steps *The calculations below are for one surface only. Be sure to calculate all surfaces.*



**STEP 1: MULTIPLY LENGTH TIMES HEIGHT TO FIND PROJECT SQUARE FOOTAGE.**



**STEP 2: DETERMINE TOTAL SQUARE FOOTAGE OF DOORS, WINDOWS OR OTHER OPENINGS.**



**STEP 3: DETERMINE LINEAR FOOTAGE OF CORNER PIECES NEEDED.**



**STEP 4: DETERMINE THE SQUARE FOOTAGE OF FLAT PIECES NEEDED.**

### 3 PREPARING THE SURFACE

#### OVER SHEATHING (WOOD STUDS): PLYWOOD, OSB, CEMENTITIOUS BACKER BOARD, GYPSUM WALL BOARD, DRYWALL OR OTHER RIGID WOOD-RELATED SHEATHING

The WRB shall be applied horizontally in shingle fashion starting from the bottom. Be sure to overlap the upper layers over the bottom layers. Where vertical joints occur the WRB shall be lapped at least 6". Where horizontal joints occur the WRB shall be lapped not less than 2". Refer to WRB manufacturer's installation instructions for fastener spacing recommendations. If none exist, only use enough fasteners to support the WRB before installing lath.

The next step is to install metal lath perpendicular to the framing. Overlap the lath sides a minimum of 1" and lath ends a minimum of 1". Be sure to attach the metal lath with the small cups pointing upwards and verify the lath is pulled tight before fastening to avoid lath or mortar sag. The ends of adjoining metal lath shall be staggered. Attach the lath using galvanized nails or staples 6" on stud center vertically and 16" on stud center horizontally. Do not use fasteners in between framing and ensure your fasteners penetrate the stud a minimum of 1".

Inside and outside corners must have lath double wrapped or continuously wrapped 16" around each corner. Then apply a nominal 0.5" thick coat of mortar with sufficient pressure to fully embed the lath. The entire lath must be covered with mortar so the lath is

not visible. The mortar should be scored horizontally with a notched trowel or scarifier to create the scratch coat when the mortar has become thumbprint-dry.

*NOTE:* All sheathing should be installed according to the manufacturer's recommendations for fastener requirements including, but not limited to, all wood-based sheathing which should be gapped 0.125". Exposure 1 sheathing is designed for temporary exposure to the weather. It should be covered with an approved WRB as soon as possible after being installed. Not all WRB are resistant to ultraviolet rays, so the wall should be lathed and a scratch coat should be applied as soon as possible after the WRB is installed.

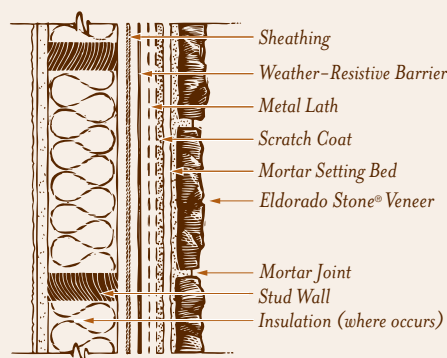
#### OVER OPEN STUD FRAMING (NO SHEATHING)

Apply paper-backed galvanized 3.4 lb., 0.375" rib paper-backed metal lath (meeting ASTM C 847) to the studs using galvanized nails or staples every 6" vertically on stud centers with a minimum 1" penetration into the stud. Overlap lath sides by not less than 1" and lath ends by not less than 1". Apply a 0.5" thick scratch coat and moist cure for at least 48 hours.

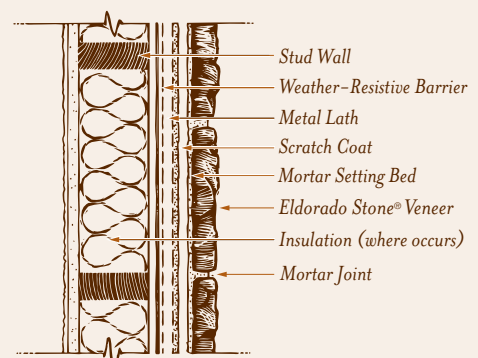
#### OVER OPEN METAL STUDS (NO SHEATHING)

Follow the instructions for *Over Open Studs (No Sheathing)* except use corrosion-resistant self-tapping screws with a 0.4375" head that provides 0.375" minimum penetration beyond the inside metal surface.

## Installation Over Basic Substrates



OVER SHEATHING (WOOD STUDS)



OVER OPEN STUD FRAMING

### OVER METAL STUDS WITH SHEATHING

Follow the instructions for *Over Sheathing (Wood Studs)*. However, using corrosion-resistant self-tapping screws with a 0.4375" head that provides 0.375" minimum penetration beyond the inside metal surface are recommended.

### OVER METAL PANELS

The metal wall panels must provide a firm support and be a minimum No. 18 gauge galvanized steel with a minimum base-metal thickness of 0.0478". Application is similar to sheathing over studs except the lath should be fastened with self-tapping screws spaced 12" horizontally and 6" vertically. Screws must have a minimum thickness of 0.5" with a minimum 0.375" diameter head. The scratch coat must be a minimum of 0.5" thick and be allowed to cure for at least 48 hours before installing veneer.

### CLEAN CEMENTITIOUS (CMU) & MASONRY SURFACES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO BRICK, BLOCK AND STONE

Examine the surface to ensure it is solid and shows no sign of deterioration. The clean surface should not be painted, sealed or have other coatings that may prevent adequate bond of the scratch coat to the substrate. To determine if your wall is painted, treated or sealed, spray water onto the wall. If the water beads follow the instructions for *Painted, Sealed, or Treated Cementitious Surfaces*. If there are random areas of water beading, clean surface again or apply metal lath and scratch coat. If the water

does not bead, apply a scratch coat onto the surface using sufficient pressure to ensure the mortar is fully adhered to the surface.

Apply the scratch coat using a Type N or Type S mortar onto the surface using sufficient pressure to ensure the mortar is fully adhered to the surface. Score the surface horizontally when the mortar has become thumbprint-dry.

**NOTE:** If installed on an interior space intended to be inhabited, it may be necessary to waterproof the masonry wall. Bonding agents can be used to enhance the bond of the mortar to the masonry surface and the veneer.

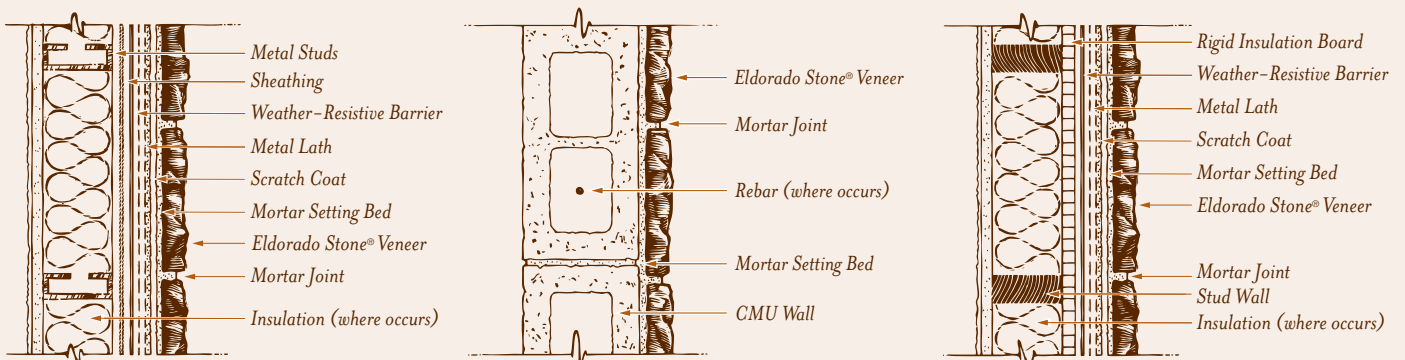
### PAINTED, SEALED, OR TREATED CEMENTITIOUS (CMU) SURFACES

Clean the surface by bead blasting or sand blasting. After the surface is clean, spray water onto the wall. If the water beads continue bead blasting or sand blasting until surface is clean. Apply scratch coat before installing veneer.

If the wall cannot be cleaned, install metal lath using concrete nails or screws. Do not exceed 6" x 16" spacing between fasteners. Fasteners should penetrate the concrete surface by a minimum of 0.75". Apply a scratch coat to the metal lath before installing the veneer.

### OVER RIGID INSULATION BOARD

Follow the installation instruction for sheathing applications. If the rigid insulation board is thicker than 0.5", consult with a registered engineer to determine if any additional fastener requirements are needed to support the weight of the veneer system.



OVER METAL STUDS

OVER CMU WALL

OVER RIGID INSULATION BOARD

## STUCCO

Eldorado Stone® veneer can be installed over clean stucco surfaces free of debris, paint and sealers provided the following conditions are met:

*Stucco installation meets the requirements of ASTM C 926.*

*If sheathing was used, the lath must be 2.5 lb. metal lath, 18 gauge woven wire mesh or heavier.*

*If there is no sheathing, the lath size must be 3.4 lb., 0.375" rib expanded metal lath.*

*If there is rigid insulated foam board and no sheathing, the lath must be 3.4 lb., 0.375" rib expanded metal lath.*

*Thickness of the stucco is at least 0.375".*

*If applying veneer over a stucco color (finish coat) verify with the mortar manufacturer that their product is able to achieve a 50 psi shear bond strength over these surfaces. If the above conditions are not met, the stucco will need to be removed before installing veneer.*

## TILT WALL AND POURED-IN-PLACE WALLS

Surface preparation is important over these types of surfaces to ensure a successful installation. Surface should be bead blasted or sand blasted until the wall has a sandpaper-like texture and all slick areas have been removed. Next, spray water on the wall. If the water beads, the surface must be bead blasted or sand blasted again. If water continues to bead or the surface cannot

be prepared to accept a direct installation of Eldorado Stone, install metal lath and scratch coat before you begin the veneer installation. If applying directly to the tile wall or poured-in-place wall, ensure the wall is damp without excess water (beading) on the surface.

**NOTE:** Use of lath after the surface is clean provides the most trouble-free installation on concrete wall. Use of a primer (dash-bond coat) may increase bonding for applications over tilt wall without lath. A dash-bond coat consists of a 1:1 mixture of Portland cement and sand. The mixture should be a wet slurry (batter) consistency. After mixing, spray or "dash" onto the wall and allow it to cure.

## INSULATED CONCRETE FORM (ICF) WALLS

There are variations between ICF manufacturers on the material, spacing and strength of their support brackets. Consult with the ICF manufacturer to determine how they recommend installing cladding systems over their product. If the support brackets cannot support the weight of the veneer system, Eldorado recommends attaching the lath through the ICF panels directly to the concrete. A registered engineer should be consulted to determine the appropriate fastener to use for applications through foam greater than 0.5" thick.

# Eldorado Brick® and Adobe® Variations

## BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Lay out a quantity of brick (25 s.f. minimum) near the work area. Eldorado Brick® and Eldorado Adobe® is manufactured to vary in color and size so mixing bricks from different boxes will ensure a natural balance.



FIG. 1 Running Bond



FIG. 2 Leveling

## CHOOSE A PATTERN

Decide which brick pattern you will be installing. There are many brick patterns, but the most common brick pattern is the "running bond" pattern (see Fig 1). This is the pattern seen most often where the vertical mortar joints center halfway between the bricks above and below the mortar joint.

## LEVELING

Special attention should be given to keeping the work level (see Fig 2). A starter strip can be used to ensure that your project begins with a level installation. Chalk lines should be snapped every 6" to 9" as a guide for keeping the installation level. A level should be used periodically during the installation on individual brick pieces.



## 4 PREPARING THE MORTAR

Mortar should be mixed to a firm but workable consistency. Mortar that is too wet or too dry will not provide a good bond to adhere the veneer. Mortar should stick to the trowel when the trowel is turned sideways. For additional information on mixing mortar, view the *How to Install* video at [www.eldoradostone.com](http://www.eldoradostone.com).

### *Helpful Grout Tips*

*Only grout as much as you can manage at one time.*

*Joints can be tooled with specific masonry tools or with anything you find easy to use (e.g., stick, striker, joiner or other blunt masonry instruments).*

*Don't allow joints to fully harden before tooling. Mortar should be pliable and crumbly, not too wet and not too dry. Overgrout joints can be tooled (somewhat) earlier than standard raked joints.*

*Using a grout bag is much easier than hand "tucking" joints.*

*Be sure to eliminate any air pockets when applying grout.*

*Use a trowel for a tempered, more faceted finish.*

*Creating a mock up board of the grout finish prior to beginning the actual installation is a good idea and can help eliminate unwanted results.*

### *Recommended Mortar Mix Ratios*

*Dry-Stack Applications:*

**3 PARTS PORTLAND CEMENT**  
**2 PARTS THINSET MORTAR (ANSI A118.4)**  
**7 PARTS SAND**  
**WATER**

*Alternate:*

**1 PART TYPE N OR TYPE S MASONRY CEMENT**  
**2.25 PARTS SAND**  
**BONDING AGENT\***  
**WATER**

*Grouted & Overgrouted Applications:*

**1 PART PORTLAND CEMENT**  
**1 PART LIME**  
**4.5 PARTS SAND**  
**WATER**

*Alternate:*

**1 PART TYPE N OR TYPE S MASONRY CEMENT**  
**2.25 PARTS SAND**  
**WATER**

\* Integral bonding agent meeting ASTM C 932 or ASTM C 1059 Type II. Refer to manufacturer's instructions for mix ratio. The use of antifreeze or liquid dish soap in the mortar mixture is not recommended.



**FIG. 1** *Prepare Surface*



**FIG. 2** *Trim to Fit*



**FIG. 3** *Wet the Scratch Coat and Veneer*



**FIG. 4** *Apply Mortar*



**FIG. 5** *Install Corners First*



**FIG. 6** *Install Flat Veneer*



**FIG. 7** *Grout Joints*



**FIG. 8** *Finish Joints*



**FIG. 9** *Whisk away Loose Mortar*

## 5 APPLYING VENEER

### LAYING OUT THE VENEER

Before you begin, lay out a minimum 25 s.f. of veneer. Select and mix pieces from different boxes throughout the installation. During installation, try to achieve a balanced pattern of shapes, sizes, colors, thicknesses and textures by selecting and mixing veneer.

### STARTING

For grouted installations, apply veneer from the top down to help keep the surface clean. For a dry-stack installation, veneer is applied from the bottom up. Install the corners first for easiest fitting (See figure 5). Corner pieces have a long and a short return and these should be alternated in opposite directions on the wall corner.

### FITTING

Veneer should be installed with uniform size grout joints. A consistent 0.5" or less space around the veneer is desirable. Long, straight, unbroken joint lines should be avoided. When installing coursed and horizontal styles of Eldorado Stone®, special attention should be given to keeping the work level. Chalk lines should be snapped horizontally every 1' to 2' as a guide for keeping the installation straight. You can also use a level during the installation of individual pieces. Vertical and horizontal joints should be staggered.

### TRIMMING VENEER

For the best fit, veneer can be cut or shaped using a hatchet, wide-mouth nippers or masonry trowel (see figure 2). Straight cuts can be made with a diamond or carbide saw blade. Rinse surface of the veneer after cutting to avoid staining from the dust. To help conceal cut or broken edges, cover them with mortar when grouting the veneer.

Always use proper protection when cutting veneer.

*Repeat or prolonged exposure to silica dust can be hazardous to exposed persons' health. A respirator dust mask is recommended when cutting veneer with dry diamond or carbide saw blade. The use of a wet saw will lower the exposure to silica dust. OSHA approved safety lenses are recommended when exposed to flying debris from hatchets, wide-mouth nippers, masonry trowel, wet or dry mason saw or any other veneer cutting devise.*

### WETTING THE VENEER

For all applications, the scratch coat and veneer must be moistened to reduce the initial rate of absorption (see figure 3). This can be done by spraying water onto the wall surface and back of veneer. Veneer can also be dipped into a container of water. The back of the veneer and the scratch coat surface should appear wet but should not have excess water on the surface.

### INSTALLING VENEER WITH A STANDARD JOINT TECHNIQUE

The standard joint is achieved by laying each piece of veneer roughly 0.5" apart (one finger width). Corner and flat pieces should be installed from the top-down. Using a masonry trowel, apply a 0.5" thick, even layer of mortar to the entire back of the veneer (see figure 4). Then press the veneer firmly into place on the prepared wall surface squeezing the mortar out around all edges (see figure 6). Use a gentle wiggling action while pressing the veneer to ensure a good bond. Use a grout bag to fill joints with mortar and forcing grout into any voids (see figure 7). Joint grouting can be done as you lay the veneer or after it has been installed.

### INSTALLING VENEER WITH A FULL JOINT TECHNIQUE

A full joint is similar to a standard joint however the grout level is flush with the face of the veneer. Full joint differs from overgrout whereas the grout does not actually overlap the face of the veneer.

### INSTALLING VENEER WITH AN OVERGROUT TECHNIQUE

Overgrout applications are an increasingly popular way to achieve an old-world appearance. It is a technique that tends to make the masonry-work appear rustic and aged. The grout overlaps the face of the veneer, widening the joints and making them very irregular.

Corner and flat pieces should be installed from the top-down. It is important to fill the mortar joints fully to avoid creating air pockets. If you are tooling the grout joints use a wooden striking tool instead of a metal striking tool (see figure 8).

## INSTALLING VENEER WITH A DRY-STACK TECHNIQUE\*

The dry-stack joint look is accomplished by tightly fitting each veneer piece—prior to installation—to ensure a tight fit. Corner and flat pieces are installed from the bottom-up to allow for a tighter dry-stack pattern. For ease of installation with panelized systems, install one course of veneer (one row of flats and corners) at a time.

It is important, when setting the veneer, that the perimeter of the veneer piece is properly sealed with mortar to ensure satisfactory bond and future durability. This can be achieved by following these steps:

1. *Apply workable mortar generously to the back of each piece to allow ample mortar to squeeze out around all edges as it is pressed onto the wall surface.*
2. *When applying mortar, completely cover the back of each piece and use a trowel to work the mortar into all depressions in the back.*
3. *Immediately after setting each piece, use a masonry trowel to remove any excess mortar and fill any voids along the exposed edges. You can also use a metal striking tool to smooth the mortar around the perimeter.*
4. *Just prior to setting each piece, apply a thin bead of mortar (with a grout bag) to the edges of all previously installed adjacent veneer pieces.*

For the best finished appearance, the dry-stack mortar color should blend with the veneer base color to help conceal the joint lines. Ask your distributor for information regarding available mortar colors.

*\*Not for Eldorado Brick or Adobe*

## GROUTING THE JOINTS

After the veneer has been applied to the wall surface use a grout bag to fill the joints with mortar forcing grout into any voids (see figure 7). Be careful not to smear grout onto the face of the veneer. Any mortar that accidentally gets on the veneer should be allowed to set until dry and crumbly, then brushed off with a dry whisk broom (see figure 9).

It is not necessary to joint grout a dry-stack installation because the veneer edges should have already been properly sealed with mortar when the veneer was applied to the wall. However, if the scratch coat is visible, or if the perimeter of the veneer pieces are not sealed with mortar, grout as needed.

## FINISHING THE JOINTS

When the mortar joints become thumbprint-dry, use a wooden or metal striking tool to rake out the excess mortar to the desired depth (see figure 8). Be sure to

force the mortar into the joints to seal the mortar against the veneer. Be careful not to work the joints too soon or the mortar will smear. A concave joint will have fewer tendencies to develop hairline cracks at the interface between the veneer and the mortar.

After working the joints, use a whisk broom to smooth the joints and clean away any loose mortar from the joints and veneer face (see figure 9). If any mortar accidentally gets on the veneer face, do not try to wipe it off since it may smear and stain the veneer. The mortar should be allowed to set until dry and crumbly and then brushed off with a dry whisk broom. Loose mortar and mortar spots, which have set for only a few hours, should never be allowed to set up overnight.

## CLEANING

To remove dried mortar off the face of the veneer use a dry whisk broom and lightly scrub the surface. The veneer can also be cleaned with water and a soft bristle brush.

*CAUTION: Do not use wet brushes or sponges to wipe the joints or clean mortar off the face of the veneer since the veneer may smear and stain. Do not use high pressure washers to clean the veneer. Do not use wire brushes or acid on the veneer surface. Always protect adjacent surfaces when cleaning veneer.*

## 6 ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

### WATER RUN-OFF

It is important to divert water run-off away from veneer surfaces. Run-off or splashing may stain the veneer. Water run-off combined with severe freeze/thaw conditions can result in surface damage. Eldorado Stone® veneer should never be used below water level or in applications that subject the veneer to chlorine, de-icers or chemicals that may discolor or adversely affect the veneer. Corner or flat veneer pieces should not be used on exterior horizontal surfaces or to cap walls. Use Eldorado Stone caps and extend them beyond wall surfaces by (approximately) 2".

### MOVEMENT JOINTS

Expansion joints normally pass completely through a wall. Control joints normally are on the surface of the wall and relieve strain on the skin of the wall. Terminate the veneer installation where control and expansion joints occur in the substrate. Do not span these joints with veneer because this will lead to cracking. Expansion joints in a building must be specified by the architect or engineer.

The architect or engineer should consider the ASTM C 1063 control joint requirements when determining the location of control joints on any structure. Normally the weakest point on a wall is immediately above and below penetrations.

### EFFLORESCENCE

Efflorescence is usually a white residue that occasionally appears on concrete or masonry surfaces. Efflorescence results from moisture moving through concrete or mortar to the exterior surface. Migrating moisture can carry soluble salts from within the concrete or mortar and deposit them on the face of the product after the moisture evaporates.

To clean efflorescence, lightly scrub affected areas with a soft bristle brush and water. If that does not clean the surface use a mixture of 5 parts water to 1 part white household vinegar. Acids, other cleaning agents or power washing techniques are not considered acceptable methods of removing efflorescence.

### RAINSCREEN DRAINAGE PLANE SYSTEMS

Eldorado Stone veneer does not require the use of a rainscreen drainage plane system for all applications. However, some building codes now require the use of rainscreen drainage plane systems behind cladding materials such as manufactured veneer.

If you are installing veneer in these areas or wish to provide additional protection against entrapped moisture, use a rainscreen drainage plane system with the following characteristics:

*The material should be a minimum of 6mm thick and should not exceed 10mm in thickness.*

*The material should be non-absorbent.*

*The material should resist compression.*

*The material should consist of a two-ply design with a filter fabric (e.g. spunbonded polypropylene) to prevent the scratch coat from clogging the drainage path.*

*The rainscreen drainage plane material should be rot and corrosion resistant.*

*If a strapping system is to be used it should be designed by the architect or an engineer.*

The rainscreen drainage plane should be installed on the WRB with the polystyrene drainage plane against the building paper and the filter fabric facing the weather. A metal lath should be installed directly on the filter fabric and attached with either construction nails or a staple gun(to code). A scratch coat is then applied to the metal lath before installing veneer.

### COLD/HOT WEATHER INSTALLATIONS

For cold weather installations, ambient temperature should be 40°F or higher at the time Eldorado Stone veneer is applied. If the temperature is below 40°F, mortar should be heated between 40°F – 120°F (not to exceed 140°F). Any mortar that freezes should be discarded. Wall surfaces may need to be covered and heated after installation of veneer to avoid freezing the mortar. See section 2104.3 of the International Building Code (IBC) for additional cold weather requirements.

Applications in hot weather conditions should follow the requirements in section 2104.4 of the IBC. Mortar should be kept under 120°F and be used within 2 hours of initial mixing.

#### SEALERS

Sealing the veneer is not required. If you choose to apply a sealer use only a penetrating and breathable silane or siloxane-based masonry sealer. The sealer should be tested on a few veneer pieces first to determine if there will be any undesirable effects. Some sealers may alter the color of the veneer by making the surface darker or changing the sheen. Refer to the sealer manufacturer for recommended application, coverage and maintenance.

#### INSTALLING TO GRADE

Eldorado Stone® veneer installations should terminate 4" above earth surfaces and 2" above paved surfaces. Installation should incorporate the use of a weep screed or other code approved flashing. Installations where the veneer will be installed down to grade should be approved by the building code official. Eldorado Stone does not recommend installing veneer below grade.

#### RETAINING WALLS

Retaining walls in direct contact with soil must be waterproofed and incorporate a drainage system prior to installing veneer. For installations utilizing hollow

block construction, precautions should be taken to prevent water from entering, or stagnating in, wall cavities before veneer is applied.

#### OVERHEAD HORIZONTAL APPLICATIONS

Please verify your installation with your building official and consult with an engineer for specific design issues on your project. There are grout and mortar manufacturers that will support their product's use in these installations. Eldorado Stone's 50 Year Limited Warranty will still cover our veneer products for manufacturing defects.

#### APPLICATIONS IN SEISMIC ZONES

Consult with the building official to determine proper selection of mortar type and any installation height requirements. Eldorado Stone recommends using only Type S mortar in seismic zones.

#### WIND-LOAD TESTING

Eldorado Stone has tested grouted and dry-stack applications in accordance with ASTM E330: *Standard Test method for structural performance of Exterior Windows, Doors, Skylights and Curtain Walls by Uniform Static Air Pressure Difference (Modified)*. Wall Samples were subject to positive and negative structural load tests at 57.6 psf (150 mph wind speed) and 60 psf (153 mph wind speed) pressure differentials. After completion of each load a visual inspection revealed no visible damage or cracking in the veneer.

*Manufacturer warrants Eldorado Stone® veneer against manufacturing defects for a period of 50 years. For more information on Eldorado Stone visit [www.eldoradostone.com](http://www.eldoradostone.com) or contact Customer Service at 800.925.1491.*



**A HEADWATERS COMPANY**

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