



CAPESTONE

— MANUFACTURES OF SIMULATED STONE PRODUCTS —

EST. 2005



www.capestone.co.za



T. 028 312 2331
T. 028 312 2390
F. 086 755 9262



jolene@capestone.co.za



OFF SHUTTER WALL CLADDING GUIDE

Capestone concrete tiles can be installed by any professional tiling contractor. The installation method and process of installing our handmade tiles with cementitious tile glue works the same way as any general tiling application.

Here is a quick general guide to ensure the best concrete results:

- Check the load bearing capacity and the integrity of the substrate/slab.
- Make sure the wall/floor surface is structurally sound and has no loose or brittle areas.
- Also check for hollow patches and fill where necessary.
For best results the surface should be as straight as possible and not bow or concave more than 3mm per tile length, should the bow or concave be more it can be corrected with the tile cement but this will increase the usage of the tile cement and the difficulty of the installation.
- Tiling operations should be carried out in ambient temperature between 10 and 32 degrees Celsius.
- Always begin tiling from the bottom on vertical walls.
- Always prepare a level horizontal support on which the initial row of tiles can be placed during fixing.
- Once the tile cement has cured the support can be removed and the final row below can be installed.
- **Floors: Always start your layout in your most visible area which will receive the most attention.**

The importance of proper product handling for the best end result. Customer satisfaction is highly dependent on the installer taking care of the concrete tiles during installation. **When laying the tiles always protect the concrete surface from abrasion and scratching. Avoid sharp or hard objects making contact with the tile surface. Impact can leave a mark and damage the tile.**

We recommend using styrene or foam to protect the tiles as corners / tile edges are sharp angles and will be damaged if not handled and placed carefully. DO NOT mark on the tile faces with pencil/pen.

- Cutting of the concrete tiles can be performed with a handheld angle grinder with a continuous diamond blade. We recommend a good quality diamond blade for a clean cut. Cheaper blades tend to chip the edges during cutting. A concrete joint cutter can also be used for cutting the tiles.
- Use clean gloves at all times to prevent tiles staining and damaging. Hands and tools must be kept clean when touching and working with the tiles. Also make sure the rubber mallet hammer is kept clean at all times. For the best end result take care of the product during installation.
- Avoid leaving dirty spots on the tiles during installation. Wash immediately and thoroughly with water to remove any residue of adhesive or grout before curing.
- Avoid using any harsh chemicals or abrasive products as this could damage the tiles. For cleaning always use soft fabrics with water.
- DO NOT use masking tape or similar on the tile faces.
- **Storage: Upon delivery of the concrete tiles make sure the tiles are stored under roof or covered adequately if stored exterior.**





- Planning the tile layout is important for the best visual result. On large surfaces we recommend starting on the most visible side first, then continue tiling into the corners so cuts remain hidden.
- For smaller symmetrical walls/floors start from the centre and work outwards. Plan the layout according to where the cuts will be this will ensure less wastage and odd sized pieces.
- For exterior walls the parapet walls should be sealed and waterproof. A steel/aluminum flat plate/angle can be installed to help keep the water out. This is extremely important as water entering behind the concrete can delaminate the tiles.
- For this guide the screw anchors can be used with tile adhesive. We recommend fastening immediately while glue is wet or after 24 hours when glue is fully set, do not apply when glue is curing. For exterior applications at height where health and safety is a concern you can add fischer plugs and screws to fasten the tiles to the substrate. We recommend using a 5/6 x 60-80mm plugs with matching screws and grey plastic end caps to hide the screws. Drill a hole (refrain from using hammer action) in the centre of the tiles anchor hole and fasten until level. DO NOT put tile under tension/or bending tile under tension when fastening with screw, this can crack the tiles.
- Exterior walls should be inspected 3-6 months after installation to make sure all joints are waterproof and sealer as well as copings. We recommend applying exterior walls with a invisible water repellent sealer every 5 years to ensure longevity and long lasting protection. Floors and Exterior Walls can be sealed with our Capestone sealer range available from our office.
- Follow the TAL Goldstar XL cement adhesive installation instructions to ensure a strong and durable bond between the tiles and the substrate. These instructions provide step-by-step guidance on how to prepare the substrate, mix and apply the glue, and place the tiles in position.



- **Should you use a different manufacturer's glue make sure to follow their instructions and manufacturer's guidelines carefully:**

- **WATERPROOF EXTERIOR OR ANY WET-AREA SURFACES**
- **PRIME THE WALL FOR INSTALLATION** Prime the prepared surface with a slurry consisting of 1-part TAL Keycoat to 2 parts TAL Keymix adhesive powder (by volume), which is applied using a builder's block brush.
- Ensure that the entire surface is fully covered with the slurry. Allow this slurry coat to dry for 4 – 6 hours before tiling.
- **MIXING FOR INSTALLATION** Using a mechanical mixer, add a bag of TAL Goldstar XL to 5 liters of clean water whilst mixing, and mix well to a creamy, lump-free consistency. For optimal performance, the water temperature should be between 20°C and 25°C. Let the mix stand for 3 - 5 minutes before stirring again. Use within 4 hours (pot life). For all exterior/exposed and "wet" applications, high traffic areas, areas subjected to thermal stresses or temperature changes, or where some flexibility is required, replace the water in the mix with TAL Bond.
- **INSTALLING CONCRETE TILES** Ensure that the tiles are dry, and the backs are free of dust and contaminants which could impair adhesion.
- We recommend washing the back of each tile with clean water and a fine steel brush to ensure all dust and loose debris is removed.

Apply plaster key or similar product to back of tiles for best adhesion practices.
- TAL Goldstar XL can be applied using a notched wall trowel in bed thicknesses between 5- 12mm, and up to 20mm in isolated areas (non-continuous, and not exceeding 20% of the total area to be tiled).
- Apply adhesive with a suitable notched trowel on the back of the tile as well on the substrate. The double buttering and wet on wet installation technique is essential to ensure full contact and a solid bed of adhesive behind each tile. ALWAYS double butter the tile and substrate.
- Apply only as much adhesive as can be tiled in 20 - 30 minutes to prevent the adhesive from "skinning" before the tiles are applied. Should a thin skin form, the adhesive must be freshened up by respreading with the notched trowel. Do not wet the adhesive with water as the water will form an anti-adhesive film. Dry or hardened adhesive must be removed and discarded.
- Bed tiles firmly using a rubber mallet. When tiling floors or exterior walls ensure that the tile is in full contact with the adhesive. Occasionally lift a tile to ensure that there are no air pockets or voids. Never fix tiles using the 'spot' method.



- Ensure that wall tiles are well supported by means of a batten or some type of mechanical device for a minimum of 12 hours, until the adhesive has set sufficiently. Mechanical supports should be incorporated in elevated installations.
- Always leave grout joints between tiles of at least 7mm wide, depending on the type of joint sealer or grout used.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Longer setting times will apply to installations using larger format tiles.
- Exterior tiling applications must be protected from inclement weather and too-rapid drying during installation. Installations must not be subjected to running water or rain for at least 18 hours and must be protected from frost and direct sunlight for at least 24 hours after installation.
- Do not tile over structural, expansion or cold joints in the background. These joints must be extended through the various layers to the surface.
- For elevated installations, expansion plugs and screws can be added to fasten the tiles to the substrate. See more details at our Fastening section under General instructions. However most professional tilers would not require this but as always please use your own discretion according to each project situation.
- Ensure that the grout joints and tile movement joints are raked out and all adhesive residues removed before the adhesive dries.
- **JOINT SEALING/GROUTING** Allow at least 14 - 16 hours after completing the tiling before grouting/sealing, depending on site and ambient conditions. For the best long term results we recommend using a polyurethane flexible joint sealer or silicone to seal all the joints. Use the colour matching closest to your colour tiles. Waterproof grout can also be used. Use TAL Wall and Floor Grout and TAL Bond according to the instructions on the packaging. Do not grout with wet cement. Clean immediately after grouting, using water and a sponge.
- For additional protection for tiles it is recommended that they are sealed, kindly contact our office on type of sealers available.

Capestone has no influence or knowledge over specific site conditions, therefore, the user must always carry out sufficient tests to satisfy themselves that the product is suitable for the intended purpose and fully understand the correct installation method. Capestone shall not be responsible for any installation, application and/or unintended utilization issues.

Please visit www.tal.co.za for more in depth detail, guidance and technical datasheets regarding the TAL products listed in the installation guide above.

