



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

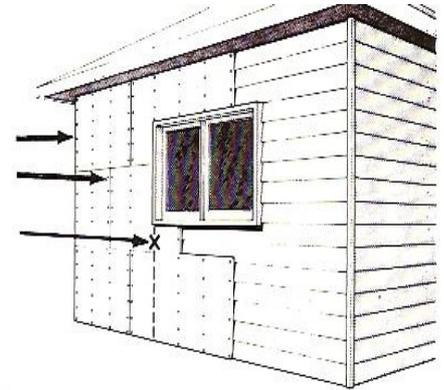
If the existing wall is brick, cement sheet, concrete or similar, clean down thoroughly, removing enough paint (if any) to ensure a mortar key. Go to No 2.

1.2 New Structure

Using flathead gal nails (40mm clouts), fix cement sheet (or blue 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).

IMPORTANT - If studs are spaced:

- 400mm apart, clad using 6.0mm cement sheet (excluding villaboard).
- 450mm apart, clad using 7.5mm blue board or similar.



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

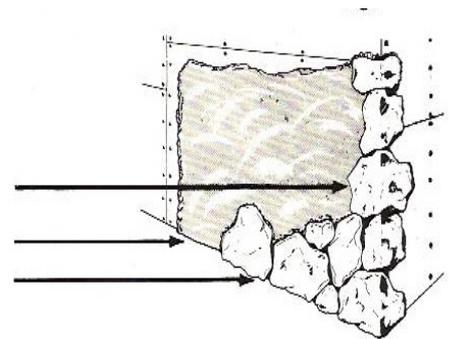
STEP 1: In a wheel barrow or mixer place 4 parts brickies sand to 1 part cement and 1 small shovel of lime. **If the brickies sand is too fatty, use half brickies sand and half fine washed sand.**

STEP 2: In a container mix abacrete and water together (see table below for ratio) and add to sand mixture above.

STEP 3: Thoroughly mix to a stiff muddy consistency. Mortar will be sufficient to lay 2 square metres of stone.

SEASON	WINTER	SUMMER	NOTE: More water is used in summer to prevent the mix drying too quickly
ABACRETE	1 litre	1 litre	
WATER	3 litres	5 litres	

Note: The MORTAR COLOUR is determined by the colour of sand and cement. For a LIGHT coloured mortar use light brickies sand, washed sand and white cement. For a DARK mortar, use dark brickies sand, washed sand and grey cement. Adding colour to the mortar mix is unnecessary and can look unnatural.



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.

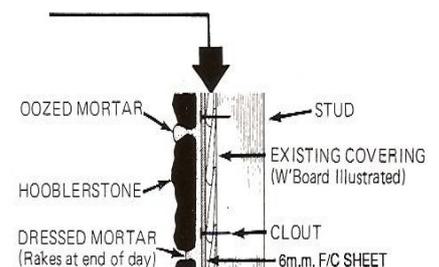
5. FIX FLAT STONES

Starting at the bottom, trowel mortar onto the wall to a thickness of approx 12mm. Press stone pieces firmly into mortar. 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.

Alternatively, butter the back of each stone and press onto wall. When mortar has cured to a crumbly consistency (at day's end), rake out to the desired depth.

Note: If smudging occurs, remove mortar from face of stone with a damp cloth.

DO NOT USE SPIRITS OF SALTS OR ACID TO CLEAN THE STONE.



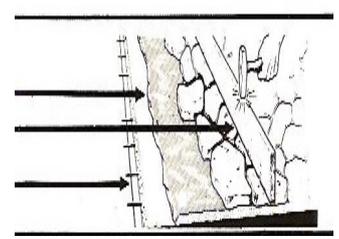


Level and compact the surface where paving is to be laid.

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 druminess 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 400mm 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**
It is not necessary to move windows and doors when applying the stone. Stone protruding enhances the "natural" appearance.
- Hot Weather**
In hot weather wet the wall before applying mortar and the back of the stone before positioning.
- 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 fire place, 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 wallstones weight approximately 35kg per m².
- Paving, bluestone & sandstone pitchers are heavier at approximately 50kg per m².

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.

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