



## **INFORMATION & GUIDELINES FOR THE INSTALLATION OF MARDI GRAS GLASS**

### **RECOMMENDED INSTALLATION**

Solistone Mardi Gras Glass mosaics are not recommended for areas that may be subject to heavy impact, heavy abrasion, and areas where temperatures can exceed 130 degrees Fahrenheit. These tiles are not recommended for exterior applications or areas exposed to direct sunlight as the color will fade.

We always recommend dry-fitting your pattern first to think about your cuts in advance and to make sure you like the pattern. This will also help you choose which pieces go where, which is especially helpful with tiles that have a lot of variation.

**NOTE:** this document contains only guidelines for the installation process. A professional installer should always be consulted to discuss the specific parameters surrounding your project.

### **SUBSTRATES**

All substrates should be firmly fixed, flat, clean, dry and free of contaminants such as dust, oil, paint, sealers etc. to ensure proper adhesion. Painted surfaces must be scuffed or sanded for the product and adhesive to bond correctly. Wet areas need special attention and require appropriate substrates, e.g. concrete, cement boards (compressed sheet), and/or treated plywood. The use of reinforced waterproof membranes is suggested, and in the case of floors, a fall to the drainage point of no less than two inches.

### **WATERPROOF MEMBRANES**

Waterproof membranes prevent leakage of water through to the 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 be used in all wet areas. Some systems may involve the use of a primer.

### **CUTTING**

The glass can easily be cut with a curved splitting clamp or a glass cutter. The mesh back can easily be cut with a utility knife.



## **ADHESIVE**

**Important: No adhesives with strong acid and alkaline cement should be used when installing this product. Only neutral cement is allowed.**

Follow the adhesive manufacturer's instructions carefully. We do not recommend one brand of adhesive over another. Please check with your local tile supply store for alternative and comparable products.

The manufacturer's literature will explain if the adhesive product is suitable for interiors and/or exteriors, as well as walls and floors. Most thinset mortars with a latex additive

(multi purpose and polymer modified thinsets) are adequate for installing glass. 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 should be used as a minimum. A 1/4" – 1/8" notch trowel is recommended for most applications. Set the tile in place gently tapping it in with a grout float to ensure 100% adhesive coverage.

## **GROUTING**

Non-sanded grout is recommended due to the size of the joint in between each piece of glass. Grouts are ordinarily a water mix, but where some flexibility may be needed, a latex additive or similar product should be used.

## **SEALANTS**

The glass tiles do not have to be sealed but we strongly recommend sealing the grout after installation to help prevent it from absorbing stains.

## **CARE & CLEANING**

Solistone Mardi Gras Glass mosaic must be regularly cleaned and maintained to extend the life and beauty of the tile. The tiles can be cleaned with a neutral mild detergent, or glass cleaner. Any spills should be cleaned quickly to lessen the degree of the stain to the grout. Do not use abrasive cleaners, powders, scouring pads, steel wool or sandpaper.