

# CLASSICAL FLAGSTONES

## HOW TO..... TILE TO RENDER WALLS

### PREPARATION

The render must be at least 2 weeks old to enable movement caused by drying shrinkage to have taken place. The render must be clean, dry and free from dust, laitance or any contaminants which may act as a release agent and prevent the adhesive from bonding to the substrate. If the render is dusty, dry brush with a wire brush and remove the loose dust. Brush apply Norcros Prime Bond, diluted 1: 4 with water, to seal the surface. Allow to dry. Tiles up to a maximum of 20mm thick may be fixed to cement: sand render backgrounds in good condition. It must be ensured however that the tiles are fully supported until the adhesive has fully dried.



### SETTING OUT

Tiling should be set out from the centre of the walls, either the centre of a tile in the centre of the wall or the joint between two tiles in the centre of the wall, whichever option will avoid small cuts of the tiles.

Make a gauge rod using a length of straight timber. Along the length of the timber mark out the width of the tiles, leaving a gap at least 2mm wide between each tile. Set out the horizontal position of the tiles so that the same size cuts are made either side of windows etc, avoiding any small cuts.

At the lowest point of the wall to which you are tiling, such as the skirting board, work surface etc, place an uncut tile and draw a line along the top of the tile. Nail a batten below this line, using a spirit level to make sure it is level. The first line of tiles will rest on this batten.

Measure the width of the wall and mark the centre point. Draw a vertical line down at this centre point using a spirit level to make sure that the line is straight. Start tiling at this centre point.

### FIXING

Fix tiles in a 3mm thick solid bed (i.e. ensuring no voids remain beneath the tiles) of One Part Flexible White adhesive. Gradually add 3.5 parts of adhesive powder to 1 part of clean cold water and stir until a smooth lump free consistency is achieved. Mix only enough material that can be used within the pot life of the product (around 4 hours at 20°C).



## **APPLICATION**

Using a suitable notched wall trowel held at a 45° angle, spread the adhesive onto the floor to form parallel ribs into which the tiles should be pushed with a firm twisting action, this will collapse the ribs of adhesive and produce a 2-3mm solid bed of adhesive beneath the tiles. Work in small areas and discard any adhesive that begins to dry or 'skin over'. Tiles with deeply keyed back profiles may need to be back buttered. In areas subject to wetting such as showers, it is essential that a solid bed of adhesive is achieved beneath the tiles. Wipe off any adhesive residues from the surface of the tiles using a damp sponge before the adhesive sets. Remove deposits of adhesive which may build up in the gaps between the tiles.



## **CUTTING TILES**

Some porcelain and Natural Stone tiles can be difficult to cut and good quality tools are required. These can be bought or in some instances hired. A slide cutter and nippers are essential, however an electric wet cutter will make the job easier. For intricate cuts a cardboard template will help to achieve more accurate results.

## **GROUTING**

Allow the adhesive to dry.

The joints should be filled using either Norcros Stop Mould , Norcros Wall Tile Grout or Norcros 4 into 1 Grout (In areas subject to wetting or high humidity, the use of either Norcros Stop Mould or 4 into 1 Grout is recommended).

Approximately 3 parts grout powder should be added to 1 part water, ensuring that the powder is added to the liquid to prevent the product from flash setting. Manually mix the grout to reduce the amount of air incorporated into the mix.

Holding a soft rubber grout float at 45°, sweep the mixed grout diagonally across the tiles, ensuring that the grout is pushed fully into the joints. Clean off as much grout from the surface of the tiles as possible and allow the grout to become touch dry. Clean off the grout residues with a damp sponge wiped diagonally across the tiles. Allow the tiles to dry and buff the surface with a dry cloth. Any stubborn residues may be cleaned off with washing up detergent mixed with warm water within 24 hours of grouting.

N.B. Before grouting commences trial a small inconspicuous area to check that the grout does not stain the tiles. If there is any risk of staining, the tiles should be fully sealed using a proprietary sealer before grouting begins.

