

SIMINETTI MOTHER OF PEARL MOSAIC SAFETY, INSTALLATION AND AFTER-CARE GUIDE

The details are guidance only and are given to ensure the beauty of your Mother of Pearl mosaic is maintained for many years to come. The information herein is a guide and is not exhaustive.

1) Application of the Mosaics

One of the great strengths of the mosaics is that they are an extremely strong mosaic given their relative thickness. This strength is achieved through the natural material. This allows for the mosaics to be used in many areas, including Walls, Floors, Swimming Pools, Showers, Wet-Rooms, Spa's etc. (Some colours are not suitable for Swimming Pools or external use, consult your supplier for details).

1a) Installation

When installing the mosaics we recommend you choose a recognised installer who has experience in the installation of mosaics. Mosaics are not difficult to install but they require more surface preparation than would normally be used for larger tiles.

We recommend the use of a Mosaic Adhesive in all cases. Preferably a white adhesive should be used as this ensures the colour of the mosaics is not effected by the colour of the background adhesive. Darker adhesives may adjust the tonal colour of the mosaics once installed.

The type of mosaic adhesive used will depend on the substrate onto which the mosaics are being installed. Consult your installer for the correct material type to be used. Siminetti recommend MAPEI adhesives are used with its products but other manufacturers products may be suitable.

Mesh backed sheets. The individual tesserae are fixed onto a fibre mesh support which is placed into the tile adhesive applied to the substrate on which the mosaics are to be mounted. It is recommended that a maximum trowel notch depth of 2mm is used to ensure that the adhesive does not squeeze through the grout joints when the sheets are applied to the adhesive. Due to the minimal weight of each sheet, it is recommended that minimal pressure be applied when fixing the sheets to the adhesive to prevent possible squeezing through of the adhesive.

Paper faced sheets. The individual tesserae are fixed onto a paper sheet. The paper sheet should NOT be fixed into the adhesive and should be facing away from the substrate on to which the mosaics are to be installed. The tesserae showing on the reverse of the sheet should be placed into the adhesive previously applied to the substrate onto which the mosaics are being installed. It is recommended that a maximum trowel notch depth of 2mm is used to ensure that the adhesive does not squeeze through the grout joints when the sheets are applied to the adhesive. Due to the minimal weight of each sheet, it is recommended that minimal pressure be applied when fixing the sheets to the adhesive to prevent possible squeezing through of the adhesive.

Once the adhesive has cured, the paper can be removed by applying water to its surface. The water should be applied sparingly and allowed a little time to soak into the paper after which the water soluble glue binding the paper to the mosaics will be diluted and the paper can be peeled away. If the paper does not peel away easily re-apply water or wait for a longer period for the water to be fully absorbed by the glue. Caution:- If the adhesive securing the mosaics to the substrate has not fully cured, then the individual tesserae may come away from the substrate when the paper is removed.

1b) Cutting the Mosaics

On occasion it maybe necessary to cut the mosaics to ensure a correct fitting. The mosaics can be easily cut with a diamond disc using a wet or dry process. The mosaics are not prone to splintering or shattering, however as with any mechanical process we recommend the wearing of a dust mask along with safety eye and hand wear are used at all times during the cutting process.

As the mosaics are produced from a natural process, there maybe dust and a slight odour given off during any cutting process. It is recommend that any cutting is carried out in a well ventilated area.

1c) Grouting

Siminetti recommends Mapei Kerapoxy Easy Design Grout is used with its products. Mapei Kerapoxy Easy Design is an epoxy grout that offers enhanced ease of use and exceptional shine performance. Other manufacturers grouts may be suitable and should be clarified with your installer prior to application.

Grouts can be applied in the recommended industry fashion. The grout will not penetrate the mosaics however care should be taken when applying the grout to not use mechanical products which may damage the surface of the mosaics. Rubber trowels and sponges are recommended tools.

1d) Removal of Installation Residue

DO NOT USE acids or similar strength materials as this may break-down the surface of the Mother of Pearl or Shell resulting in porosity or a reduction in the polished effect. If using a grout cleaning agent, test an area of the mosaics to ensure it does not damage the mosaics.

2) Aftercare & Cleaning

A soft cloth with warm water should easily clean off the mosaics. DO NOT USE acids or similar strength materials as this may break-down the bond resulting in porosity or a reduction in the polished effect. If unsure about the strength of a cleaning agent, we recommend trailing it on a small area in the first instance.

Notes

Siminetti products are produced from 100% natural products and as such samples colour may differ from actual supplied product colours due to the natural production process of Mother of Pearl and/ or Shell product. Dyed colours are not suitable for external use or areas prone to excessive sunlight. Products used externally may show some signs of natural fading when exposed to direct sunlight. IF IN DOUBT WE RECOMMEND CONSULTING YOUR SUPPLIER or e-mail SALES@SIMINETTI.COM

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SIMINETTI MOTHER OF PEARL DECORATIVE PANEL SAFETY, INSTALLATION & AFTER CARE

The following details are given as guidance only and to ensure the beauty of your Mother of Pearl Decorative Panel(s) is maintained for many years to come. The information herein is a guide and is not exhaustive.

1) Application of the Decorative Panels

One of the great strengths of the Decorative Panels is that they are extremely strong, water proof and lightweight given their relative thickness. This strength and minimal weight is achieved through the use of an Aluminium Honeycomb backing onto which the Mother of Pearl is fixed. This allows for the Decorative Panels to be used in many areas, including Walls, Showers, Wet-Rooms, Spa's, Furnishings etc. Siminetti Decorative Panels are also suitable for Kitchen Back-splashes. The Decorative Panels are NOT recommended for floor areas due to the surface area being highly polished and this may create a slip surface.

1a) Installation

When installing the Decorative Panels we recommend you choose a recognised installer who has experience in the installation of panels or large format products. Siminetti Decorative Panels are not difficult to install but it is important that the surface onto which they are to be installed is suitable and stable.

We recommend the use of a Tile Adhesive or strong Gel Adhesive in all cases. In all cases the adhesive should be suitable for adhesion to aluminium and the surface on which the panel is to be placed. Due to the nature of the panels, the colour of the adhesive used will not effect the surface finish and thus all colours are acceptable.

The type of adhesive used will depend on the substrate onto which the panels are being installed. Consult your installer for the correct adhesive to be used. Siminetti recommend MAPEI Adhesives are used with its products but other manufacturers products may be suitable.

When applying the adhesive, we recommend applying the adhesive to the aluminium surface on the rear of the panel and then placing the panel up against the surface to which it is to be placed. With the panels being light it weight only a thin layer of adhesive is generally required but this actually quantity will depend on the adhesive being used and the manufacturers instructions should be followed in all cases. To achieve the most secure fixing it is recommended that adhesive is applied to the full aluminium rear surface.

1b) Cutting Siminetti Decorative Panels

On occasion it maybe necessary to cut the panels to ensure a correct fitting or installation of other services, pipe-works, mirrors etc. The panels can be easily cut or drilled with diamond tipped cutting tools using a wet or dry process. The panels are not prone to splintering or shattering, however as with any mechanical process we recommend the wearing of a dust mask along with safety eye and hand wear are used at all times during the cutting process. As the panels are produced using natural Mother of Pearl, there maybe dust and a slight odour given off during any cutting process. It is recommend that any cutting is carried out in a well ventilated area.

1c) Jointing / Finishing of Siminetti Decorative Panels

When installing Siminetti Decorative Panels, it is recommended that panel edge and jointing trims are used to achieve the ultimate finished effect. However the client is free to choose the manner in which any joints or exposed edges are finished once the panel(s) are installed. Finishing options include, sealant, grouts or recommended panel edge trims. If using grouts or sealants, it is recommended that the colour chosen compliments the colour of the Mother of Pearl Decoration. Siminetti Decorative Panels are 8mm thick (unless otherwise specified), 6mm Aluminium Honeycomb and 2mm Mother of Pearl. To complete the installation of the panels, tile panel edge trims can be used to close off the ends or to join two panels across a larger surface area. Siminetti recommend the use of Genesis Panel trims but other manufacturers products are available. When finishing with panels in wet environments, i.e.. Showers, it is recommended that a clear silicon is placed along the edge to be fitted with a trim to ensure a water tight joint.

Siminetti Decorative Panels do not require secondary sealing for use in Wet Areas or External Areas.

1d) Removal of Installation Residues

DO NOT USE acids or similar strength materials as this may break-down the surface of the Mother of Pearl or Shell resulting in porosity or a reduction in the polished effect. If using adhesive or grout cleaning agents, ALWAYS test an area of the panels to ensure no damage has occurred.

2) Cleaning and Aftercare Instructions

A soft cloth with warm water should easily clean off your Decorative Panel(s). DO NOT USE acids or similar strength materials as this may break-down the bond resulting in porosity or a reduction in the polished effect. If unsure about the strength of a cleaning agent, we recommend trailing it on a small area in the first instance.

Notes

Siminetti Decorative Panels are produced from an Aluminium Honeycomb which consists of 2 layers of aluminium sheet separated by an aluminium honeycomb grid. The Mother of Pearl decorative surface is produced from 100% natural products and as such sample colours may differ from actual supplied product colours due to the natural production process of Mother of Pearl and/or Shell product. Dyed colours are not used within the production of Siminetti Decorative Panels. Products suitable for external use may show signs of natural weathering dependent upon the climatic conditions in which they are installed. All products suitable for external use are frost proof to BS ENO ISO 10545-12 certification.

IF IN DOUBT WE RECOMMEND CONSULTING YOUR SUPPLIER or e-mail SALES@SIMINETTI.COM
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