SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS

3D Cork Bricks™ Installation Instructions (Beveled Bricks Instructions on page 3)

***General Instructions*:**

Packaged tiles should be acclimated on site for at least 72 hours before installation (Note: it is important to open the boxes and remove the plastic to effectively acclimate). Extend acclimation time if in dry climate.
Due to inherent shade and texture variations, it is recommended to mix material from multiple boxes if ordered in multiple box increments.
The recommended substrate for installing the 3D Cork Bricks is smooth, flat, primed, cured, and clean surface, free of any contaminants that would affect the self-adhesive bond.
Install 'cork brick' tiles once desired layout is determined, using either a 'water-based' contact cement or a 'single component' unilateral glue.

***Detailed Instructions*:**

These instructions are designed to supplement common sense during the installation procedure. If you have any questions, please contact your supplier prior to the installation process.

Substrate:

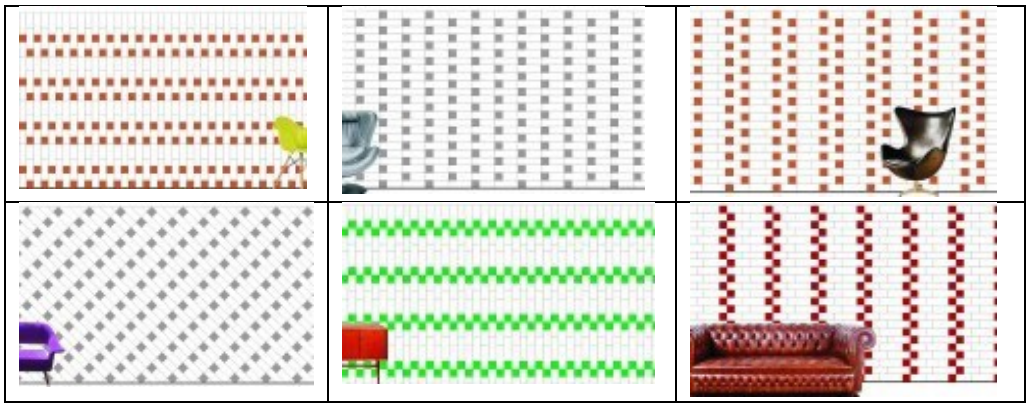
The substrate to which the 3D Cork Bricks are installed, must be cured (painted or primed), structurally sound and flat (free of voids, and level within ½" over 48"), dry, clean, and free of any contaminants (such as dust, adhesive, drywall compound, etc.) which would affect adhesion.
Note: If any of these characteristics are not met, it is imperative to fix them prior to the start of installation process. If in doubt, contact your supplier for application assistance.

Acclimation:

Acclimating involves bringing the 3D Cork Bricks to equilibrium within the space to which they will be installed. We recommend allowing the material to acclimate for 72 hours prior to installation, in the space to which the material will be installed (at year round climatic conditions). Acclimating is achieved by opening the boxes, removing the plastic around the bricks, and allowing air to flow between the individual 3D Cork Bricks. Note: it is important to open the boxes and remove the plastic to effectively acclimate the material to the room conditions. If the material is NOT properly acclimated (depending on the site conditions), the 3D Cork Bricks can shrink, visually revealing the substrate to which the 3D Cork Bricks are installed, or they could expand slightly. 3D Cork Bricks are best installed at room temperature. ***Please Note*: Shrinkage and/or expansion is not considered a manufacturing defect.**

Layout:

3D Cork Bricks come in set sizes (3 different sizes, each with a different thickness), and can be installed in a multitude of layouts or orientations – either by pattern or done randomly. The choice of layout is up to you, but here are some standard layout options if you prefer guidance.



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Sorting:
It is always recommended to mix multiple boxes of material together when you are installing in a multiple box increment. Cork is a natural material that inherently has variations in size, color, and shape, and this is expected, and one of the beauties of using 3D Cork Bricks.

Working with 3D Cork Bricks:
3D Cork Bricks are solid cork bark tiles with a peel & stick installation system. 3D Cork Bricks take on the structure of its mounting surface. When required, 3D Cork Bricks can be cut with standard woodworking tools or a straight edge.
3D Cork Bricks have naturally occurring characteristics including but not limited to color variation, open pores, and minor size variations. Always test fit the 3D Cork Bricks prior to removing the adhesive liner.

Recommended adhesives:
There are 2 recommended adhesives for the installation of the Cork Bricks, either a 'water-based' contact Cement or a 'single-component' unilateral glue. Each method has certain pros and cons. Should you have specific questions about the pros/cons and/or installation methods, please contact your Sustainable Materials representative.

1) WAKOL D3540 (water-based contact adhesive. Water-based contact cements sets very quickly which allows one to start in the middle of the application area, as well as move through the installation process in the most time effective manner. Installation surfaces should be primed and/or painted (*see above note)* prior to use of the contact adhesive, with the topical coating be in a 'cured' state. (Please note: unprimed walls will absorb contact adhesive, diminishing its' effectiveness, and therefore this is not recommended). **FOLLOW THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS ON THE CONTACT CEMENT SELECTED FOR THE INSTALLATION**. Contact adhesive is to be applied to both the application substrate and the back of the Concrete Flex tiles and left to dry (for a minimum of 45 minutes) prior to being suitable for the actual installation process to commence. Installing before the contact cement is fully dry (on either surface) will result in ineffective adhesion. Tap/hit tiles with a soft-headed mallet (min. 2" face) to "set" the adhesive bond completely.
2) WAKOL MS262 (single component urethane adhesive). Though it does not enable an immediate permanent bond like that created with 'contact adhesive', it is often considered easier in that the adhesive is applied to only one surface (the wall), and by the nature of the product, there is more time to set (and/or move as needed) the Concrete Flex pieces into place on the wall. For installing with the MS262 adhesive, a U-Notch 1/32" x 1/16" x 1/32" trowel should be used. Apply the adhesive directly to the primed surface and spread with trowel (into level and even beads). Press the Concrete Flex material directly into the adhesive and roll with hand-roller (kitchen rolling pin, etc.) to ensure even and level bond. **Note: It is important to follow the manufacturers recommendation as it relates to the application and ensuring the tiles are applied within the optimal open time** (*see instructions included in the packaging*). High humidity will decrease your working time so adjust accordingly.

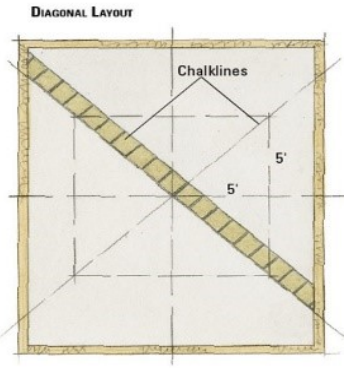
Installation Procedure:
Once your substrate is properly prepared, the material is acclimated, and you have determined the layout you will use, the installation can begin.

Follow the manufacturers recommendations for the adhesive selected.

Based upon the layout chosen, determine where you want to start the installation.

For horizontal or vertical (full wall) installations, it is recommended to mark off a level line (using a level) at roughly eye level (approx. 72" up from the floor), and then another line, vertically, at the center of the space to which the 3D Cork Bricks are being installed. Where the lines cross, is where you should begin. You can also measure a certain distance off the floor (or the ceiling), and use that as the level line for installing – this works fine if the floor (or wall) is level.

For diagonal installations, it is recommended to follow a similar method as above (by finding the center point of the wall), but instead of relying on horizontal and vertical lines, you will draw diagonal lines at 90 degrees to one another. Once these diagonal chalk lines are drawn, you then need to determine in which direction you want the 3D Cork Bricks to be oriented (either along the left line, or the right line).



To install the 3D Cork Bricks:

- Align one edge of first cork piece along the guideline (ie: starting point) you created, and press the Cork Brick into place (avoid touching the adhesive surface, or allowing it to get dirty or wet).
- Install subsequent 3D Cork Bricks in the same fashion, until the installation is complete.
- Please note that it is advisable to install the subsequent 3D Cork Bricks at an angle, starting the placement at the edge of the Cork Brick formerly installed to ensure that the 3D Cork Bricks are abutting each other tightly.

Beveled Bricks Installation Instructions

***General Instructions*:**

Packaged tiles should be acclimated on site for at least 72 hours before installation (Note: it is important to open the boxes and remove the plastic to effectively acclimate). Extend acclimation time if in dry climate.
Due to inherent shade and texture variations, it is recommended to mix material from multiple boxes if ordered in multiple box increments.
The recommended substrate for installing the Beveled Bricks is smooth, flat, primed, cured, and clean surface, free of any contaminants that would affect the self-adhesive bond. Install 'cork brick' tiles once desired layout is determined.
The Beveled Cork Bricks should be installed in the same fashion and method as the 3D Cork Bricks (ie: same options), with the one caveat being that the Beveled Cork Bricks can be supplied with a 'self-adhesive' backing (ie: peel and stick). In such an application, in most situations we would also recommend that Contact Cement is applied to the wall surface (not necessary on the back of the tiles), as this will ensure a permanent bond. Note: the 'self-adhesive' backing is typically semi-permanent, and depending on variations in humidity and temperature, the 'self-adhesive', on its' own, can lose some of it adhesion characteristics.

***Detailed Instructions*:**

These instructions are designed to supplement common sense during the installation procedure. If you have any questions, please contact your supplier prior to the installation process.

Substrate:

The substrate to which the Beveled Bricks are installed, must be cured (primed) structurally sound and flat (free of voids, and level within ½" over 48"), dry, clean, and free of any contaminants (such as dust, adhesive, drywall compound, etc.) which would affect adhesion.
Note: If any of these characteristics are not met, it is imperative to fix them prior to the start of installation process. If in doubt, contact your supplier for application assistance.

Acclimation:

Acclimating involves bringing the Beveled Bricks to equilibrium within the space to which they will be installed. We recommend allowing the material to acclimate for 72 hours prior to installation, in the space to which the material will be installed (at year round climatic conditions). Acclimating is achieved by opening the boxes, removing the plastic around the

bricks, and allowing air to flow between the individual Beveled Bricks. Note: it is important to open the boxes and remove the plastic to effectively acclimate the material to the room conditions. If the material is NOT properly acclimated (depending on the site conditions), the Beveled Bricks can shrink, visually revealing the substrate to which the Beveled Bricks are installed, or they could expand slightly. Beveled Bricks are best installed at room temperature.

Layout:
Beveled Bricks come in one size and can either be laid vertically or horizontally.

Sorting:
It is always recommended to mix multiple boxes of material together when you are installing in a multiple box increment. Cork is a natural material that inherently has variations in size, color, and shape, and this is expected, and one of the beauties of using Beveled Bricks.

Working with Beveled Bricks:
Beveled Bricks are solid cork bark tiles with a peel & stick installation system. Beveled Bricks take on the structure of its mounting surface. When required, Beveled Bricks can be cut with standard woodworking tools or a straight edge.
Beveled Bricks have naturally occurring characteristics including but not limited to color variation, open pores, and minor size variations. Always test fit the Beveled Bricks prior to removing the adhesive liner.

Installation Procedure:
Once your substrate is properly prepared, the material is acclimated, and you have determined the layout you will use, the installation can begin.

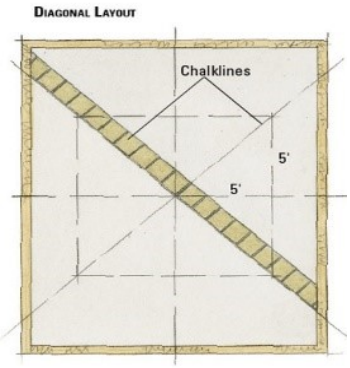
If you opted for the "peel and stick" version of the Beveled Cork Bricks, it is recommended to roll apply one coating of the recommended 'water-based' contact cement to the wall, and once it is dry, you can apply the 'peel and stick' tiles. Though you can also apply the 'peel and stick' tiles without this adhesive, for permanent installations it is recommended.

If you opted for the standard Beveled Cork Bricks (NOT 'peel and stick'), follow the procedures and recommendations above (under 3D Cork Bricks) for using the MS 262 adhesive.

Based upon the layout chosen, determine where you want to start the installation.

For horizontal or vertical (full wall) installations, it is recommended to mark off a level line (using a level) at roughly eye level (approx. 72" up from the floor), and then another line, vertically, at the center of the space to which the Beveled Bricks are being installed. Where the lines cross, is where you should begin. You can also measure a certain distance off the floor (or the ceiling), and use that as the level line for installing – this works fine if the floor (or wall) is level.

For diagonal installations, it is recommended to follow a similar method as above (by finding the center point of the wall), but instead of relying on horizontal and vertical lines, you will draw diagonal lines at 90 degrees to one another. Once these diagonal chalk lines are drawn, you then need to determine in which direction you want the Beveled Bricks to be oriented (either along the left line, or the right line).



- If using the 'self-adhesive' version, remove adhesive liner (avoid touching the adhesive surface, or allowing it to get dirty or wet), and align one edge along the guideline (ie: starting point) you created, and press the Beveled Brick into place.
- It is recommended to initially gently press the Beveled Bricks into place, which allows you an opportunity to check the alignment before continuing.
- If adjustment is needed, do so now as needed.
- If you are satisfied with the Beveled Bricks placement, apply more aggressive pressure to more permanently bond the Beveled Brick to the substrate.
- Install subsequent Beveled Bricks in the same fashion, until the installation is complete.

- Please note that it is advisable to install the subsequent Beveled Bricks at an angle, starting the placement at the edge of the Beveled Brick formerly installed to ensure that the Beveled Bricks are abutting each other tightly.

Cleaning and Maintenance for 3D Cork Bricks and Beveled Bricks

The 3D Cork Bricks and Beveled Bricks are coated with an 'immersion coating' that does not require an additional application of finish in most applications. If you are concerned about scuffing and staining, you can always apply a topical coating of urethane to the surface once installed, but this is not necessary.

Maintenance includes dusting as needed, and cleaning with a water-based, PH-balanced cleaning solution if needed.

If you have any questions about the installation procedure at any point during the installation, stop the installation immediately, and contact your supplier for assistance and recommendations.