



## **Muratto Korkstone - Installation Instructions**

### **Important:**

- 1) Do not install with temperatures below 60° F (15°C). **Muratto Korkstone** should be kept at the same temperature as the room conditions, both prior to and during the installation process.
- 2) **Korkstone** needs to acclimate to site conditions prior to the start of the installation process. Though we recommend a default time of 72 hours, acclimating is not a function of time, but rather balancing of the moisture content of the material to the installation environment. Sometimes this takes longer, but it is critical that equilibrium is met or excessive expansion and/or contraction can occur.
- 3) Acclimating involves opening the packs of cork so that the tiles have access to air on all sides, so they achieve an equalized moisture/humidity level as the conditioned environment into which it will be installed (ie: HVAC running and operable). If the cork is not acclimated prior to installation, either gapping or expansion can occur. **Please Note: Shrinkage and/or expansion is not considered a manufacturing defect.**
- 4) It is advisable, though not required, to paint the walls in a similar color to the cork material being installed (so if movement does occur, color contrast is kept to a minimum).
- 5) Walls need to be clean and smooth, free of dirt, waxes, polishes, old adhesive, paint and voids. Follow directions on adhesive manufacturer's label to complete installation.
- 6) Note: cork is a natural product that includes voids, gaps and holes. Some bricks may have voids that go fully through the tile. These pieces can be used in less conspicuous portions of the installation (low or high), or pre-paint the wall (as referenced above).
- 7) It is recommended that the **Muratto Korkstone** is applied to primed or painted substrates, as this will help ensure effective adhesion. When priming, it should be fully cured.

### **Adhesive:**

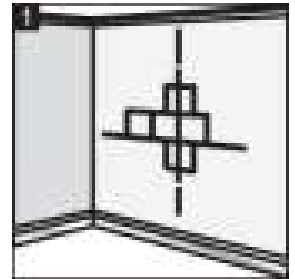
Cork is a wood product and loves glue. Make sure that the adhesive you choose will make strong contact with the wall surface you are applying the cork to as different wall surfaces all take adhesive different. It is always recommended to test a small area with the selected adhesive prior to undertaking the installation if you question either the adhesive used or the preparation of the substrate. The 2 recommended adhesives are referenced below.

- 1) Water-based contact cement is generally the most straight-forward option. Product sets very quickly (ie: immediately) which allows to start in the middle of the wall. Wakol Loba D3540 is the recommended adhesive, which is designed specifically for use with cork. It is important to follow the manufacturers recommendations as it relates to the application and ensuring a solid bond. A note relative to the setting procedure using the D3540 product, is that once the tile is placed on the wall, it should be forced (with impact) into place to ensure the chemical cross-linking occurs to create a solid bond.



- 2) Construction adhesive. We recommend MS-262. Though it does not enable an immediate permanent bond like that created with 'contact cement', 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 Cork Strip pieces in the proper position on the wall. We typically recommend an 1/8" notched trowel. It is important to follow the manufacturer's recommendation as it relates to the application and ensuring the tiles are applied with the optimal open time.

**Tips:** Establish a level line (if installing horizontally), and a plumb (vertical) line to work from. Use a measuring tape, 4' level and a non-staining chalk line.



Pre-lay or visually lay out the material before applying to the wall. The bricks are 'dipped' for pigmenting, meaning both sides of the cork pieces are considered 'finished' – so, visually select the side that is desirable (to be faced out). If using contact cement for adhesion, lay the 'back' side face up and coat with contact cement per the manufacturer's instructions.

It may be helpful to pre-cut the cork pieces on the ground, as opposed to on the wall for vertical seam applications. Use a utility / carpenter's knife or miter saw with sharp blade to cut material being careful not to damage edges.

Make sure there is 100% coverage on adhesive on the back side of each piece, to ensure an effective bond. And, remember to follow the adhesive manufacturer's application instructions relative to set and open times. **Please note: ineffective adhesion is not a product defect, nor a warrantable claim, and it is always recommended to test the adhesion of a product prior to its use**

**\*\*For any INSTALLATION questions– Please contact Sustainable Materials or your local representative\*\***

### **Muratto Korkstone - Care and Maintenance Instructions**

The **Muratto Korkstone** are manufactured from natural cork bark that is immersed in special pigments. The immersion coating provides surface protection that aids in stain resistance and the clean ability of the product, in an environmentally safe manner.

Stains should be removed as quickly as possible to eliminate any possible reaction between the staining agent and the product. Time is especially important for removing materials containing colors or solvents such as ball point pens, nail polish, lipstick, oil shampoo tints, paint, lacquer, enamel, and certain food items.

**Precautions:** Excess soiling materials such as chewing gum, asphalt, crayon, paint, nail polish, or tar should be carefully scraped off prior to the application of other cleaning attempts.

**Cleaning:** The normal cleaning of the product should be done with a dry and soft lint-free cloth or dry sponge. If stained, a stronger cleaning is required. Rinse thoroughly with clean, clear water, often to insure the water remains clean and clear. After cleaning an area, be sure to dry with an absorbent cloth so it can be examined to ensure complete cleaning.



**Deep Cleaning:** If more vigorous cleaning is needed, you can clean wall with BonaX surface cleaner available from your local hardware store or [www.bona.com](http://www.bona.com). Sustainable Materials further recommends using Terry Cloth to prevent scratching or marring of wall.

For cleaning deeply embossed grains, you may vacuum with a clean vacuum cleaner brush (do NOT use a vacuum with a “beater” bar).

**NOTE:** Do not use wet mops, wet scrubbers or steam cleaners as these products may cause irreversible discoloration and damages

**NOTE:** NEVER USE ABRASIVE CLEANERS OR MIX CLEANING REAGENTS TOGETHER, AS VIOLENT REACTIONS MAY OCCUR WHEN CHEMICALS ARE MIXED WHICH COULD CAUSE VIOLENT REACTIONS. OBSERVE ALL LABEL PRECAUTIONS WHEN USING ANY CLEANING AGENTS.