

## FOR INTERIOR PROJECTS

### What you'll need:

- AirStone Interior Adhesive (\*unless adhering to wood, see below)
- Putty knife
- Hacksaw (or power saw with a masonry blade)

**INTERIORS:** Smear an adequate amount of adhesive along the entire back of the stone (think icing a cupcake, not buttering toast). Approved interior substrates include drywall, brick, tile, stone, stucco, cement board, concrete block, metal. If substrate is painted, paint must be in good condition (peeling, chipping paint will need to be scraped/sanded and cleaned). **\*Note regarding wood:** Use a polyurethane construction adhesive when adhering AirStone to wood. Wood will move when exposed to water or to fluctuating humidity, so use discretion as to its suitability as an interior substrate.

## FOR EXTERIOR PROJECTS

### What you'll need:

- A premium polyurethane construction adhesive. A polymer modified mortar (ANSI A118.4) may also be used (requires mixing)
- Cartridge gun
- Hacksaw (or power saw with a masonry blade)

### **EXTERIORS:**

#### I. For adhering AirStone directly to the exterior of a home or commercial structure

AirStone can be adhered directly to the following substrates: existing exposed brick walls, existing exposed concrete or concrete block walls and foundations, existing exposed stucco walls, existing exposed tile walls. Do not adhere AirStone to wood, wood panels, cement board panels or any sheathing which is hung from the frame of the home or commercial structure. This is because the structure may move or settle over time. NOTE: AirStone may always be installed using traditional, industry-accepted methods of installation for conventional artificial stone.

#### II. For an exterior project that is detached from the home

For outdoor projects such as mailboxes, outdoor kitchens, etc., AirStone may be adhered directly to any of the approved substrates listed above, in addition to exterior grade cement backer board. Wood is not recommended as an exterior substrate.

**For all exterior installations:** Use a polyurethane construction adhesive. Apply an adequate amount of adhesive to the back of the stone (in regions with above average freeze/thaw cycles, more adhesive is necessary). NOTE: leave a 1/2" gap between the ground (soil, pavement, steps, deck, etc.) and the bottom row of AirStone to prevent cracking in case of ground swell/settlement.

### Helpful hints

- Alternate piece sizes to break up the vertical seams
- Minimize seams by snugly fitting together the pieces.
- When hanging artwork, etc., proper anchoring to the supporting wall is necessary. Use a drill, not a hammer and nail.
- Prior to installation, mix contents of different boxes to assure color consistency.
- **Backsplashes:** Just like natural stone, grease will stain AirStone. For areas directly exposed to cooking splatter, a high-quality sealant designed for porous stone or concrete may be used, however, we cannot guarantee the effectiveness of various sealants.

For video installation tips, visit [airstone.com](http://airstone.com)

### Preparation

- Wipe or blow off any dust from the back of the stone before applying the adhesive.
- The wall surface must be flat, smooth, clean, free of dust, dirt, grease, oil, loose paint/wallpaper or foreign matter.
- Only apply to a substrate that is and always will be rigid (i.e., water or moisture will not cause it to move).
- Read and follow the adhesive instructions regarding temperature limitations and cure times.

### General Installation (read and follow specific directions for Interior/Exterior projects first)

- Start at the bottom and work horizontally. For fireplaces, it may be advisable to begin above the fireplace opening, then work down from there. Make sure the first row is level, for it will be the foundation for all the other rows.
- The first (bottom) row may need mechanical support until fully cured, depending on humidity and other factors.
- Press stone firmly and evenly to the wall, allowing adhesive to compress.
- Wipe any adhesive off the face of the stone before it dries.
- AirStone is not intended for any horizontal surface including counter tops, hearths, ceilings, or any surface receiving foot/auto traffic.

### Cutting

- Use a common hacksaw or a power saw with a masonry blade.
- Start sawing on the face of the stone, not the back side.
- A new hacksaw blade improves cutting speed and quality.
- Hide cut edges by positioning the cut edge so that it cannot be seen.
- Be sure that the back of the stone is free of saw dust.
- If using a wet saw, allow stone to totally dry before applying adhesive.

### Clean-Up

- AirStone Interior Adhesive: warm water
- AirStone Exterior Adhesive: mineral spirits

**AirStone has a "Class A" fire rating and is safe to use around typical fireplaces.**

### **IMPORTANT**

**1<sup>st</sup> rule of thumb:** If the substrate might move due to expansion, contraction, settlement or lack of rigidity, then the substrate is not an approved backing for AirStone.

**2<sup>nd</sup> rule of thumb:** If the wall is exposed to moisture – even if it is an interior wall – use a polyurethane construction adhesive.

**3<sup>rd</sup> rule of thumb:** Water will penetrate between the seams of the AirStones, so when installing outdoors or in areas exposed to water, either install on an existing outdoor surface that is weatherproof, take measures to keep the interior of the substrate dry, or otherwise take steps to avoid the accumulation of moisture. Always install according to applicable building codes.

*AirStone has been shown to adhere to the listed approved substrates if properly installed. All possible substrates can not be listed. Substrate conditions, temperature, humidity, dust and many other factors affect adhesion, and AirStone's manufacturer, distributors and retailers shall not be liable if AirStone does not adhere to a specific substrate. The adhesive product used (other than AirStone Interior Adhesive when used strictly in accordance with directions), the substrate, the method of adhesion, and the adherence to a specific substrate shall be the sole decision, and responsibility, of the customer. AirStone is not responsible for stones that dislodge from the substrate.*

*Mandatory Warning: This product contains a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer. This chemical, crystalline silica, is a component of cement. Cement is an ingredient of AirStone. Do not eat AirStone. When sawing AirStone, provide for adequate ventilation, dust suppression, or controls to keep airborne silica levels below the PEL (Permissible Exposure Limit). A NIOSH approved N-95 Series mask is recommended when cutting AirStone with a power saw.*