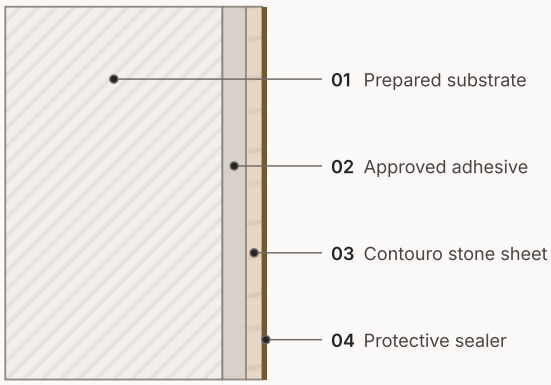
INSTALLATION GUIDE

Non-Translucent Stone Veneer Installation

Standard Interior & Exterior Applications

Five phases carry you from surface prep to the final seal. For backlit or translucent applications, see the Translucent Stone Veneer Installation Guide instead.



SECTION VIEW · LAYERS ENLARGED · NOT TO SCALE

THE FIVE PHASES

01 PREPARE SURFACE p. 2
02 MEASURE & CUT p. 4
03 APPLY ADHESIVE p. 5
04 PRESS & BOND p. 6
05 SEAL & CURE p. 8

ℹ BEFORE YOU BEGIN

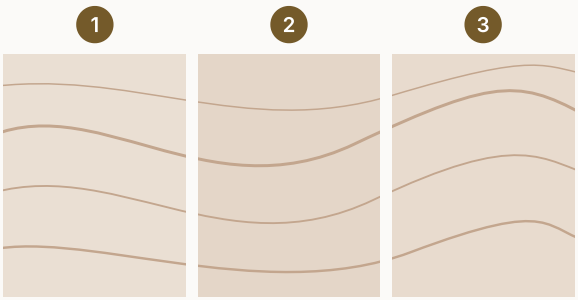
- Read the full guide before cutting or bonding any sheet.
- Always follow your adhesive and sealer manufacturers' current instructions — where they differ from this guide, theirs take precedence.

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Prepare Surface

1.1 Inspect the Sheets on Delivery

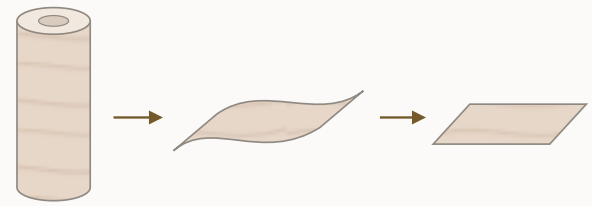
- Inspect every sheet for dimensions, surface condition, colour, and veining before cutting or bonding it.
- Arrange adjoining sheets together and confirm their sequence before installation, so colour and veining flow the way you want.
- Treat slight flaking, minor edge chipping, and natural variation in colour or texture as characteristics of genuine stone, not manufacturing defects.



Lay adjoining sheets out together — no adhesive yet. Confirm the sequence so colour and veining flow.

⚠ INSPECTING ON DELIVERY

- Report any genuine defect within 14 days of delivery.
- Once a sheet has been cut, bonded, or otherwise processed, it's no longer eligible for a quality claim.



1.2 Acclimate & Flatten the Sheets

- Lay rolled sheets flat for up to 48 hours, or until they regain their natural shape.
- Keep the installation area above 50°F (10°C), and within the adhesive manufacturer's approved temperature range.
- If you need to speed up flattening, apply gentle, continuously moving heat to the backing only — never let the stone or backing overheat.

Above 50°F (10°C) | Up to 48 hrs flat | Heat backing only

PHASE 01 OF 05 · CONTINUED

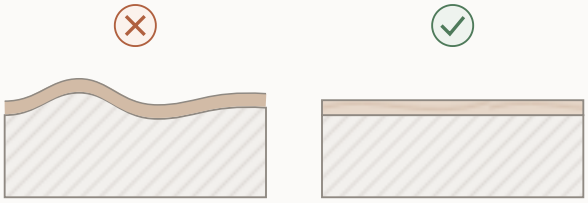
Prepare Surface

1.3 Pre-Seal to Protect the Surface

- Contouro recommends applying one coat of sealer to the sheets before installation — separate from the final protective seal applied after curing — to help protect the surface from fingerprints and handling marks.
- Wear clean gloves throughout cutting, handling, and installation to avoid transferring oils or fingerprints onto the stone face.

1.4 Prepare the Substrate

- Confirm the substrate is flat, solid, dry, fully cured, and free of dust, grease, wax, loose paint, or debris.
- Repair cracks, holes, loose areas, and visible unevenness first — the thin veneer will telegraph irregularities in the surface below.
- Confirm the substrate, any primer, and your selected adhesive are all compatible before proceeding.



1.5 Gather Essential Tools

- Bring together accurate measuring and levelling tools, a suitable stone-cutting saw, painter's tape, the approved adhesive and its specified applicator, and a clean pressure roller.
- Wear respiratory protection, safety goggles, gloves, and hearing protection whenever you're cutting stone.


Measuring tape


Spirit / laser level


Stone-cutting saw


Painter's tape


Approved adhesive


Specified applicator (e.g. notched trowel)


Clean pressure roller

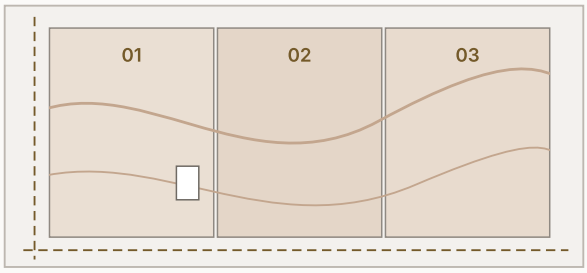

Mask, goggles, gloves, hearing protection

PHASE 02 OF 05

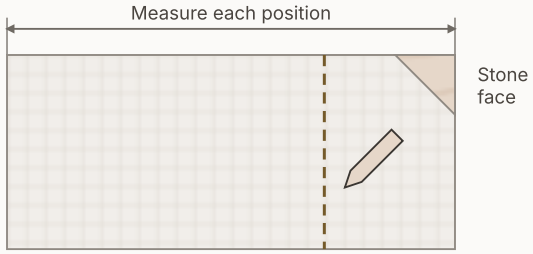
Measure & Cut

2.1 Plan the Layout

- Measure the full installation area and establish level and plumb reference lines.
- Number the sheets in sequence to control how colour and veining flow across the finished surface.
- Plan joints, corners, trim, outlets, and edge terminations before you cut anything.



Outlet planned before cutting Level & plumb reference lines



Back of sheet — mark cut lines here only

2.2 Measure and Mark

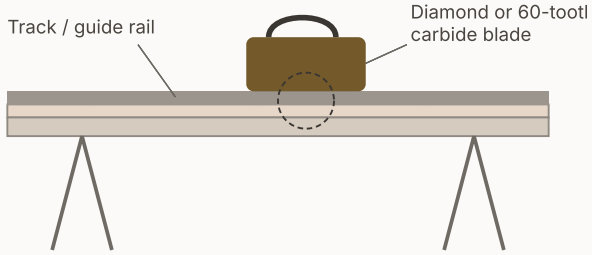
- Measure each position individually — walls and cabinetry are rarely perfectly square.
- Mark dimensions and cut lines on the back of the sheet only, and double-check them before cutting.
- Dry-fit complex pieces and penetrations before applying any adhesive.

2.3 Cut the Sheets Safely

- Support the sheet fully, and cut with a circular or track saw fitted with a continuous-rim diamond blade or a 60-tooth carbide-tipped blade.
- For curves or detailed cut-outs, use a jigsaw, oscillating multitool, CNC router, or waterjet, and test the method on an offcut first.

⚠ CUTTING SAFETY

- Cutting natural stone creates fine dust — wear a P2 mask, safety goggles, gloves, and hearing protection throughout.



Support the sheet fully along its length

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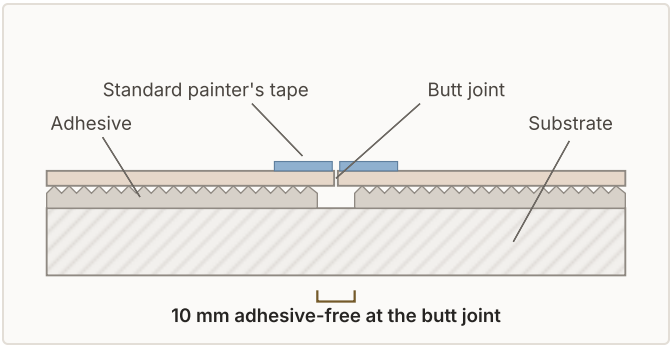
Apply Adhesive

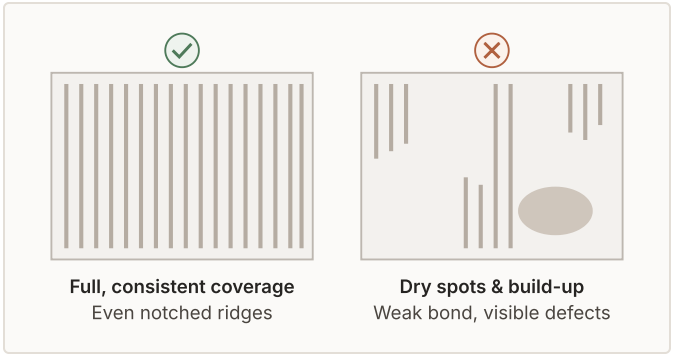
3.1 Select and Test the Adhesive

- Choose an adhesive rated for your actual substrate and conditions, including moisture, exterior exposure, or elevated temperature where relevant.
- Test the adhesive on an offcut and a representative piece of substrate, and let it cure fully before checking adhesion, staining, or distortion.
- Check the manufacturer's current instructions for compatibility, applicator type, coverage, open time, and curing requirements.

3.2 Mask the Edges

- Mask panel edges with standard painter's tape — avoid high-tack tape, which can damage the stone face on removal.
- Leave a narrow 10mm gap free of adhesive at butt joints to stop squeeze-out from reaching the stone face.
- Remove tape promptly once bonding or joint finishing is complete, before the adhesive or joint material fully cures.





3.3 Apply the Adhesive

- Spread the adhesive evenly across the substrate or sheet backing, following the manufacturer's instructions.
- Keep coverage full and consistent — avoid dry spots, excess buildup, or adhesive squeezing into visible joints.
- Place the sheet before the adhesive skins over. A B3 notched trowel is typical, but always use the applicator your adhesive manufacturer specifies.
- For translucent stone, switch to a light-permeable adhesive instead.

⚠ ADHESIVE SELECTION

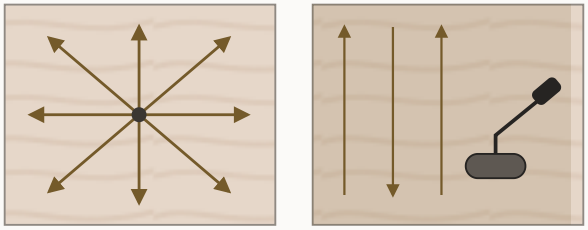
- Always check the adhesive manufacturer's current data sheet before use.

PHASE 04 OF 05

Press & Bond

4.1 Position and Roll the Sheet

- Confirm the sheet's number and orientation, position it from your reference line, and check it with a spirit or laser level.
- Press from the centre toward all edges, then roll the full surface in overlapping passes to remove trapped air and get full contact.
- You can reposition a sheet while the adhesive is still within its open time — leave it alone once it starts to grip.
- Remove any adhesive squeeze-out right away, using a method the adhesive manufacturer approves.



1 · Press centre → edges 2 · Roll in overlapping passes

Releases trapped air for full contact

ℹ CORNER & JOINT OPTIONS

- Choose from metal trim (our usual recommendation), an edge-to-edge join finished with colour-matched stone wax after curing, a workshop-prepared 45° mitre cut, or — since Contouro is flexible — a wrapped corner with no joint at all, where the stone and radius allow it.
- Expect joints to remain slightly perceptible; natural stone varies from sheet to sheet.

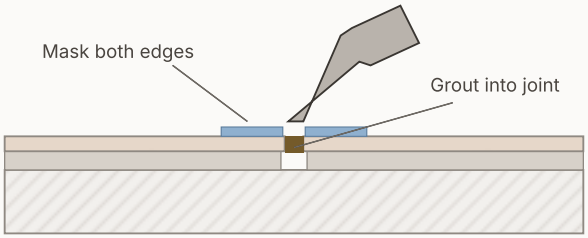


Metal trim Edge-to-edge + wax 45° mitre (workshop) Wrapped corner

Plan views of an outside corner. Wrapped corners only where the stone and radius allow.

4.2 Apply Optional Grout or Silicone

- Mask the stone edges and place grout directly into the joint with a grout gun, rather than spreading it across the stone face.
- Remove excess grout and masking tape before it skins over or fully cures.
- Use a tested, neutral-cure natural stone silicone only — acetate-cure silicone can permanently stain the stone. Test on an offcut first.

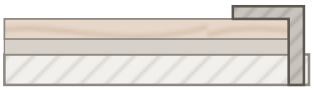
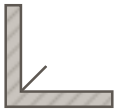


Never spread grout across the stone face

PHASE 04 OF 05 · CONTINUED

Press & Bond

4.3 Metal Trim Options (Optional)

TRIM & USE	PROFILE	WITH CONTOURO SHEET
U-Shape Trim Panel edge cap; use at exposed panel edges and wall edge terminations		
T-Shape Trim Panel-to-panel joint; use where a defined joint between panels is desired		
L-Shape Trim Angle termination; use where stone meets a return at window reveals or door frames		 RETURN
Inside Corner Trim Internal 90° corners, alcoves and niches		
Outside Corner Trim Columns, room corners and external angles		

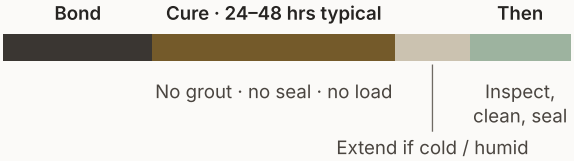
Hatched grey = metal trim · warm fill = Contouro sheet · diagonal hatch = substrate. Sections enlarged and schematic; adhesive omitted on corner details. Dry-fit trim with an offcut before cutting.

PHASE 05 OF 05

Seal & Cure

5.1 Allow the Installation to Cure

- Protect the installation from movement, moisture, impact, and mechanical load for the full cure period.
- Don't grout, seal, or load the surface until the adhesive has cured — 24–48 hours is typical, but the manufacturer's instructions take precedence.
- Extend the cure time in cold or high-humidity conditions.



MANUFACTURER'S CURE TIMES TAKE PRECEDENCE

5.2 Inspect and Clean the Surface

- Inspect every joint, corner, and edge for alignment or lifting before sealing.
- Clean with water and a lint-free cloth, or a pH-neutral stone cleaner for stubborn residue — avoid acidic, bleach-based, or abrasive products.

5.3 Test and Apply the Sealer

- Test your chosen sealer on an offcut first — it can alter the stone's colour or sheen.
- Apply the sealer only once the adhesive, joints, and stone are fully cured, clean, and dry.
- Apply with a short-pile roller, following the manufacturer's instructions for coverage, additional coats, and drying time.
- Reapply roughly every 18 months, or sooner if you notice protection starting to diminish.

Questions on your project?

Contact our specification team
contourostone.com/installation