



## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LAYING, PROTECTING AND SEALING THE JOINTS OF NATURAL STONE.

### 1. INSTALLATION SUBSTRATE.

The "thin layer" installation method is recommended. Therefore the installation substrate should be dimensionally stable and non-deformable, with any possible contractions due to drying having taken place. The entire surface and thickness of the substrate should be compact. It should be completely free of dust, grease or any other substance that may hinder adhesion. Use a 2-metre rule to check that planarity is not off by more than 2 mm.

### 2. INSTALLATION.

We recommend the adhesive ONE-FLEX. Its ease of use, excellent adjustability, zero vertical slippage and thixotropic properties give it outstanding performance. Suitable for use both indoors and out. Due to its excellent flexibility and adherence, it can be used with a variety of substrates, such as existing ceramic tiles, floors with built-in heating and outdoor terraces. ONE-FLEX is mixed with water in a proportion of 38 %. The size of the notched trowel used to apply the product will depend on the sizes of the pieces being installed. It is important not to lay tiles so that they are touching one another. They are manufactured in a totally artisanal fashion and the sizes of each tile may vary slightly. Suitable joints should be left between the tiles, proportional to the size of the piece. It is extremely important that floors are given expansion joints. These shall not protect an exterior surface area of more than 16 m<sup>2</sup>. Perimeter expansion joints of 8 to 10 mm should also be left in the different rooms.

### 3. GROUTING OF INSTALLATION JOINTS.

This process should be carried out 24 hours after the protector has been applied. We recommend the use of the COLORSTUK 2-12 range, as its grain size distribution is in accord with joint size. Mix the product with water until a creamy clot-free paste has been obtained. Use a hard rubber trowel to apply the product, repeatedly passing it over the joints in a diagonal direction. Pick up any excess product with the trowel. The surface should be cleaned with a fine, hard sponge once the grout has begun to harden.

### 4. PROTECTION OF NATURAL STONE.

All natural stone from L'Antic Colonial is supplied protected (except Multiformats and Nepal Gold). For this purpose, we use a high quality water-oil repellent sealer that protects the stone from moisture, saltpetre and other household stains, while also enhancing the natural colour of the stone. Please note however that the properties of the tile may vary slightly following the application of the protection due to differences in porosity and texture, inherent to the stone. The natural stone supplied protected from the factory is ready for installation. In normal conditions, a further application of any other sealer is not necessary. Nevertheless, an additional application of FILA FOB or FILA STONE PLUS on a pre-protected stone surface is also possible to deepen the tone, protect the joints or for any special circumstances, as required. These are applied as follows: After checking that the stone is thoroughly clean and dry, proceed to apply the protector that best suits our needs. Both protectors should be applied undiluted, using a fine foam roller, in two criss-crossed coats directly on the pieces. The product should only be applied once. If the protection is applied to flooring, avoid walking on the floor until the protector has had time to dry completely. All these products protect the marble from moisture stains, saltpetre and other household stains. Depending on the desired finish, apply one of the following products:

- FILA FOB: Natural Effect.
- FILA STONE PLUS: Intense lustre effect.

### 5. CARE.

**INDOORS:** Clean regularly with water and a neutral soap. Depending on the volume of usage, we recommend you protect the floor again, after a thorough clean, should you observe that the protection is wearing away. To clean it, we recommend FilaCleaner. **OUTDOORS:** If the surface is very exposed to the weather, we recommend washing it once a year with a slightly acid solution of FilaCleaner to remove any lime scale that has built up due to the weather conditions. Stone tiles used in outdoor environments tend to change in appearance over the course of time. Traffic, rain, sunlight, etc. all affect the stone's surface, enhancing it in a natural and exclusive manner. To improve the resistance of exterior stone tiling to staining, we recommend the application of one coat of FILAFOB or FILASTONE PLUS every two or three years after first washing the surface with FILACLEANER.

**Natural stone is particularly susceptible to variations in shade and thickness; a fact that customers should be made aware of.**

L'Antic Colonial offers 4 different natural stone finishes:

#### Antiqued

Pieces are naturally aged in order to achieve a warm traditional look that fills homes with a classical and personal touch. The variety of colours and formats available can be used to create highly creative layouts.

Reminders:

1. The surfaces of marble and antiqued stone are usually pitted with holes that need to be filled with tile grout.
2. It should be noted that antiqued travertines are not suitable for use as worktops.
3. Larger formats (30 x 30 and above) must be handled with care.

#### Classic

A soft satiny finish is achieved by brushing the stone surface. In the case of travertines, surface pores are filled with cement beforehand. The classic finish combines all of the ingredients necessary to make it the perfect choice for both highly traditional and cutting-edge settings.

Reminders:

1. Travertine with a classic finish is only recommended for residential use in interiors.
2. Holes may occasionally appear after installation that are easily repaired by filling them in with grout.

#### Polished

Polished stone is characterised by a high lustre achieved with mechanical processes, making it ideally suited for a host of different decorative applications. It infuses settings with personality and radiance.

Reminders:

1. Delhi, Bombay and Bangalore slate with a polished finish are products with a high degree of bending strength but which may become scratched if they are exposed to heavy traffic. This is an inherent characteristic of the product that should be taken into account, only recommending this product for residential areas with little traffic. Nevertheless, if scratches do appear, they can be lessened by applying a protective treatment for natural stone.
2. Polished Travertine is only recommended for residential use in interiors.
3. Holes may occasionally appear after installation that are easily repaired by filling them in with grout.

#### Natural Relief

The fascination produced by genuine slate and quartzite increases once it is known that these are natural products suited to any setting. In this same spirit, L'Antic Colonial has maintained this natural relief on some of its slates and quartzite's, while calibrating the underside of pieces to facilitate installation

Reminders:

1. Slate is an exfoliative rock. This means it is made up of different layers, one on top of the other, which may eventually flake off; however, this does not affect product quality.
2. Given the relief of slate, make sure that pieces are blemished as little as possible when grouting joints so as to make cleaning them afterwards easier and to prevent grout from getting lodged in the crevices.