

HOW TO INSTALL LEDGESTONE

Natural stone stacked ledgestone and split face stone cladding are popular wall covering options.

The success of any installation depends on the job preparation. Ledgestone requires several techniques which differ from a regular tile installation, because of the weight and thickness of the stone.

To ensure the success of your ledgestone installation follow these tips below.

1. Prepare wall substrate using option 1a or 1b.

*Option 1a). Attach 1/2" thick cement board panels to the wall.

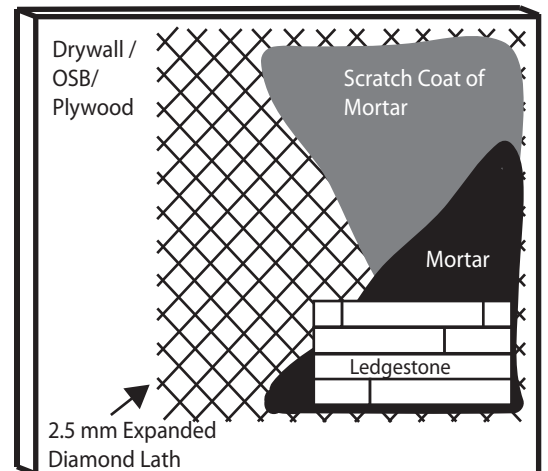
- Fasten using "cement board screws" to studwork 16" on center
- Fastener placed every 6" along the studs, penetrating at minimum 1" into the wood.
- Tape the cement board seams with alkali resistant fibermesh tape
- Mud the cement board seams with tiling thinset, let cure

***Refer to TTMAC for cement board installation.**

**Option 1b). Attach steel diamond lath to the wall sheeting.


- Use roofing nails to fasten lath to the substrate.
- The nail head must be large enough to secure at least three strands of lath.
- Fastener placed every 6" on centre along the studs, penetrating at minimum 1" into the wood.
- Over the lath, spread a "scratch coat", of thinset mortar.
- Use a wall rated modified thinset with high bond strength.
- Using the flat side of a trowel, spread thinset over the lath to a smooth even thin layer, covering the entire lath, let cure.

****Refer to local building code for installation of lath.**



2. Install Ledgestone.

- Using a large notched trowel (ie: 3/4" U-Notch), comb a layer of thinset to the wall, spreading horizontally.
- Using the flat side of your trowel, "backbutter" a layer of thinset onto the back of your ledgestone. This ensures that the ledgestone is receiving full mortar contact.
- With the thinset still wet / fresh, press the ledgestone firmly into the wet mortar.
- Make sure to offset the seams as you install more pieces, for a staggered effect.
- If the thinset skims over before you can install the piece, remove the thinset and apply fresh thinset.

 Ledgestone is heavy, the extra weight on the building assembly needs to be accounted for. Use a calculation of ~15lbs per sqft to give you an idea how much extra load your wall, supporting floor and joist structure will have to handle. It's recommended to consult an engineer to ensure the added weight will be ok for your building.

Likewise, installation over 10ft in height should also be approved by an engineer. The engineer may require a ledger strip and or anchors will be used when installation ledgestone above 10ft.

Always consult and follow local building codes before beginning your project.