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**CREATIVE MINES**

MAKERS of STONE and MASONRY VENEER

# Craft Board Form<sup>®</sup>, Rectangles, Squares and Inner Piece Masonry Veneer Installation Instructions

# CRAFT BOARD FORM™, RECTANGLES, SQUARES AND INNER PIECE MASONRY VENEER INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

These installation instructions assume the installer has knowledge of the materials described and the proper methods of installation. Prior to commencing work, the installer shall inspect the substrate and conditions of installation and advise the general contractor and/or Architect of any conditions that need correction prior to installation of the Masonry Veneer Units.

## Building Code Requirement

Building code requirements may vary from region to region. Check with your local authorities for building code requirements for your region and application. Follow ASTM and ANSI guidelines for installation in extreme heat, cold or extreme windy conditions.

## Project Site Requirement

The installation surface must be clean, dry and structurally sound. Remove any debris, sealers, dirt, or other imperfections from the wall. Clean the wall with a stiff brush and water, and clean any debris away from the ground or surface in front of the wall. After removal of the curing compounds and sealers, all rough, uneven or “out-of-plumb” surfaces must be made “plumb and true” to within 1/4 " in 10' (6 mm in 3 m) using an approved mortar mix as detailed in these installation instructions. Don't worry about small cracks or holes; the setting mortar will fill those gaps.

## Tools Required

*Stiff Brush*

*Chalk Line*

*Carpenter's Pencil*

*Polymer Modified Mortars*

*Measuring Tape*

*Trowels (smooth and notched)*

*Straightedge*

*Masonry Nippers*

*Level*

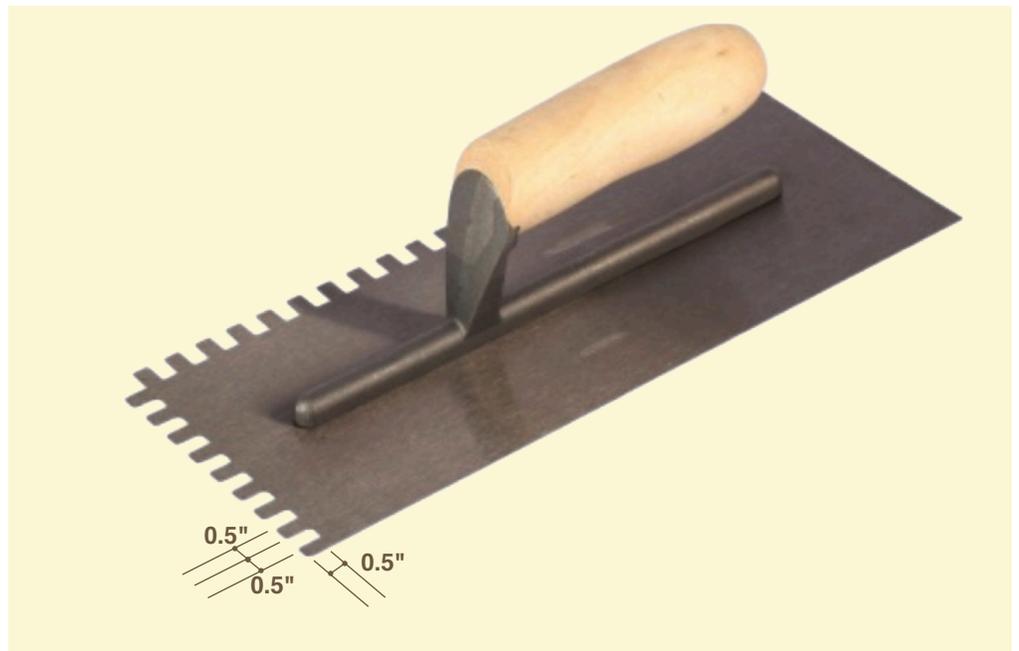
*Grout Sponge*

*Plumb Line*

*Bucket*

*Masonry Wet Saw*

*Rubber Mallet*



Apply bonding mortar with a 1/2 " x 1/2 " **NOTCHED TROWEL** to ensure 100% coverage.

## Materials Required

Purchase enough Creative Mines Masonry Veneer units for your project. Measure the length and width of the wall space and multiply to get the square footage. Round up to the nearest whole number, then add 5% to allow for waste.

## Lath

Lath and accessories must be made of corrosion resistant material and must be self-furred or use self-furring fasteners. The following lath materials are approved for installation of Creative Mines Masonry Veneer: 2.5 lb/yd<sup>2</sup> self-furred metal lath meeting ASTM C847, 3/8" rib, 3.4 lb/yd<sup>2</sup> self-furred metal lath meeting ASTM C847, 18 gauge (or heavier) woven wire mesh meeting ASTM C1032.

## Scratch Coat

For applying a scratch-coat over an approved lath or for smoothing rough uneven substrates, use a Type S or N mortar mix meeting the requirements of ASTM C270. Other Premium mortar beds are accepted so long as they meet ASTM C270 and ASTM C91.

## Bonding Mortar

Polymer modified veneer mortars are required for all Board Form, Rectangle, and Inner Piece Masonry Veneer unit installations. Polymer modified mortars must meet the requirements of ANSI A118.4 or ANSI A118.5 or equivalent.

## Substrates

Substrate shall be structurally sound and conform to code compliant engineering designs. Reference the MVMA's Wall System chart for a list of approved wall surfaces (concrete surfaces, wood & metal studs, and others) for installing masonry veneer units. Approved walls shall have a maximum deflection for thin bed installation of L/360 and L/460 for thick bed installation. All expansion control joints and movement joints shall be brought through the veneer to the surface. Expansion joints shall be installed at perimeter walls, columns, corners, changes of plane etc.

## For Interior Applications

Cement backer board complying with ASTM C1325 may be substituted for other substrates (i.e. wall board or plywood, WRB, lath, and scratch coat). The cement backer board should be installed per the manufacturer's instruction which includes the requirement of "taping" the seams.

## Installation

Install a test panel using specified materials and installation methods to ensure successful application. During installation, periodically remove freshly set veneers to ensure adequate bond and to check for complete mortar coverage of the veneer backing to grooves. Protect installed veneers from vibration or damage from other trades.

## Substrate Preparation

All surfaces to receive bonding mortar shall be clean, free of any dirt, loose debris, paint, oil curing agents, release agents, bond breakers or any contaminant which may hinder bond. Curing agents, release agents, sealers or other contaminant shall be removed by bead-blasting, sand blasting, grinding or similar removal techniques. After the surface is prepared, apply a nominal 1/2" thick layer of an approved mortar ensuring the lath/surface is completely encapsulated with mortar. The mortar should be applied with sufficient pressure and thickness to fully embed the lath in mortar or cover entire surface. Once the mortar is thumbprint hard, scratch (score) the surface horizontally to create the mortar scratch coat. Moist curing the mortar scratch coat will help reduce cracking and ensure proper hydration during curing. Before applying the masonry veneer unit, the mortar scratch coat should be dampened so that the surface appears wet but free of standing water.

## Bonding Mortar

Mix the bonding mortar according to the manufacturers instructions. The bonding mortar shall be applied with a 1/2" x 1/2" **Notched Trowel** (*see illustration previous page*) to the wall (substrate), and then a thin coat is applied with a regular trowel to the back of the masonry veneer unit ensuring 100 % coverage. While the mortar is still wet and tacky-place the veneer and tap into place ensuring good contact and 100 % coverage.

For all Rectangles, Squares and Inner Piece units, allow a minimum 1/4" grout joint. Non-sanded or fine-sanded grout works well for very narrow joints. Applying the grout as a bead on the stone prior to the next stone being installed and squeezing out the grout works best in place of using a conventional grout bag. Sealing the stone with a breathable sealer prior to grouting will simplify cleanup. The grout needs to be left to dry to a crumbly state, before removal to avoid smearing on the face of the masonry veneer units.

Cut any masonry veneer units to fit at the ends of each row and column with a masonry wet saw. If you need to fit any masonry veneer units around obstructions such as pipes or windows, make custom cuts with masonry nippers. Nip small pieces at a time to avoid cracking the entire piece.

Wear eye protection, work gloves, and a dust mask when using a tile saw. Mortar grout spills should clean up better by letting them dry to a crumbly stage and removing them rather than using a damp cloth.



Visit [www.creativemines.us](http://www.creativemines.us) for product installation instructions a current list of Dealers and Distributors. Creative Mines Craft Masonry Veneer is hand-designed and handcrafted. It looks like the real thing, so natural variations in color will occur. You should demand that of your crafted masonry veneer. Anything less would be unnatural. Measurements listed are averages and individual product may vary in dimension and weight while maintaining accordance with ASTM specifications. For submittal information and test data please consult your Creative Mines Representative. Creative Mines maintains the right to revise packaging and products inventoried. © 2016 CREATIVE MINES, INC. 050115