



CORK TILES

INSTALLATION GUIDE

Vtec **Cork Tiles** are an exciting design product for interior use.

In this Installation Guide, we take you through the simple, step-by-step process of fitting your Cork Tiles and highlight other information to be aware of during installation.

If you require support during installation, please call our Technical Team on **03307 00 00 30**.

PREPARATION

UNLOADING AND UNPACKING

When unloading the tiles, please ensure the boxes are handled carefully to prevent damage.

SAFETY

Always wear the correct protective clothing such as gloves, goggles, dust mask etc appropriate to your task and the general situation.

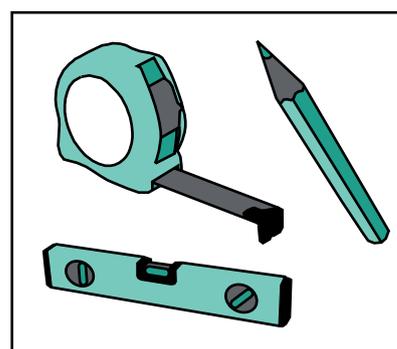
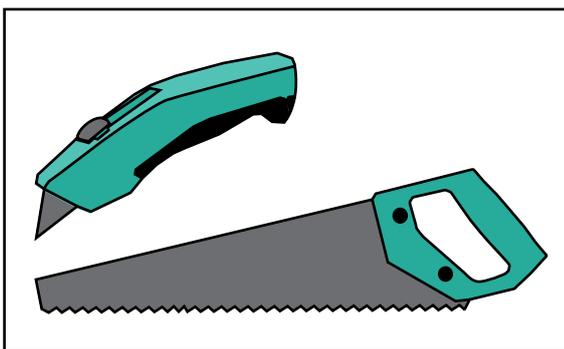
It is the installer's responsibility to check the location of all items such as cables, pipes, conduits or ducts prior to installation of the Tiles or supporting structure, and to ensure any fixing positions miss these locations.

STORAGE AND ACCLIMATISATION

Please do not remove the tiles from their packaging until installation time. The temperature and humidity of the places should be (+/-) 20-25°C. It is important for cork to acclimatise inside the boxes 48-72 hours prior to installation.

During storage and installation, maintain temperature and relative humidity to a level that is consistent with the conditions that will prevail when the building is occupied. Heating or air conditioning should be used for an appropriate length of time prior to and during installation. With improper acclimatisation, tiles could expand or contract excessively after installation.

TOOLS REQUIRED



These details are indicative only of common situations that may occur during installation. You will need to read these in conjunction with your detailed drawings and take note of the specific site conditions.



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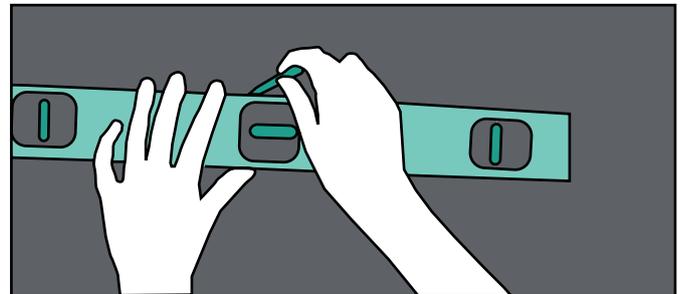
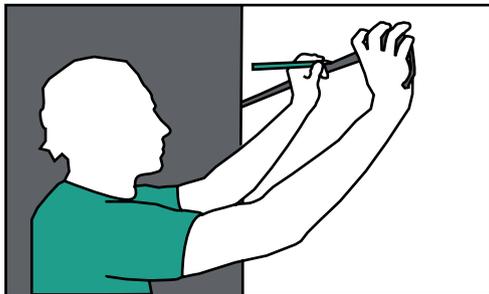
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STEP 1

▲ PREPARING AND MEASURING

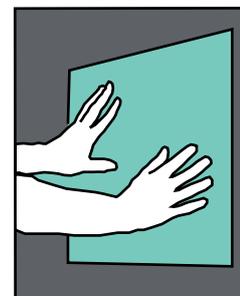
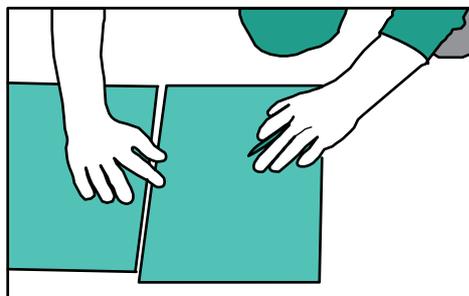
- Ensure the surface the tiles are being attached to are sound and free from dust, grease or any substance that may impede adhesion.
- You may wish to take time to shuffle the tiles (including from different packs) to get an even distribution of colours and pattern.
- Vtec Cork Tiles can be installed with the help of self adhesive double-sided foam tape or a suitable commercial glue so ensure you have your chosen adhesive ready.
- Measure and mark the position of the first tile on the wall.



STEP 2

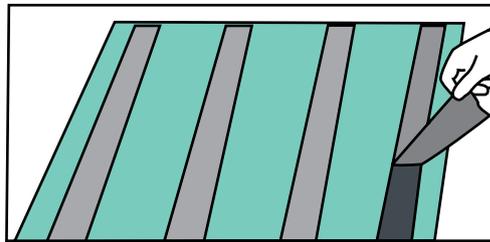
▲ INSTALLING (WITH GLUE OR CONTACT SPRAY ADHESIVE)

- If an absorbent surface, coat with water based or latex based primer.
- Read the adhesive instructions to check the correct setting and drying times.
- Fill the bottom of a paint tray with liquid adhesive for cork. Using a new short pile high quality microfiber roller, roll the adhesive onto the wall and the back of the tile and allow to set according to the adhesive instructions.
- Position and place first tile as marked on the wall.
- Pick up your next chosen tile, apply adhesive as above and position it snugly against the previous tile. You may need to move the tiles so the edges are tightly pressed against one another.



▲ INSTALLING (WITH SELF ADHESIVE DOUBLE SIDED FOAM TAPE)

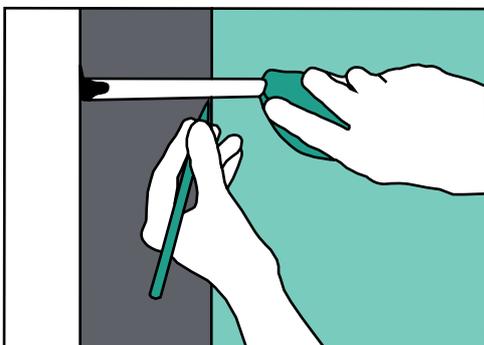
- Measure and cut a strip of double sided self adhesive tape equaling to the short side of the tile
- Position it on the back of the tile as close to the edge as possible
- Continue to place the strips on the back of the tile at equal distance. We recommend placing them every 10-15cm
- Once complete, remove the protective cover, and place the Tile along the marked position on the wall pressing it firmly in place.
- Bear in mind that tiles in some styles are heavier and may require additional support in the middle
- Remove the backing from the tape and press the tile carefully onto the wall in the desired location.



▲ DETAILING

EDGES

- Continue placing rows of tiles in break bond or brick pattern until you have installed all of the whole tiles.
- Measure the distance across the remaining area to determine the width for the edge tiles.
- Measure and mark the back of each tile and cut it with a sharp utility knife or a hand saw, and then place it into position on the wall.
- Remove the backing from the tape and press the tile carefully onto the wall in the desired location.
- Apply gentle pressure until the tape is adhered, again, taking care not to press too hard.

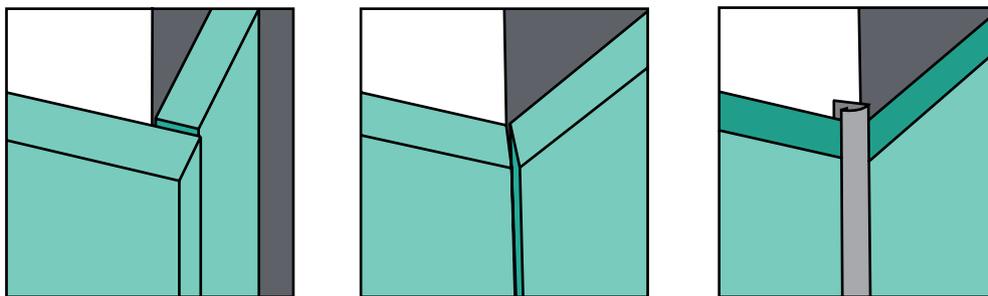


INTERNAL CORNERS

- Install the edge tiles on one wall right into the corner, and then cut the edge tiles on the other wall to the remaining length so the edge butts up against the edge of the other tile.

EXTERNAL CORNERS

- These can be butt jointed (one wall tile overlaps the other tile), carefully mitred for a mitre joint finish, or you can use a timber or metal trim to 'frame' the feature cork wall.



WORKING AROUND ELECTRICAL PLUGS AND SWITCHES

- If you are using any type of trim, the trims should be installed prior to installing the Cork Tiles.
- If you are not using a trim, make markings on the backside of the panel, then use a sharp utility knife to cut the opening.

NB: You may require to use a jigsaw for thicker style Cork panels, such as Raw Bark or Heart.

INSET

- Leaving the cover plate on, simply butt the tiles to the edges of the cover plate for a clean look.

FLUSH MOUNT

- An electrical extension box may be used to extend the electrical outlet to be flush with the tiles.
- You must first measure the thickness of the tiles and extend the electrical outlet out the appropriate amount to be flush with the front face of the tile.
- Ensuring a tight fit, install the tiles around the box and reinstall the cover plate on the face of the tiles.

APPLYING CORK TILES TO CURVED SURFACES

- Use a suitable quick-curing high strength adhesive.
- Hold in position and restrain in place if necessary while adhesive cures.

Precautions: Take care throughout the process to keep the front face of the tile clean. Ensure that sufficient adhesive tape is used to support the weight of the tile adequately