

WALL COVERING INSTALLATION

Description

Onyx is a calendared PVC wall covering designed for use in sanitary facilities and individual or collective shower areas.

Installation Options

Onyx can be installed vertically or horizontally, depending on site conditions. These instructions include descriptions of vertical installation (Section V3) and horizontal installation (Section H3). Before starting work, check which type of installation is most suitable or has been requested by your customer. Sections: 1. Conditions, 2. Preparation and 4. Inspection covers both types of installation.

N.B. if the wall covering is being installed in rooms with suspended ceilings, it should be installed prior to the ceiling. Any supporting details such as edge frames should be installed after and fixed through the wall covering. The wall covering should extend at least 100mm past the height of the ceiling and the top edge sealed with a suitable water proof sanitary sealant.

Acclimatisation

Remove the outer packaging and loosen the outer layers of the sheet. Store the rolls vertically and allow to acclimatise in the laying area for at least 24 hours.

In accordance with BS8203, the acclimatisation time should be extended to 48 hours if materials have been stored or transported at temperatures less than 10°C immediately prior to delivery.

Adhesives

The recommended adhesive type for Onyx is a plasticizer-resistant, acrylic based dispersion adhesive. This adhesive is to be used for all bonded areas, including corners and overlaps. *N.B.* Solvent based contact adhesives must not be used due to the risk of discolouration.

1.0 Site Conditions

1.1 The product must be installed at room temperature, at least 18°C. The relative humidity in the room should be 30-60%.

1.2 The substrate should be smooth, sound, clean, permanently dry and free of cracks. The substrate must also be free of any obstructions which could hamper installation of the wall covering. Check that walls are suitably even and vertical.

1.3 Pipe work projecting from walls must be at least 40mm from walls and/or corners. The distance between adjacent pipes must be at least 40mm.

1.4 **Where** there are holes for pipes etc. there must be no gaps between the hole and pipe. This is essential for an effective, lasting seal after the wall covering has been installed. Any gaps must be filled and sealed.

1.5 Projecting pipes must be properly fixed in place so that the required seal can be made between pipes and wall covering.

2.0 Preparation

2.1 If the surface of the substrate requires filling, use suitable wall grade filler. *N.B.* two-component fillers may

cause discoloration if mixed incorrectly or insufficiently.

2.2 If the wall covering is to be installed on a wall where the vinyl floor covering extends some distance on the wall, the section of wall immediately above the floor covering will need to have a PVC diminishing strip installed (figure 2.2).

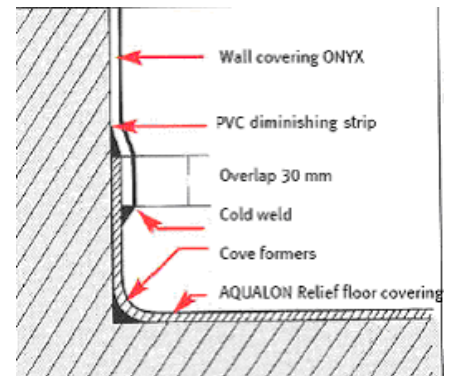


Figure 2.2

2.3 Remove all dust and loose particles.

2.4 Absorbent substrates should be primed in accordance with the adhesive manufacturer's recommendations.

2.5 Use only a lead pencil for marking. Note that any markings made by marker pens, marker dyes or paints, ballpoints etc. may cause discoloration of the wall covering through migration.

2.6 If the substrate has been painted or has other strong pigments on its surface these must be removed.

2.7 If using material from more than one roll of wall covering, check carefully that they all have the same batch/serial number. Rolls should be used in numerical order.

2.8 Before installing the product, you must ensure that the wall covering, the adhesive and the substrate are all at room temperature, i.e. at least 18°C. The relative humidity should be 30-60%.

H 3 Horizontal Installation

(For vertical installation, see V3)

3.1 The product must be installed at room temperature, at least 18°C. The relative humidity in the room should be 30-60%. Alternate lengths of Onyx should be reverse-laid.

3.2 The recommended adhesive type for Onyx is a plasticizer-resistant, acrylic based pressure sensitive adhesive. This is to be used for all bonded areas, including corners and overlaps.

N.B. Solvent based contact adhesives must not be used due to the risk of discolouration.

3.3 Apply the adhesive to the wall with the appropriate trowel and brush (the brush is for working into corners, around pipes etc).

3.4 All adhesives should be applied at the correct spread rate. If the adhesive type allows, rolling the applied adhesive with a **pre-wetted** roller after application will help to eliminate trowel marks. If priming of the substrate is necessary, follow the adhesive manufacturer's instructions for use.

3.5 Installation time depends on factors such as the type of substrate, its absorbency, and the temperature and relative humidity in the room.

3.6 On the wall mark out a horizontal maximum height line at 207cm. The main wall covering must not be installed higher than this line. If it is, the overlap near the floor will be too short (7cm from the floor)

3.7 Measure the circumference of the room, and make a guide mark on the maximum height line half way around the circumference (or at some other suitable starting place).

3.8 Cut the wall covering to length, and roll the cut length of wall covering onto a section of plastic pipe with its wall side outermost. Make a guide mark on the length of wall covering (corresponding to half the circumference or the suitable starting place, as appropriate).

3.9 Roll the other end of the length of wall covering onto another section of plastic pipe, right up to the guide mark. The wall covering rolled on the pipes will now resemble a scroll.

3.10 Draw another horizontal line, 1 metre long (the starting line), at a height of approx 200 – 207cm, depending on the vertical alignment of the corners (Figure 3.10).

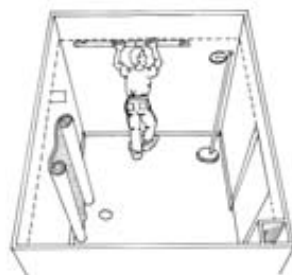


Figure 3.10

3.11 Check that the adjacent walls are acceptably vertical and flat. If they are not the wall covering may be trimmed and a seam formed (but not within 1 metre of the wet zone) and hot welded with matching weld rod. See V3 for hot weld instructions.

3.12 Apply adhesive right up to the horizontal line. See adhesive manufacturer's instructions for application, use and drying times.

3.13 Line up the rolls of wall covering close to the wall, so that they are

correctly aligned with both the starting line and the guide marks.

3.14 Apply the rolls of wall covering, one at a time, to the adhesive on the wall, ending at the door (figure 3.14)

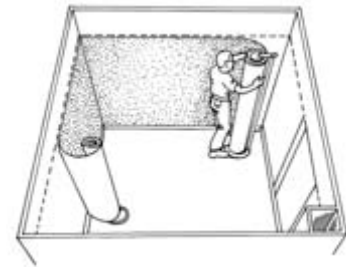


Figure 3.14

3.15 When working around external corners **gently** warm the wall covering with hot air just before and while it is being pressed into the adhesive. This allows it to be formed into a "sharp" (straight) edge. Apply the adhesive to the back of the wall covering as well as the wall, follow the adhesive manufacturer's instructions for application, use and drying times.

3.16 Use a suitable tool to press the wall covering into the adhesive, to expel all the air. Starting from the centre of the cut length, work upwards and downwards. Make sure that the tool you choose for smoothing out the wall covering does not damage it.

3.17 Where the floor covering extends up the wall, the bottom of the wall covering needs to overlap it by about 3cm. This portion of wall covering should be adhered as before. It is important to apply sufficient adhesive, and to press and smooth the wall covering thoroughly. Seal the bottom edge of the wall covering with a cold weld paste (see figure 2.2)

3.18 Trim the wall covering at the top of skirting boards and other

obstructions, and/or the bottom of the wall covering if it overlaps any flooring extending up the wall. Take care not to damage the floor covering.

3.19 Clean off any residues of adhesive immediately. Use clean water.

3.20 Any holes made for pipes must be sealed with a suitable sanitary sealant that is resistant to fungus and mould.

3.21 In parts of the room where a waterproof wall covering is essential (in a shower corner or behind a bath), exposed edges should be sealed using the same product as used round the pipes. The bottom edge of the wall covering overlap should be sealed with a suitable cold weld paste (see figure 2.2).

3.22 Where the ceiling height exceeds that of the wall covering width, a filler piece of material will be required. When measuring/cutting the piece, ensure that a 3cm overlap is allowed for. On the main wall covering, mark out a line accordingly on the bottom of a border section of wall covering and allow an overlap of 3cm. Measure from the horizontal line.

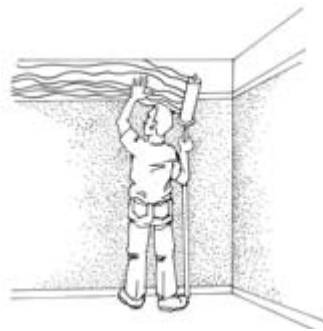
3.23 Use a suitable wall grade filler to form a smooth transition between the exposed edge of the main wall covering and the wall surface. Apply adhesive to the wall. Make sure that the adhesive extends over the wall grade filler down to the line which denotes the 3cm overlap onto the main wall covering.

3.24 Install the filler piece as before, observing the marked lines. Use a suitable tool to press the wall covering into the adhesive, to expel all the air. Starting from the centre of

the drop work upwards and downwards.

Make sure that the tool you choose for smoothing out the wall covering does not damage it. Seal the bottom edge of the filler piece with a cold

3.25 Check the application of the adhesive between the filler piece and the main wall covering.



3.26 Clean off any adhesive residues with clean water.

N.B. Always press the wall covering into the adhesive working upwards and downwards, pressing the material along its length can cause stretching of the wall covering. Heat should not be used when working with the wall covering except of external corners (see paragraph 3.15).

V 3 Vertical Installation (For horizontal installation, see H3)

3.1 The product must be installed at room temperature, at least 18°C. The relative humidity in the room should be 30-60%. Alternate lengths of Onyx should be reverse-laid.

3.2 The recommended adhesive type for Onyx is a plasticizer-resistant, acrylic based pressure sensitive adhesive. This is to be used for all bonded areas, including corners and overlaps.

N.B. Solvent based contact adhesives must not be used due to the risk of discolouration.

3.3 Apply the adhesive to the wall with the appropriate trowel and brush (the brush is for working into corners, around pipes etc).

3.4 All adhesives should be applied at the correct spread rate. If the adhesive type allows, rolling the applied adhesive with a **pre-wetted** roller after application will help to eliminate trowel marks. If priming of the substrate is necessary, follow the adhesive manufacturer's instructions for use.

3.5 Use a suitable tool to press the wall covering into the adhesive, to expel all the air. Work from the centre outwards across the sheet length, starting from its centre. Make sure that the tool you choose for smoothing out the wall covering does not damage it.

Corners

3.6 Check that adjacent walls are acceptably vertical and flat. If they are not, any misalignment can be corrected by cutting and welding the product near the corner.

N.B. Where possible, any joints should be positioned away from the wet zone.

3.7 When working around external corners, make sure any seams are at least 100mm from the corner. **Gently** warm the wall covering with hot air just before and while it is being pressed onto the adhesive. This allows it to be formed into a 'sharp' (straight) edge. Apply the adhesive to the back of the wall covering as well as the wall; follow the adhesive manufacturer's instructions for application, use and drying times.

3.8 When shaping the wall covering into internal corners, use a tool which will not damage it. Extra care is needed for plasterboard substrates.

Welding Seams

3.9 When cutting material for seams, be careful not to damage the substrate. Extra care is needed for plasterboard substrates.

3.10 Seams in Onyx must always be hot-welded using a welding rod. The edges of the two sheets must be butt jointed, flush, and grooved before welding, to a depth of three-quarters of the thickness of the material. Use a 'P' Type groover, not a shave hook. Use a speed welding nozzle for 4mm weld rod. When the weld has cooled, trim it in two stages: first with a spatula and slide, and then using the spatula only. Use a narrow welding nozzle to reduce the risk of affecting the product gloss near the weld.

3.11 Welding should not be carried out until the adhesive has set before grooving and welding. The time needed for it to set will depend on ventilation, temperature and substrate absorbency. For absorbent surfaces, wait at least 24 hours and for non-absorbent surfaces, wait at least 48 hours after installation of the wall covering.

Miscellaneous

3.12 Where the floor covering extends up the wall, the bottom of the wall covering needs to overlap it by about 3cm. This portion of wall

covering should be adhered as before. It is important to apply sufficient adhesive, and to press and smooth the wall covering thoroughly. Seal the bottom edge of the wall covering with a cold weld paste (see figure 2.2)

3.13 Trim the wall covering where it meets the ceiling and other details in the room.

3.14 Clean off any adhesive residue with clean water.

3.15 Any holes made for pipes must be sealed with a suitable sanitary sealant that is resistant to fungus and mould.

3.16 In parts of the room where a waterproof wall covering is essential (in a shower corner or behind a bath),

any other exposed edges should be sealed using the same product as used around pipes.

Inspection

4.1 Finish by inspecting the work carefully. Make sure the wall covering is free of adhesive residues and that there are no air bubbles or blisters

Please Note!

Before the room can be used it is very important that the adhesive is given adequate time to dry before a wet wall covering is exposed to water spray.

Drying Time

If the substrate is non-absorbent (all or parts of a wall), allow approximately 7 days drying time.

If the substrate is absorbent, e.g. plasterboard, and the wall covering overlaps the floor covering on the wall, approximately 2 days drying time is sufficient.

Maintenance

Use any of the conventional cleaning methods suitable for vinyl wall coverings.

Onyx has good stain resistance. However, all staining materials should be removed immediately. Certain materials (ballpoint ink, lipstick, asphalt etc.) may otherwise migrate into the vinyl and cause permanent staining. Marking on the substrate or on the backing of the product with marker pens, marker dyes or paints, ballpoint ink etc may cause discoloration.

Unacceptable levels of dampness in the substrate, mould, central heating pipes with temperatures in excess of 27°C and impurities in the substrate such as oils, impregnating agents, asphalt, paint or other alien substances, may cause discoloration. Certain drainage hoses and rubber cables used on washing machines, printed plastic bags and squeegees may cause discoloration when in contact with wall covering.

Useful Contacts:

Cold weld paste (Werner Muller Type C) Janser UK Tel 0121 5615888