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13200 Corporate Exchange Dr. • St. Louis, MO 63044-3719
(314) 874-4300 • 800-FORSHAW (367-7429)
Fax (314) 874-4339 • Fax 800-845-2689

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STONE MANTEL INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

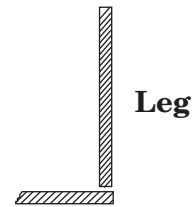
WARNING: We do not recommend the use of our stone mantels with vent free fireplaces or vented, heat-circulating fireplaces that do not have a blower system to direct heat away from the face of the fireplace. Excessive heat may cause hairline cracking.

1. Set and level hearth in an adequate bed of thin set mortar.



2. Apply thinset mortar to backside and bottom edge of legs. Also apply 5 half-dollar size evenly spaced dabs of liquid nails or equal to each leg. Set into position for your fireplace opening. Use level to insure legs are plumb.

3. Apply thinset mortar to back of header and on top of legs, as well as 5 - 6 half-dollar evenly spaced dabs of liquid nails or equal on the header. Set in place and check level.



4. Lag bolts must be used for the top shelf.

Shelf (Note: use 2 lag bolts for each shelf. Size of bolts needed is 5" long x 3/8" diameter)

- a) Sand the entire area where the shelf will be mounting to. It is important to get down to bare drywall without dust residue to insure a good bond.
- b) Find the drywall studs and mark them.
- c) Measure up 4 3/4" from the header and mark the studs.
- d) Set the lag bolts into the wall (Note: Leave 2" of lag bolt out from the wall.)
- e) Transfer the measurements of the bolts' position onto the back of the shelf.
- f) On the marked spot drill a hole in the back of the shelf, approximately 2 1/4" deep with a 1" to 1 1/4" drill bit. Rotate your drill bit to create a bell-shaped hole that is larger as it gets deeper.
- g) Clean out the hole and fill with Bondo or equivalent epoxy adhesive.
- h) Put 15 half-dollar sized evenly spaced dabs of Liquid Nails onto the back of the shelf.
- i) Butter the edges of the shelf with thin set mortar.

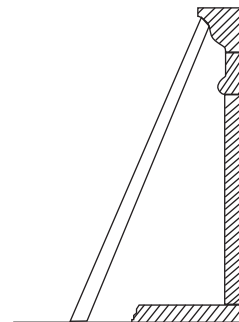


5. Set shelf in place and level. Prop-up the shelf with a 2 x 4 for at least 24 hrs to ensure the shelf adheres to the wall.

DO NOT WALK ON THE HEARTH FOR 24 HOURS

NOTES:

WIDTH OF MORTAR JOINTS IS AT YOUR DISCRETION OR APPROXIMATELY 3/8" WIDE. WIPE EXCESS MORTAR FROM AROUND THE JOINTS BEFORE IT DRIES. IT IS BEST TO ATTACH THE MANTEL TO BARE DRYWALL; IF GOING ON PAINTED DRYWALL, PAINT MUST BE FULLY CURED. IN EITHER CASE, ALL DUST SHOULD BE REMOVED. ENTIRE MANTEL MAY BE PAINTED AFTER CURING (APPROXIMATELY 4 WEEKS).



MATERIALS NEEDED TO INSTALL A STONE MANTEL

1. ONE 50 LB BAG OF WHITE THINSET (PREMIUM THINSET FOR STONE AND TILE)
(Mix thinset to a thick consistency, follow manufacturer's instructions precisely)
2. TWO 5 GALLON BUCKETS
1 for warm water
1 for thinset
3. 1/2" MIXING DRILL
4. MIXING BLADE FOR DRILL - (to mix thinset)
5. 1/2" NOTCHED TROWEL
6. RUBBER FLOATS - (installation of thinset)
7. SPONGES - (to wipe off thinset)
8. 4 FOOT LEVEL
9. CONSTRUCTION ADHESIVE - (E.G. Liquid Nails and Bondo epoxy adhesive)
10. TREE BOW SAW - (to cut legs as needed)
11. MOUNTING BRACE - (to support of the top shelf)
12. 2 - 5" x 3/8" SIZE LAG BOLTS

PAINTING PROCESS

Before painting make sure the mantel is dry and cured (allow four full weeks after installation). After the installation you must paint the mantel with a Kilz Sandable Primer or Krylon Sandable Primer (white finish). You may use a water based latex paint but you need to dilute the paint with water in order to soak into the pores of the mantel. (High humidity may create increased dry time.)

CLEANING PROCESS

Wipe down the mantel with warm soapy water (use non-abrasive soap). If spots will not come clean with water then use a medium to fine painter's sanding block. Make sure the mantel is dry before sanding. Only sand down until you see powder or about 1/3 of an inch.