



MANISCALCO®

Australian for Mosaics™



Botany Bay Pebbles Usage – Installation – Care & Maintenance August 2011

Recommended Usage

Botany Bay Pebbles may be installed commercially and residentially, on interior or exterior vertical areas, in wet or dry locations. It may be installed on floors residentially. It can also be used as an insert around the edge perimeter of a room.

Botany Bay Pebbles can be used in submerged installations. The pebbles have not been tested for chemical resistance; therefore use in pools is at your own risk. There is no warrantee/guarantee as to the performance in areas where acids, chlorine, bromine, etc. will be used.

Although they may survive commercial floor installations, they have not been tested for this, therefore they are not recommended for this installation.

Installation Instructions

General

- 1) Botany Bay Pebbles are naturally occurring river or beach pebbles.
- 2) Each series has a different look achieved by the style of the mounting and stone.

Opus pebbles are a thin-cut stone with a tumbled edge.

Sliced pebbles are the same basic stones as in the Natural and Stacked types, they are just thin slices of those stones. The Sliced Stained Black and border are stained to enhance the color. Only water- based sealers should be used with the Sliced Stained Black so as not to damage the stain.

Stacked pebbles are cut in half to show the edge of each stone and achieve the appearance of pebbles stacked on top of each other. Use caution when installing on floors.

Natural pebbles are the standard river smoothed stones laying flat on the sheet. Some of the thicker stones may have the bottoms shaved off to level out the sheet.

3) In all cases, the size, shape, and color of the individual stones on a sheet may vary from batch to batch. Lay out all the sheets and blend them to achieve the best look before installing. Turn the sheets to achieve the best fit. When installing the sheets, most end users want a seamless finished look. They want to hide the joint where the sheets come together. It may be necessary to remove individual pieces and reposition them to help hide the naturally occurring joint between the sheets.

4) Make sure the product is inspected by the end user before installing. No refunds or adjustments of any kind will be made by Maniscalco or the supplier after the product is installed.

5) Use a tile wet saw with a diamond blade for cutting. Always wear eye protection.

Botany Bay Pebbles continued

Suggested Installation Method

- 1) Always use a licensed contractor.
- 2) Always confirm in person with the end user / specifier that the product being installed is the correct product before installing it.
- 3) Always inspect the product for unintended flaws that are not part of the fashion or style of the product. Do not install defective or damaged product. If there is a question about the quality of the product contact your supplier before proceeding.
- 4) Make sure the substrate is suitable for pebbles. Choose and follow the best technique for your project. Refer to the TCNA and ANSI handbooks for proper substrate preparation.
- 5) Make sure crack isolation membranes and water proofing membranes are considered for your type of installation where necessary.
TCNA handbook, page 9, 10
ANSI a118.10, A108.12
- 6) Make sure expansion joints and movement joints are considered and used when necessary. Use a soft joint where two different planes come together and where the pebbles meet plumbing fixtures, cabinets, counter tops, window or door moldings, and bath tubs in accordance with the TCNA handbook.
TCNA handbook, page 8, 9, 68, 69, and EJ171-05
- 7) Use a modified white or gray thin-set mortar that meets or exceeds ANSI standards. Follow the manufacturer's instructions. Epoxy is ok for setting pebbles, however it would be very difficult to use as a grout. Organic Mastic is not recommended for Botany Bay Pebbles.
- 8) Use the correct size notch trowel depending on the size of the product and your desired results. In most cases a 3/16x3/16 v-notch trowel will be used. Do not allow the thin-set to rise up in the joints. Make sure you achieve full contact between the back of the pebbles and the thin-set; you may use a clean grout float to embed the pebbles.
- 9) Allow the thin-set to cure according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- 10) With the exception of the Sliced Stained Black, these pebbles are un-treated, a grout release or sealer may be used to seal the tops of the pebbles before the grouting process. Don't allow the grout release to run down onto the edges of the pebbles as this could prevent the grout from sticking to the sides of the pebbles. By doing this optional step it will allow for easier cleaning after grouting. Allow the sealer to dry according to the manufacturer's instructions before grouting.
- 11) Use sanded modified grout for all pebbles. Make sure the installer and end user are in agreement about the finished depth of the grout. By over-filling or under-filling the joints the appearance of the finished job can be dramatically changed. If undecided about the grout depth, perform a test before proceeding with the installation.
- 12) When grouting the stacked pebbles, fill the joints completely and pack the grout in well. Let the grout set up until firm but not dry. Using a soft to medium nylon scrub brush, scrub out the grout until the desired level is achieved. Use a slightly wet sponge to remove any residue and smooth the joints.
- 13) Read and follow the grout manufacturers' instructions.
- 14) Buff and cure the grout according to the grout manufacturer's instructions. Once the grout is cured, you should seal the pebbles with a stone sealer. Only use water based stone sealer on the Sliced Stained Black pebbles.

Botany Bay Pebbles continued

The installer is responsible for choosing and using the correct installation practices to achieve an acceptable finished product. Please refer to the TCNA hand book regularly, it is revised each year and techniques can change. Our goal is to have trouble-free installations that can be enjoyed for a lifetime. Use constitutes acceptance, there will be no credits, refunds, cash settlements, and etc. made after the product is installed regardless of the circumstances. The TCNA website is www.tileusa.com .

Care & Maintenance

Regular cleaning with a neutral stone cleaner or neutral tile cleaner and a soft cloth or sponge according to the manufacturer of the cleaner is recommended. Do not use acids, corrosive, or abrasive cleaners.