



MANISCALCO®

Australian for Mosaics™



Simpson Desert Glass Usage – Installation – Care & Maintenance August 2011

Recommended Usage

Simpson Desert Glass may be installed in residential wet or dry vertical areas. The 1x1 and 5/8x2 products may be used in light duty floor applications such as shower pans, bathroom or powder room floors. These sizes may also be used in pools and pond areas, as well as saunas and steam rooms when installed correctly.

Commercial areas of use are vertical interior but not floors, and vertical exterior in frost-free zones, not floors.

All glass can be slippery when wet, and scratch. Use caution when choosing a location
Also see ANSI 137.1

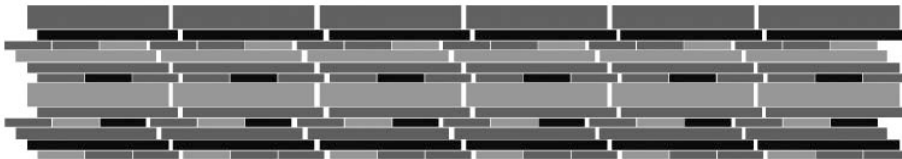
Installation Instructions

General

- 1) Simpson Desert Glass is made of clear glass with a colored backing.
- 2) All colors are V1 in shading. Make sure this product is inspected by the end user before installing to avoid any issues. No refunds or adjustments of any kind will be made by Maniscalco after the product is installed.
- 3) Use a tile wet saw with a diamond blade designed for cutting glass. Target, Pearl, MK, and many other blade manufacturers make specialty blades for glass tiles. Always wear eye protection. If you experience color chipping during cutting, either the blade is incorrect, worn or out of balance. Or the saw arbor is worn setting up a vibration in the blade causing chipping in the glass.
- 4) Simpson Desert WATERFALLS come in solid colors and blended colors. The blended waterfall has a repeating color pattern. Every sheet is the same. You may install them in any order you choose. It is important for the installer and end user to agree on the layout before the product is installed. The top and bottom half of each sheet will interlock with each other, reducing waste. We suggest the two patterns below. This pattern can also be flipped over if the large bar is wanted on the bottom.

For the blended color style, consider one of the two installation techniques below:

1. Standard in line, will achieve stripes of the same colors.



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2. Offset every other row by a half a sheet to achieve a repeating broken pattern.



A completed offset pattern shown below.



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 glass. Choose and follow the best technique for your project.

TCNA handbook, page 10. And all pages pertaining to substrate preparation.

ANSI A108.1B, A108A2.1.8, C1396, C1396M-04

- 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) Glass expands and contracts differently than ceramic / porcelain tile. Make sure expansion joints and movement joints are considered and used when necessary. Keep this product over six inches away from an open flame. Areas of concern would be steam rooms, fireplace surrounds and backsplashes behind cook tops. Extra soft joints may be required in these high heat areas. Use a soft (caulking) joint between the glass and any other material in a continuous installation. Use a soft joint where two different planes come together. Use a soft joint every 6 feet in a continuous run, or according to the TCNA handbook. Use a soft joint where the glass abuts to plumbing fixtures, cabinets,

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countertops, 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 flexible modified thin-set mortar that meets or exceeds ANSI 118.4 (a flexible acrylic mortar system such as those from Mapei, Laticrete, TEC, Customs, C-Cure, Siena, or equivalent). Follow the manufacturer's instructions. Organic Mastic and Epoxy are not recommended for Simpson Desert Glass. White thin-set should be used with light colored grouts and gray thin-set with dark colored grouts. Colored thin-set and grout may change the appearance of the glass.

8) Use the correct size notch trowel depending on the size of the product and your desired results. In most cases a 5/32 x 5/32 v-notch trowel will be used. Smooth out the ridges in the thin-set with the flat side of the trowel to create a flat bed with no lines in it to set the glass into. Do not allow the thin set to rise up in the joints. Make sure you achieve full contact between the back of the glass and the thin-set; you may use a clean grout float to embed the glass.

9) Because this is a "fashion on the back style" of glass it has a clear edges. In some cases after the installation you may be able to look thru the surface of the tile and out thru the edge and see the union where the thin-set and grout meet. This is a characteristic of all "fashion on the back" glass regardless of the manufacturer. If this is a concern, using white grout will blend with the white thin-set the best or gray grout with gray-thin set. You can always do a test installation with a few pieces before proceeding. An example of a temperamental installation would be black glass with black grout and white thin-set.

10) Allow the thin-set to cure according to the manufacturer's instructions.

11) Use a modified grout. Grout with flexing capabilities or a flexible additive is preferred.

12) Non-sanded grout is preferred. When using grout, be careful to not scratch the glass. Perform a test to see if the grout will scratch on a loose piece of glass before proceeding with the installation.

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 it. The glass does not require sealing.

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 mild bathroom cleaner or neutral tile cleaner and a soft cloth or sponge according to the manufacturer of the cleaner is recommended. Buff dry with a soft cloth. Do not use acids, corrosive, or abrasive cleaners.