



**Sutherland Slate Interlocking Stix**  
**Usage – Installation – Care & Maintenance**  
**November 2011**

**Recommended Usage**

Sutherland Slate Interlocking Stix is a mosaic blend of 3/8" slate and glass strips. The sheet is easily divided into interlocking sections to reduce waste and enable it to be used as a border of different heights.

It may be used on interior residential or commercial walls, bath and kitchen back splashes, and most vertical locations. It is not recommended for floors.

Stix may be used in wet areas. Use in submerged installations like pools, ponds, hot tubs, or steam rooms is not recommended, use at your own risk. It may be used on walls in a frost-free exterior environment. We recommend sealing all stone.

**Installation Instructions**

**General**

- 1) Sutherland Slate Interlocking Stix is a mosaic blend of 3/8" slate and glass strips. The sheet is easily divided into interlocking sections to reduce waste and enable it to be used as a border of different heights.
- 2) All colors are V2 in shading. Make sure this product is inspected and accepted by the end user before installing. No refunds or adjustments of any kind will be made by Maniscalco or your supplier after the product is installed.
- 3) Stix may be installed on interior walls, bath and kitchen back splashes and can be used commercially in most vertical locations. It is not recommended for floors. Also see ANSI 137.1
- 4) Stix may be used in wet areas. We recommend sealing all stone. Use in submerged installations like Pools, Ponds, Hot Tubs, or Steam Rooms is not recommended.
- 5) The glass inserts may scratch.
- 6) To cut, use a tile wet saw with a diamond blade designed for cutting glass. Pearl, MK, Target, and many other blade manufacturers make specialty blades for glass tiles. Always wear eye protection.

**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.
- 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.

## Sutherland Slate Interlocking Stix continued

4) Make sure the substrate is suitable for tile. Choose and follow the best technique for your project.

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

And 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) Make sure expansion joints and movement joints are considered and used when necessary. Extra soft joints may be required in high heat areas. Use a soft (caulking) joint between the tile and any other material in a continuous installation. Use a soft joint where two different planes come together. Use a soft joint where the tile abuts to plumbing fixtures, cabinets; counter tops, window or door moldings, and bath tubs/shower pans in accordance with the TCNA handbook.

TCNA handbook, page 8, 9, 68, 69, and EJ171-05

7) All interlocking patterns should be installed with a 1/3 or 1/2 sheet offset from course to course to achieve the best blend of the patterns. Before installing, lay out the mosaics dry first to achieve your desired pattern.

8) Use a modified thin-set mortar that meets or exceeds ANSI 118.4 Follow the manufacturer's instructions. Gray thin-set should be used with dark colored grouts. White thin-set should be used with light colored grouts.

9) Use the correct size notch trowel depending on the size of the product and your desired results. A 5/32" x 5/32" V-notched trowel is most appropriate for Stix. Make sure you achieve full contact between the back of the tile and the thin-set.

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

11) Pre-sealing is advised and may aid in clean up. However, do not allow the sealer to saturate the edges of the slate pieces preventing the grout from sticking to the edges.

12) Sanded or non-sanded grout may be used. When using sanded grout, be careful not to scratch the glass. Before installing, perform a test to see if the grout will scratch the glass.

13) Read and follow all manufacturers' instructions on the grout.

14) Buff and cure the grout according to the grout manufacturer's instructions. Once the grout is cured, seal the Stix and grout.

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](http://www.tileusa.com).

### Care & Maintenance

Regular cleaning with a mild bathroom cleaner or neutral stone 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.