

Standard size - 610x1220mm, Thickness- 0.1-0.3mm.



# REPLICATING NATURAL STONE **STONE VENEER!**



Stone which is flexible can bend and stick!!

Moving forward with the availability issue, price, rigidity and bulkiness of natural stone, Stone veneers were introduced not only to be the lighter versions of natural stones with the exact look, yet much easier on application and possesses almost every quality of a stone in terms of firmness, long lasting, resistance to weather and not to forget aesthetics. A peep into the world of flexible yet rigid Stone Veneers by **SURFACES REPORTER!**



For millions of years, layer upon layer of earth's materials have formed various metamorphic rock layers we now call slate, mica, and sandstone. We also know them as durable stones used for floors and patios cut only with diamond saws then mortared into place and usually grouted along the edges. Generally easy to work with, but quite heavy and improbable in many applications, these solid stones have been the only practical means of creating that real stone look. But the introduction of Stone Veneer with the properties like lightweight, flexible, colorful has opened the avenues for unlimited application possibilities. **Stone veneer can be made from natural stone as well as manufactured stone. Natural stone veneer is made from real stone like quartzite that is either collected, i.e. fieldstone, or quarried. The stone is cut to a consistent thickness and weight for use as a veneer.** A flexible, adaptable, durable and weather resistant material, it is also a sustainable since due to the unique manufacturing process, each sheet represents just a thin layer of the natural stone omitting the need large scale industrial waste.

### The benefit of Flexibility

Used in the same way as thin laminate products are used, it can bend to a minimum radius depending on the stone color or type before cracking and even smaller radii can achieve with heating. It can be arched or bent inward or outward to meet a given look or architecture. Fiberglass strand are used in the makeup of Stone Veneer which gives it strength and flexibility. Installation can be easily done using many of the basic tools used in most tile work.



### Preparing the existing surface

Prior to application it is best to clean, brush, and degrease any surface of dust or oils. Depending on the adhesive used, it may be necessary to prepare of the Stone Veneer by sanding or scuffing the back to expose the fiberglass. Some adhesives may require the use of solvents or recommended primer by the adhesive manufacturer. A preliminary dry fit of veneer allows for arrangements and orientation of individual sheets, patterns, textures, and colors before final placement. It is recommended that each sheet be dry fit exactly

where it will be placed on all surfaces. Veneer can be cut with tin snips, a metal shear, wet saw, or table saw with carbide blade. Cutting curves is best done using long nosed tin snip.

For adhesive and sealants, they should be tested prior to any installation including consideration of moisture and temperature in the planned environment. If the application is outdoors, consideration to thermal expansion should be taken into account. Since the sheet is only a veneer it must expand and contract the same way as the substrate or delamination may occur. A hand roller is recommended to remove air between sheet and substrate. To properly roll out trapped air, start in the middle of a sheet while firmly rolling out towards the edge.

### Application points

**You can easily put the veneer over existing tiles by simply adhering the veneer to it. You will also save time and labor by not removing the tile. As long as the tile is sound why remove it?** With this type of resurfacing you can reduce the environmental impact of a total renovation and keep the existing plumbing. Veneer can be also be used to create a tiled effect by leaving a grout joint between cut pieces. Sheets may also be butt joined for a minimal seam look. They can also be used on flooring but with some precautions.

**Gaurav Jain, Director, Arvind Construction Company Pvt. Ltd., (Arvicon)**, a leading stone mining and exporter of the country who has just opened their first flagship store ‘**Stonearth**’ on Stone Veneers



in Delhi NCR says, “**People are interested in stone veneers due to its unique properties. Delhi NCR is a thriving real estate market and we have opened the new store in order to make people related to construction activities like builders, architects etc understand about the application of the product.** While currently we are not into the application business, we do provide right advice to the concerned party about the installation process, adhesive usage and right contractors to do the same. And with that kind of market in view, we hope to open more such studio in future.”



**Gaurav Jain, Director,**  
Arvind Construction Company Pvt. Ltd., (Arvicon)

Stone Veneers, which are slices of natural stones, are easy-to-use, hassle free material which can be stucked onto any existing surface. With proper technique and use of effective adhesive, the veneer lasts for a lifetime without any major maintenance. It is equally applicable for interior as well exterior surfaces.



“*Stone Veneers are easy-to-use, hassle free material which can be stick onto any existing surface. Equally applicable for interior as well exterior surfaces, however, for flooring since it is not a thick solid stone it is not recommended for high traffic areas. It can be used for low traffic flooring areas such as residential bathrooms or where wet traction is required. Some colors of Veneer offer better traction than others. For example Silver Shine or Jeera Green will have more texture then some of the other softer slate colors. Sealers will have an effect on the traction of the surface of each color. Therefore, it is recommended that various sealers be tested prior to final installation when considering it for flooring.*”

