

## INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS **ORGANIC BLOCKS - CORK STRIPS**

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### IMPORTANT USER INFORMATION

Cork Strips (Organic Blocks) are intended for indoor use in normal ambient temperature and humidity conditions and must not be exposed to open flames or hot lighting fixtures.

Cork Strips (Organic Blocks) are designed to be permanently attached to permanent wall structures only, as described in these instructions.

Ensure that anyone installing Cork Strips (Organic Blocks) has read and understands these instructions. Handle the panels with care; avoid rough handling.

Clean Cork Strips (Organic Blocks) only with mild soapy water. If a commercial cleaner is needed to remove a tough stain, use a pH-balanced (neutral) cleaner and test it in an inconspicuous area first to ensure no adverse effects on the surface.

Improper cleaning is not covered under warranty. For cleaning-related questions, please contact your distributor and/or supplier.

Never use excessive amounts of water or liquid cleaners on Cork Strips (Organic Blocks). Like any natural material, it can absorb liquids, requiring extended drying time, which could lead to mold and mildew growth.



INFINITY



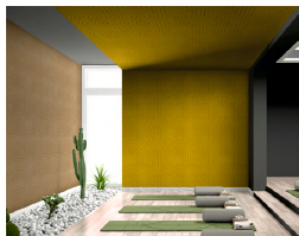
ZIG ZAG



STEP



GEOMETRIC



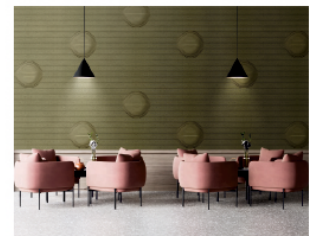
WAVE



FLOW



CROSS



SPHERE

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Upon receiving your MURATTO wall coverings, inspect the materials to ensure the size, design, and quality meet your order and expectations before installation. Once the material is installed, we cannot provide support if the tiles are found to be non-compliant.

### **BEFORE INSTALLATION**

#### *Storage:*

Store materials flat in a temperature-controlled, dry area, ensuring they are not crushed.

#### *Moisture Check:*

Inspect the building for moisture issues before installation, as these can lead to mold and mildew growth. Do not install if there are signs of moisture damage or infiltration. If unsure about moisture presence, consult an architect, mechanical contractor, or general contractor for proper assessment and recommendations.

#### *Responsibility:*

Muratto is not responsible for quality issues if moisture problems are not resolved before installation.

#### *Mildew Treatment:*

Remove any existing mildew and treat surfaces to prevent future growth.

### **SURFACE PREPARATION**

#### *Substrate Requirements:*

The substrate to which the Muratto Organic Blocks Cork Strips are installed must be cured, painted or primed, structurally sound, flat, free of voids, dry, clean, and free of any contaminants that would affect adhesion, such as dust, adhesive, drywall compound, etc.

If any of these characteristics are not met, it is imperative to address them prior to installation.

#### *Surface Conditions:*

Ensure the substrate is level, dry, firm, crack-free, and clean of any debris or contaminants that may affect adhesion.

#### *Cleaning:*

Old chalk, adhesive, and oil paint residues should be removed with a steel brush for better absorption. Oil residues must be removed with an alkaline detergent.

#### *Leveling:*

Level uneven surfaces with an appropriate leveling compound. Prime gypsum plaster and

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highly absorbent substrates as needed, following manufacturer guidelines on dilution and drying time.

### *Temperature:*

Do not install at temperatures below +15°C. Ensure the subfloor, adhesive, wall covering, and room air are at the same temperature during installation.

## **ACCLIMATIZATION**

### *Natural Material Consideration:*

Organic Blocks are a natural product, so the tiles move with changes in temperature and relative humidity (i.e., expand when facing high relative humidity conditions, and/or shrink in low relative humidity conditions).

### *Acclimation Process:*

To minimize inherent movement, packaged tiles should be acclimated on-site for at least 48 to 72 hours before installation.

This must be done under ongoing and operable HVAC conditions (those that will be maintained at consistent temperature and relative humidity conditions on an ongoing basis).

**Note:** as with other natural materials, do not install in a non-conditioned space (i.e., wherein the HVAC is not operable) and later turn on the HVAC system, as temperature and humidity changes can cause excessive product movement. Acclimation is achieved by opening the boxes of the Organic Blocks, removing the panels, and allowing air to flow between the individual pieces in the climatized space where the material will be installed.

## **LAYING**

Muratto tiles are natural products, and shade variations are inherent and visually appealing.

To ensure a balanced appearance, shuffle tiles before installation.

Read these instructions carefully, along with relevant national standards and the adhesive manufacturer's guidelines, before beginning installation.

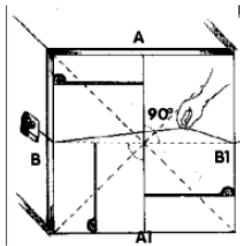
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### TOOLS REQUIRED

Trowel, tape measure, craft knife, pencil, straight edge, chalk line, and cloth.

### MEASUREMENTS



Find the center of the wall using a chalk line:

1. Draw a line from the middle of wall A to the middle of wall A1.
2. Draw another line from the middle of wall B to the middle of wall B1.
3. Ensure the intersection of these lines forms a 90° angle.

### MEASUREMENT CHECK

Verify wall dimensions by placing tiles (without adhesive) from the center.

Ensure tiles near the corners have equal widths and are at least 5 cm wide.

If needed, adjust by drawing new parallel lines to the initial ones.

Install Muratto tiles using one of the following recommended adhesives, or other compatible options available on the market: Bostik Contact 1465, Mapei Ultrabond Eco V4 Evolution, or Bostik Stix H995 Elastic Xtream.

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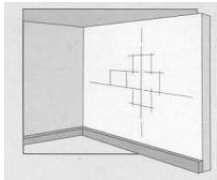
### USAGE

Stir the adhesive thoroughly before use. Apply it evenly to the substrate using a notched trowel, ensuring no adhesive pools form.

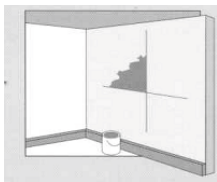
Wait 10 minutes before laying the cork wall covering, then press it down firmly.

Rub the surface again after a short time to ensure proper adhesion.

Allow any excess adhesive that seeps out from the joints to dry. Once hardened, remove it carefully with a sharp instrument.

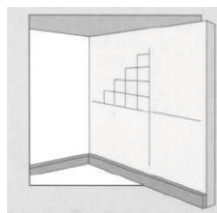


Mark the position of the first panel by aligning it with the intersection of the two axes, selecting the optimal starting location.



To install the Strips, it is recommended to use Mapei's ULTRABOND ECO MS 4 LVT WALL adhesive. This adhesive is ready to use and requires no mixing.

Upon first use, open the container and remove the sealing aluminum sheet. Using a suitable notched trowel, apply the adhesive evenly to the wall substrate, as this is a one-sided application.



Follow the adhesive label instructions. Verify the final position of the panel before securing it in place.

To ensure proper adhesion during the installation of Muratto Cork Strips, it is crucial to apply an adequate amount of adhesive to the wall substrate. This ensures sufficient transfer to the back of the cork tiles, promoting a strong bond.

Adhere to the open time recommended by the adhesive manufacturer. This allows the adhesive to develop optimal tack before placing the tiles.

Always consult the specific adhesive's technical data sheet for precise guidelines.

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### **IMPORTANT NOTES**

#### *Edge Alignment:*

The edges of the Muratto Organic Blocks Strips are designed with a specific fit, such as tongue-and-groove. Ensure that corresponding sides are correctly matched during installation to maintain a seamless appearance.

#### *Tile Placement:*

Fit the edges of the Muratto Organic Blocks Strips as tightly as possible to eliminate any visible gaps between the tiles. Handle the tiles carefully to prevent adhesive from smearing onto the surface.

#### *Adhesive Application:*

As a one-sided adhesive is used, ensure there is adequate adhesive transfer to the back of the Strips tiles to promote a strong bond.

#### *Pressing Tiles:*

After placing each tile, press it firmly into position. Use a plank or another rigid tool to smooth the tile from the center outward to the edges, ensuring the adhesive spreads evenly and establishes proper contact between the tiles and the wall.

#### *Cutting Tiles:*

If a tile needs to be cut to fit at corners or edges, use a craft knife and a straight edge to make a clean cut. Apply adhesive to the cut piece and position it on the wall with the cut side facing inward to maintain a uniform appearance.

### **FINAL INSPECTION AND CLEANING**

Check the entire installation for any misaligned tiles or gaps and make necessary adjustments.

Carefully remove any excess adhesive from the tile surfaces before it fully dries.

Use a clean, damp cloth to wipe away any dust or residue.

Allow the adhesive to fully cure as per the manufacturer's recommendations before exposing the installation to normal use.

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### **POST-INSTALLATION CARE**

Avoid heavy impact or moisture exposure for at least 48 hours after installation.

Regularly clean with a dry or slightly damp cloth to maintain the appearance of the Cork Strips.

If needed, consult the supplier for recommended maintenance practices.

### **GENERAL**

The information in these installation instructions is meant to provide guidance to the installer on installing the Cork Strips (Organic Blocks), and under no circumstance will Muratto be liable for installation issues and/or costs (whether direct, indirect, special, incidental, or consequential damages resulting from the use or guidance provided herein).

These guidelines are not intended to cover all possible conditions and situations that might occur. The end user must exercise caution and common sense when assembling or installing Muratto products.

Should you have any questions, please contact Muratto and/or the partner for help and/or additional information.

Thank you.