

SOLUTIONS FOR REPAIRING AND REPLACING LOOSE OR FALLEN STONE MORTAR AND WIRE LATH APPLICATION

Technical Bulletin 01 – June 2023

Stone pieces can from time to time become loose or come off the wall entirely, especially in high traffic areas where stone is bumped into. This is common and normal and can be remedied easily by following the Quality Stone Veneer repair procedures below.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS: BEST PRACTICES FOR STONE ADHERENCE

- a. Quality Stone Veneer, Inc. products are manufactured to include "rake" marks on the back of the stone providing rough textured grooves for the setting mortar to sit into.
- b. Ensure pre-existing stone veneer waterproofing and underlayment is undisturbed. Any holes or disturbances in the underlying vapor barrier should be repaired appropriately to code before any stone replacement can begin.
- c. Polymer modified premix mortar is specified as requirement for all mortared repairs. Polymer modified mortar should be compliant with ANSI A118.4 or ANSI A118.15.
- d. Outside temperatures must exceed 40 Degrees Fahrenheit for all mortared applications to allow for proper mortar bond and curing.

REPAIRING AND REPLACING LOOSE OR FALLEN STONE:

- 1. Cover and protect the surrounding areas and ground from mortar spill, using cardboard, tarps, plastic, tape, or similar.
- 2. It is first necessary that all substrates be completely clean and free from dust, dirt, oil, wax, and grease. Using a wire brush, gently sweep and clean the area to be repaired. Remove any excess dried mortar that may be loosely hanging from the existing scratch coat.
- 3. Mix Polymer Modified mortar following the mix instructions for the product in use.
- 4. In the event of exposed wire lath in the repair area, additional scratch coat should be applied to the wall. *Note:* Pieces with dried scratch coat stuck to back of stone should not be reinstalled.
- 5. Select properly sized stone pieces to fill the entire area. Pieces should be cut and trimmed to exact size when necessary using a grinder. The back of the stone should be free of any mortar.
- 6. Using a spray bottle or sponge, wet the back of the stone piece as well as the repair area on the wall itself. Adding this moisture before spreading the setting mortar further increases the bond strength between the mortar and stone, especially in summer months when moisture evaporates quickly.
- 7. Apply a thin layer of mortar to the back of the stone, scratching the cement into the textured grooves and fully coating the stone from corner to corner. Then, rebutter the entire back of the stone again with 1/2" to 3/4" depth mortar.
- 8. Firmly press the stone into the wall, sweeping away excess mortar as it exits from behind the piece.
- 9. Using a jointer, tool and slick away any mortar joints as needed to finish the repair cleanly.



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NO EXISTING SCRATCH COAT ON STONE



POLYMER MODIFIED MORTAR



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