

# DECOR 8

TILES

## BAMBOO MOSAIC

### Product Guide

Bamboo has appealed to designers and architects for centuries. The strength, flexibility and natural beauty, as well as the material's 'green' credentials, have all contributed to the popularity. The fast growing nature of bamboo makes the plant more environmentally sustainable than conventional wood.

Decor8 Bamboo mosaic is composed of laminated layers of natural bamboo that are stained and sealed in a satin finish. Bamboo mosaic is available in three colours and two formats (shown below). The bamboo pieces are mounted on fibreglass mesh and supplied in sheets for easy installation. Medium variation in veining and colour is to be expected within sheets. The colours will lighten in UV light.

Bamboo Venetian is composed of 3 rows of bamboo chips, each chip is 100x15mm. Bamboo Venetian sheets are 304x297x10mm



Bamboo Miniblock is composed of random width bamboo strips. Each feature sheet is 301x301x10mm.



### Usage Guide

Bamboo is recommended for use on dry internal feature walls in residential and commercial applications. It can be used in light traffic residential floor areas that are not subject to moisture but is not recommended. Spills and water should be cleaned up immediately. It is recommended to seal the bamboo after installation with a waterproofing sealer.

### Wet Area Note

Bamboo Tiles are not recommended for wet area applications such as showers, saunas or areas subject to high humidity.

### **Preparation and Installation**

Suitable substrates are plasterboard, fiber-cement sheet, cement render, concrete, masonite, plywood. All substrates must be smooth with variations in the surface not more than 3mm over 2metres.

Sheeted walls must be securely fixed, ensuring all fixing screws for sheet substrates are set flush or just below the surface. All sheet joints and fixing screw-holes in the sheet surfaces are to be filled in accordance with recommendations of the sheet manufacturer. However, where applicable, only the base jointing compound need be applied, no fine top coat compound is to be used.

Concrete surfaces must be fully cured (min 28 days cure) and free from all contaminants such as concrete curing agents and/or excessive laitance. Contaminants are best removed by mechanical methods (such as grinding) to achieve an open pored surface. All voids and air bubbles in the concrete must be filled with a suitable cement based filler and allowed to dry prior to fixing the Bamboo tiles.

Plywood surfaces are to be lightly sanded to remove any contaminants

All substrate surfaces are to be brushed, and/or wiped or vacuumed clean to remove any dust or loose particles.

### **Fixing of the Bamboo Feature Tiles**

Follow the manufacturers instructions supplied with the adhesive. Apply Dunlop Timber Floor Adhesive to the dry, prepared surfaces using a 4mm V-notch trowel or similar, and place the mesh side of the Bamboo tile sheets into the fresh adhesive. Ensure the tile sheets are fully embedded in the adhesive by tamping with a large wood float or similar. The adhesive layer must be thick enough to bond to the individual pieces and not just the plastic mesh. Ensure the Bamboo sheets are fully stretched so that all gaps between the Bamboo pieces are uniform in size. Immediately wipe away any excess adhesive before it sets. Allow the adhesive to set for 24 hours prior to grouting.

An alternative adhesive would be an epoxy adhesive suitable for gluing bamboo timber flooring.

### **Grouting**

Traditional cement based grouts used for ceramic tiling may scratch the surface of the Bamboo pieces. Therefore we recommend always grouting a small area that is not obvious to ensure no scratching and suitable colour match first. There is no guarantee provided against scratching.

Ardex FG8 cement based grout mixed with Grout Booster diluted 50% with water may be used to grout these Bamboo tiles. Joints should be completely filled with grout and packed down to eliminate air bubbles and voids. Excess grout should be cleaned from the surface while the grout is fresh and before it hardens

### **Expansion and Control Joints**

Existing joints in the the subsurface must be carried through to the tile work. Expansion joints should be installed at all "changes of plane" in the tiling work.