

Scottish Sandstone

40mm Wall Cladding

Installation guidance specification and frequently asked questions

A guide to selecting and installing natural sandstone cladding on a suitable supporting wall. Confirm the complete wall construction, fixing system and project details before installation.

Product specification

Property	Specification
Material	Natural Scottish sandstone with a textured face and natural variation.
External thickness	40 mm nominal recommended.
Internal thickness	40 mm nominal; 30 mm can be supplied on request.
Pallet coverage	Approximately 10 m ² per pallet of 40 mm stone, subject to stone selection and joint layout.
Comparison coverage	There is only 2.3 m ² per 600 kg bag of standard 100 mm or 140 mm on-bed random walling, as quoted in the supplied product information.
Finish options	Pointed or dry effect random stonework.
Special pieces	Corners for door and window reveals, in depths to suit the wall build-up.
Other options	Other stone types and colours can be supplied at 40 mm, subject to availability.

Coverage figures are product estimates. Confirm whether quoted coverage includes joints and allow separately for cutting, selection and waste.

Installation guidance

1 Confirm the supporting structure

Cladding requires a solid, stable supporting construction designed for the combined weight of stone, adhesive and pointing. Potential backgrounds include suitable blockwork and existing brickwork, subject to assessment and preparation.

For timber frame construction, the proposed arrangement is timber frame, cavity, blockwork and stone. A board system may be an alternative only where the complete assembly is approved for the load and exposure.

Products such as 12 mm Rendaboard or Multirend can be used, with support centres of 400 mm rather than 600 mm, and no horizontal battens. Obtain written confirmation from the board manufacturer for the exact board, fixings, framing and cavity details before adopting this arrangement.

2 Agree the layout and details

Blend stone from several packs and agree a sample panel showing colour, random layout, joint width and pointing. Plan corners and reveals first.

3 Prepare the surfaces

Remove loose material and cutting dust. Check the wall and stone backs are suitable for bonding. Resolve moisture, coatings or weak surfaces before installation, and confirm any primer or preparation with the fixing-system manufacturer.

4 Fix the stone

Kerakoll H40 Gel or similar is a recommended adhesive, subject to confirmation for the selected sandstone and background. Follow its current UK technical data sheet and project instructions. Achieve full adhesive coverage outdoors, including adhesive on stone backs; a back-only instruction must not replace the approved method.

Use plastic wedges or suitable stone packers to hold the layout while the adhesive sets. Avoid timber wedges, which can absorb moisture and expand.

5 Protect cure and point

Follow the adhesive instructions for mixing, bed thickness, weather limits, curing and protection. H40 Gel specifies application at +5°C to +35°C and protection from direct rain for at least 24 hours. Setting varies with conditions; 24 hours is not a universal full-cure time. [1]

Use a pointing material compatible with the sandstone and exposure. Point only when the fixing system permits, keep movement joints clear and avoid smearing mortar across the stone face.

Frequently asked questions

Why choose 40 mm over standard Split faced block stone.

The thinner pieces are lighter and easier to handle than equivalent 100 or 140 mm thick stone. They generally need less dressing and can be easier to trim. The quoted coverage per pallet can reduce haulage and storage requirements. Faster installation may reduce handling, forklift movements and scaffold duration. An adhesive system can avoid a traditional mortar mixer for fixing, although adhesive mixing and pointing equipment may still be needed.

Can it achieve a dry effect finish.

Yes. A dry effect requires careful selection and positioning to minimise visible gaps, so it may offer little installation-time saving. A pointed finish is generally more forgiving of the random layout. Confirm the external joint detail with the designer.

Are corners available

Yes. Corner pieces help disguise the thin cladding and create a finished right-angled edge.

Can the cladding be used around a wood burning stove.

40 mm stone, or 30 mm on request, may be considered for an internal stove surround. The proposed fire-resistant plasterboard and fire cement arrangement requires confirmation for the specific appliance and complete wall assembly. Obtain the stove installer's and product manufacturers' approval of the board, fixing materials, temperatures and clearances before installation. Stone facing alone does not establish a compliant heat shield.

Technical references

[1] Kerakoll H40 Gel UK technical data sheet, June 2026. gb.kerakoll.com/p/h40-gel

[2] BSI BS 5385-2:2015, external ceramic, natural stone and mosaic wall tiling. doi.org/10.3403/30288666

Use this sheet alongside the agreed project specification and current manufacturer instructions. Confirm the board assembly, mechanical restraint and stove details before work begins.