

# Decorative Surfaces

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## SIMINETTI MOTHER OF PEARL DECORATIVE PANEL SAFETY, INSTALLATION AND AFTER CARE

The following details are given as guidance only and to ensure the beauty of your Mother of Pearl Decorative Panel(s) is maintained for many years to come. The information herein is a guide and is not exhaustive.

### 1) Application of the Decorative Panels

One of the great strengths of the Decorative Panels is that they are extremely strong, water proof and lightweight given their relative thickness. This strength and minimal weight is achieved through the use of an Aluminium Honeycomb backing onto which the Mother of Pearl is fixed. This allows for the Decorative Panels to be used in many areas, including Walls, Showers, Wet-Rooms, Spa's, Furnishings etc. Siminetti Decorative Panels are also suitable for Kitchen Backsplashes. The Decorative Panels are NOT recommended for floor areas due to the surface area being highly polished and this may create a slip surface.

#### 1a) Installation

When installing the Decorative Panels we recommend you choose a recognised installer who has experience in the installation of panels or large format products. Siminetti Decorative Panels are not difficult to install but it is important that the surface onto which they are to be installed is suitable and stable.

We recommend the use of a Tile Adhesive or strong Gel Adhesive in all cases. In all cases the adhesive should be suitable for adhesion to aluminium and the surface on which the panel is to be placed. Due to the nature of the panels, the colour of the adhesive used will not effect the surface finish and thus all colours are acceptable.

The type of adhesive used will depend on the substrate onto which the panels are being installed. Consult your installer for the correct adhesive to be used. Siminetti recommend Kerakoll Adhesives are used with its products but other manufacturers products maybe suitable.

When applying the adhesive, we recommend applying the adhesive to the aluminium surface on the rear of the panel and then placing the panel up against the surface to which it is to be placed. With the panels being light it weight only a thin layer of adhesive is generally required but this actually quantity will depend on the adhesive being used and the manufacturers instructions should be followed in all cases. To achieve the most secure fixing it is recommended that adhesive is applied to the full aluminium rear surface.

#### 1b) Cutting Siminetti Decorative Panels

On occasion it maybe necessary to cut the panels to ensure a correct fitting or installation of other services, pipe-works, mirrors etc. The panels can be easily cut or drilled with diamond tipped cutting tools using a wet or dry process. The panels are not prone to splintering or shattering, however as with any mechanical process we recommend the wearing of a dust mask along with safety eye and hand wear are used at all times during the cutting process. As the panels are produced using natural Mother of Pearl, there maybe dust and a slight odour given off during any cutting process. It is recommend that any cutting is carried out in a well ventilated area.

### 1c) Jointing / Finishing of Siminetti Decorative Panels

When installing Siminetti Decorative Panels, it is recommended that panel edge and jointing trims are used to achieve the ultimate finished effect. However the client is free to choose the manner in which any joints or exposed edges are finished once the panel(s) are installed. Finishing options include, sealant, grouts or recommended panel edge trims. If using grouts or sealants, it is recommended that the colour chosen compliments the colour of the Mother of Pearl Decoration. Siminetti Decorative Panels are 8mm thick (unless otherwise specified), 6mm Aluminium Honeycomb and 2mm Mother of Pearl. To complete the installation of the panels, tile panel edge trims can be used to close off the ends or to join two panels across a larger surface area. Siminetti recommend the use of Genesis Panel trims but other manufacturers products are available. When finishing with panels in a wet environments, ie. Showers, it is recommended that a clear silicon is placed along the edge to be fitted with a trim to ensure a water tight joint. Siminetti Decorative Panels do not require secondary sealing for use in Wet Areas or External Areas.

#### 1d) Removal of Installation Residues

DO NOT USE acids or similar strength materials as this may break-down the surface of the Mother-of-Pearl or Shell resulting in porosity or a reduction in the polished effect. If using adhesive or grout cleaning agents, ALWAYS test an area of the panels to ensure no damage has occurred.

### 2) Cleaning and Aftercare Instructions

A soft cloth with warm water should easily clean off your Decorative Panel(s). DO NOT USE acids or similar strength materials as this may break-down the bond resulting in porosity or a reduction in the polished effect. If unsure about the strength of a cleaning agent, we recommend trailing it on a small area in the first instance.

#### Notes

Siminetti Decorative Panels are produced from an Aluminium Honeycomb which consists of 2 layers of aluminium sheet separated by an aluminium honeycomb grid. The Mother of Pearl decorative surface is produced from 100% natural products and as such sample colours may differ from actual supplied product colours due to the natural production process of Mother-of-Pearl and/or Shell product. Dyed colours are not used within the production of Siminetti Decorative Panels. Products suitable for external use may show signs of natural weathering dependent upon the climatic conditions in which they are installed. All products suitable for external use are frost proof to BS ENO ISO 10545-12 certification.

IF IN DOUBT WE RECOMMEND CONSULTING YOUR SUPPLIER or e-mail SALES@SIMINETTI.COM

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