DUNE
UNIQUE MATTERS

TECHNICAL GUIDE

Installation guide for metal mosaics

Recommendations for installing, grouting and maintaining metal mosaics.

01 Surface preparation

Before tiling, the substrate must be firm, clean and perfectly level.

If the substrate is uneven, correct it with suitable levelling products. **Never level using the adhesive.** Also repair any cracks or imperfections until the wall is completely smooth.

> 2 mm
Unevenness above which the substrate must be **levelled** with suitable products.

< 2 %
Maximum permissible moisture in the **wall** before tiling.

02 Adhesive material

The choice of adhesive depends on several factors that should be assessed before starting.

- The substrate material to be covered (plasterboard, synthetic panels, plaster, wood…).
- The stability of the substrate.
- The area to be covered.
- The ambient conditions.
- The speed at which the work is to be carried out.

The adhesives recommended by DUNE have been tested at our facilities, under controlled ambient conditions and on rigid brick or concrete substrates. For any other type of installation, carry out a test first and, if in doubt, consult DUNE or the adhesive manufacturer directly.

ALWAYS CARRY OUT A TEST

Before installing all the material, test the system on at least **2 pieces**. Also check that the chosen adhesive is suitable for the material to be installed.

Adhesive by mosaic type

See the references in the adhesives table in section 06.

Mosaic type	Recommended adhesive	Models
Metal-coated ceramic base	C1 or C2 tile adhesive, or epoxy adhesive	SIRENA COPPER, SIRENA GOLD, REFLECTIONS, METALIC SILVER, METALIC GOLD, BRONZO, ETERNAL, HYPNOTIC, MATRIX, URBAN
Metal	C2 tile adhesive or epoxy adhesive	CORTEN, HALLEY SILVER, HALLEY GOLD





03 Installation

Fresh adhesive and full coverage of the tile are the key to a long-lasting installation.

1 **Start at the bottom**

- Work from the bottom upwards, allowing the lower rows to dry.

2 **Spread the adhesive**

- Apply a thin layer (approx. 3 mm) on the area where the piece will go.
- Comb it with a no. 3 notched trowel to form the ridges.

3 **Lay the piece**

- Do so while the adhesive is still soft and before a dry skin forms on the surface.
- Press gently to achieve good adhesion and remove any voids without adhesive.

4 **Keep joints even**

- Make sure the gap between sheets equals the joint between the tesserae.

5 **Take care where sheets meet**

- On irregular mosaics, remove and reposition some tesserae where two meshes meet to improve the finish.

Cutting

Mosaic type	Tool
Metal-coated ceramic base	Angle grinder with metal-cutting disc; continuous rim recommended
Metal	Metal shears

04 Grouting

The final finish depends on both the material and cleanliness during application.

1 **Prepare the joints**

- They must be clean and dry, with a minimum depth of 2 mm.

2 **Apply the grout**

- Spread it with a smooth trowel, filling all the joints.

3 **Clean immediately**

- Do not let excess material dry: remove it as soon as possible with a sponge dampened with water and neutral pH cleaning products.
- Never use abrasive products.

For greater water resistance, **epoxy grout** is recommended, especially in wet areas. See the grout table in section 06.

CHOOSE THE COLOUR CAREFULLY

The grout colour affects the final appearance. DUNE advises a test before grouting the whole surface.

LOW SCRATCH RESISTANCE

All metal mosaics scratch easily. For a good finish, use a fine-grain grout and clean off the excess with a sponge and plenty of clean water, without pressing too hard: this is when most scratches occur. Always carry out a grouting test on one piece before continuing.



05 Cleaning and maintenance

Daily maintenance is simple if the right products are used.

Routine cleaning can be done with standard neutral pH products, without abrasive cleaning materials.

METAL MOSAICS

Use a specific product for the daily cleaning of metals. Never use rust removers, as they alter the surface finish of the piece.



06 Recommended products

References for adhesives, treatment products and grouts.

Adhesives

Manufacturer	C1 tile adhesive	C2 tile adhesive	Epoxy adhesive
KERAKOLL	ESPECIAL ECO	H 40 ECO FLEX	SUPERFLEX ECO
MAPEI	TIXOBOND	KERAFLEX MAXI S-1	KERALASTIC T

Manufacturer	Latex adhesive mortar
LATICRETE	Mortar 211 + Laticrete 4237

Treatment products

Surface	Code	Description	PHP code
GLASS	185463	ANTIGLISS	D787
STONE	184507	LIQUID PROTECTIVE WAX	D945
STONE	184508	STAIN-PROOF SEALER	D969

Grouts

Manufacturer	Cementitious grout	Epoxy grout
KERAKOLL	FUGABELLA ECO PORCELANA	FUGALITE
MAPEI	KERACOLOR FF	KERAPOXY
LATICRETE	LATICRETE 1600 series	—

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