GENERAL

BEFORE BEGINNING

A. Convene one week prior to commencing work of this section.

B. Require attendance of installation material manufacturer, tile supplier, tile installer and installers of related work. Review installation procedures and coordination required with
related work.

C. Meeting agenda includes but is not limited to:

1. Stone tile and installation material compatibility.
2. Grouting procedure.
3. Maintenance and cleaning products and methods.
4. Surface Preparation.

DELIVERY, STORAGE AND HANDLING

A. Deliver and store packaged materials in original containers with seals unbroken and labels intact until time of use. Prevent damage or contamination to materials by water, freezing, foreign matter or other causes.

B. Protect setting materials from freezing or overheating in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

C. Store tile and setting materials on elevated platforms, under cover and in a dry location and protect from contamination, dampness, freezing or overheating.

D. Do not use frozen materials unless specifically allowed by manufacturer.

E. Deliver and store materials on site at least 24 hours before work begins.

F. Provide heated and dry storage facilities on site.

ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS

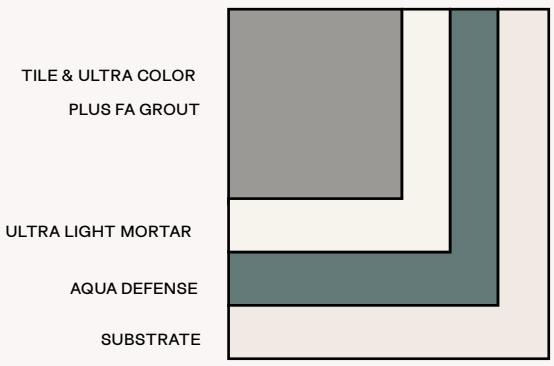
A. Maintain environmental conditions and protect work during and after installation to comply with referenced standards and manufacturer's printed recommendations.

B. Vent temporary heaters to exterior to prevent damage to tile work from carbon dioxide buildup.

C. Maintain temperatures at not less than 50 deg. F (10 deg. C) in tiled areas during installation and for 7 days after completion, unless higher temperatures are required by referenced installation standards or manufacturer's written instructions.

PRODUCTS

MORTAR MATERLALS



A. Portland Cement Mortar (Thickset) Installation Materials: ANSI A108.02.

1. Cleavage Membrane: Asphalt felt, ASTM D 226, Type I (No. 15); or polyethylene sheeting, ASTM D 4397, 4.0 mils (0.1 mm) thick.

2. Reinforcing Wire Fabric: Galvanized, welded wire fabric, 2 by 2 inches (50.8 by 50.8 mm) by 0.062-inch (1.57-mm) diameter; comply with ASTM A 185 and ASTM A 82 except for minimum wire size.

3. Expanded Metal Lath: Diamond-mesh lath complying with ASTM C 847.

i. Base Metal and Finish for Interior Applications: Uncoated or zinc-coated (galvanized) steel sheet, with uncoated steel sheet painted after fabrication into lath.

ii. Base Metal and Finish for Exterior Applications: Zinc-coated (galvanized) steel sheet.

iii. Configuration over Studs and Furring: Flat.

iv. Configuration over Solid Surfaces: Self furring.

v. Weight: 2.5 lbs./sq. yd. (1.4 kg/sq. m).

vi. Weight: 3.4 lbs./sq. yd. (1.8 kg/sq. m).

4. Factory blended Polymer-Modified Thick-Bed and Render Mortar

    i. Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, Modified Mortar Bed.

5. Latex Additive: Manufacturer's standard water emulsion, serving as replacement for part or all of gaging water, of type specifically recommended by latex-additive manufacturer for use with field-mixed Portland cement and aggregate mortar bed

    i. Product Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, Planicrete AC.

B. Improved Modified Dry-Set Cement Mortar, Lightweight, Non-Sag, for Large and Heavy Tile: ANSI A118.4TE, A118.11 , A118.15TE and ISO 13007 C2TES1P1.

    1 Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, MAPEI Ultralite Mortar.

C. Improved Modified Dry-Set Cement Mortar, Lightweight, Non-Sag, for Large and Heavy Tile: ANSI A118.4E, A118.11 , A118.15E and ISO 13007 C2TES2P1.

    1. Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, MAPEI Ultralite S2.

D. Improved Modified Dry-Set Cement Mortar, Lightweight, Non-Sag, for Large and Heavy Tile: ANSI A118.4TE, A118.11 , A118.15TE and ISO 13007 C2TES1P1

    1. Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, Ultraflex LFT

E. Improved Modified Dry-Set Cement Mortar, Lightweight, Non-Sag, for Large and Heavy Tile, rapid setting: ANSI A118.4TF, A118.11, A118.15TF and ISO 13007 C2FS1P1.

    1. Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, Ultraflex LFT Rapid.

F. Improved Modified Dry-Set Cement Mortar for Large and Heavy Tile: ANSI A118.4E, A118.11, A118.15E and ISO 13007 C2ES2P2.

    1. Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, Kerabond T and Keralastic System.

G. Improved Modified Dry-Set Cement Mortar for Large and Heavy Tile, Rapid Setting ANSI A118.4F, A118.11, A118.15F and ISO 13007 C2TFS2P2.

    1. Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, Granirapid System.

H. Organic Adhesive: ANSI A136.1 and ISO 13007 D1TE

    1. Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, Type 1.

    2. Provide product with a VOC content of 65 g/L or less when calculated according to 40 CFR 59, Subpart D (EPA Method 24).

    3. Product shall comply with the testing and product requirements of the California Department of Health Services' "Standard Practice for the Testing of Volatile Organic Emissions from Various Sources Using Small-Scale Environmental Chambers."

ADHESIVES AND PRIMERS

A. Multi-Purpose Bond-Promoting Primer: Low-VOC, synthetic resin-based primer with bondpromoting silica aggregates suspended in a dispersion, for interior and exterior applications.

    1. Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, ECO Prim Grip.

B. Adhesive Bond Coat for Sound Reduction Membrane: Light tan, nonflammable and CRI (Green Label Plus certified) adhesive;

    1. Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, Ultrabond ECO 420.

    2. Applications: Interior floors for the installation of recycled rubber sound reduction membrane

GROUT MATERLALS

A. High Performance Cement Tile Grout: For grout joints from 1/16 inch to 3/4 inch (1.5 mm to 19 mm) and meeting ANSI A118.7 and ISO 13007 CGWAF.

    1. Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, Ultracolor Plus FA.

B. Polymer Ready-to-Use Tile Grout for grout joints from 1/16 inch to 1/2 inches (1.5 mm to 12 mm).

    1. Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, MAPEI Ultralite S2.

WATERPROOF MEMBRANE

A. General: Manufacturer's standard product that complies with ANSI A118.10 and is recommended by the manufacturer for the application indicated. Include reinforcement and accessories recommended by manufacturer

1. Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI materials.

B. Fluid-Applied Membrane: Liquid-latex rubber or elastomeric polymer

1. Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, Mapelastic AquaDefense.

B. Latex-Portland Cement: Flexible mortar consisting of cement-based mix and latex additive.

1. Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, "Mapelastic 315".

FLEXIBLE SEALANT

A. Professional-grade, 100%-silicone sealant specifically formulated for heavy traffic expansion and movement joints, horizontal and vertical complying with ASTM standards; slump (ASTM C639), tack-free time (ASTM C679,) shore "A" hardness (ASTM C661), joint movement (ASTM C920), elongation at break (ASTM D412), flexibility (ASTM C734) and passes weatherability (Accelerated Weathering Tester QUV).

1. Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, Mapesil T.

2. Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, Mapesil 3D.

SOUND REDUCTION MEMBRANE

A. Sound Control and Crack Isolation; Flexible, thin, load-bearing, recycled rubber soundreduction and crack isolation membrane complying with ANSI A118.12:

1. Product: Subject to compliance with requirements, provide MAPEI, Mapesonic RM.

i. Mapesonic RM 5: 5mm thickness for sound reduction.

ii. Mapesonic RM 10: 10mm thickness for improved sound reduction.

PENETRATING TILE AND STONE SEALERS

A. Solvent-based penetrating sealer; premium, natural-look, that uses VOC-exempt materials and will provide maximum protection on interior and exterior natural stone (marble, limestone, sandstone, slate, granite, travertine, etc.), unglazed and porcelain ceramic tile, masonry and grout. Can be used as a pre-grouting sealer (grout-release); MAPEI, UltraCare Penetrating Plus SB Stone & Porcelain Tile Sealer.

B. Economical color-enhancing penetrating sealer that enhances the natural colors of stone and provides protection on all interior and exterior natural stone surfaces such as, marble, limestone, sandstone, slate, granite, travertine, as well as cementitious grout. Can be used as a pre-grouting sealer (grout-release); MAPEI, UltraCare Enhancing Stone Sealer.

C. Premium color-enhancing penetrating sealer that enhances the natural colors of stone and provides maximum protection. Safe for use on all interior and exterior natural stone surfaces, such as marble, limestone, sandstone, slate, granite, travertine as well as cementitious grout. The product can also be used as a pre-grouting sealer; MAPEI, UltraCare Enhancing Plus Stone Sealer.

TOPICAL STONE SEALER AND FLNLSHES

A. High-Sheen, one-step, non-yellowing, resistant to ultraviolet light, water-based formula that provides a durable high-gloss finish and maximum stain resistance for interior uses, and can also be used as a pre grouting sealer (grout release); MAPEI, UltraCare High Gloss Sealer & Finish.

B. Low-Sheen, one-step, non-yellowing, water-based formula that provides a durable lowsheen satin finish and maximum stain resistance. This product can also be used as a pregrouting sealer. For interior and exterior use, is non-yellowing and resistant to ultraviolet light; MAPEI, UltraCare Low-Sheen Stone Sealer & Finish.

TILE AND STONE MAINTENANCE, CLEANERS AND GROUT HAZE REMOVERS

A. Stone cleaner and polish for kitchen and bathroom countertops, and is non-acidic; MAPEI, UltraCare Everyday Stone Clean & Polish.

B. High-alkaline cleaner; highly concentrated and degreaser that quickly removes waxes, grease, oil, light soap scum, mildew and algae stains. For areas that have been neglected or subject to heavy use; MAPEI, UltraCare Heavy-Duty Stone, Tile & Grout Cleaner.

C. Stain remover for stone; absorbs food, grease and oil stains out of natural-stone surfaces including granite, marble, limestone, slate, travertine, terra cotta, flagstone, concrete and cement grout; MAPEI, UltraCare Deep Stain Remover for Stone.

MIXES

A. Proportion and mix materials in accordance with manufacturer's most current written instructions and applicable ANSI standards.

EXECUTION

EXAMINATION

A. Examine surfaces to receive tilework and conditions under which tile will be installed.

B. Do not proceed with tilework until surfaces and conditions comply with requirements indicated in reference tile installation standard and manufacturer's printed instructions.

B. When underlayment, patching, leveling and rendering materials are needed, they must be from the supplier of the setting materials. For improved warranty and single source responsibility.

INSTALLATION

A. Install tile in accordance with manufacturer's printed instructions and the applicable requirements of ANSI A108 Series for the materials being used.

B. Install stone tile using TCNA methods and NSI guidelines.

B. Install expansion and control joints in accordance with TCNA method EJ171.

C. Apply stone tile and grout cleaners, sealers and maintenance products in accordance with manufacturer's printed instructions and technical data sheets.

GROUTING

A. Grout joints in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and ANSI A108.10.

B. Remove standing water, dust, and foreign substances from joints to be grouted.

C. Clean and dry stone tile surfaces.

D. Due to the irregular joints, bag grout into the joints or apply sealant

E. After grouting, remove all grout residue promptly.

PROTECTION

A. Walls: Protect from impact, vibration and heavy hammering on adjacent and opposite walls for at least 14 days after installation, unless manufacturer's instructions allow a shorter period.

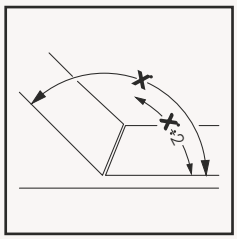
B. Protect from weather which can cause staining for at least 14 days.

C. Protect from freezing and total water immersion for at least 21 days after i nsta l l ati on .

TYPICAL CORNER DETAILS

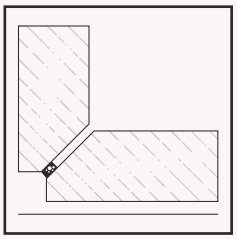
MITER

Any condition of stone veneer, coping, paving strips, etc, where a corner condition is accomplished by two stones with angular cuts, with the angles of the cuts being equal to the bisection of the total angle. See also quirk miter.



QUIRK MITER

An external corner formed by two stone panels with beveled (usually 45°) edges and blunted, finished noses to reduce the chipping vulnerability of the sharp edges that occur with a common miter.



OUTSIDE CORNER MITERING

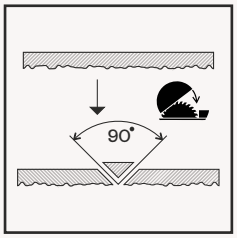
CIRCULAR SAW METHOD

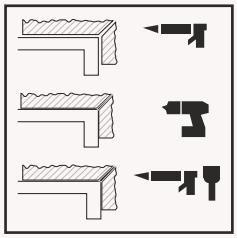
STEP 1: With a T-square, mark the back of the panel where the cut is to be made. Before cutting the panel, look on the texture side to make sure that when the cut is made that the stones are balanced and you are not going to cause any unusually small stone patterns in the corner miter.

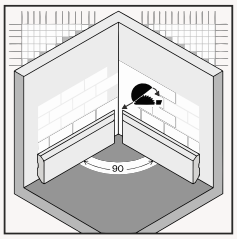
STEP 2: It is recommended that you use a clamp on saw guide to ensure that the cut is uniformly straight for a tight fit.

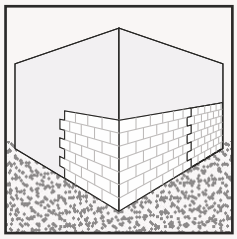
STEP 3: Cut a 45° angle on both sides of the cut line (a triangular piece will be the bi-product of the cuts.)

STEP4: For exterior applications a polyurethane adhesive is required where the two mitered corners come together (not caulk) followed by a few screws to reinforce the corner.



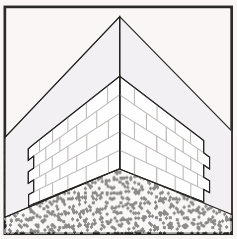




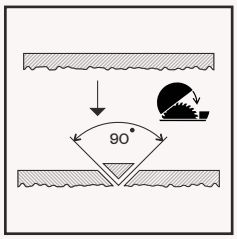


INSIDE CORNER MITERING

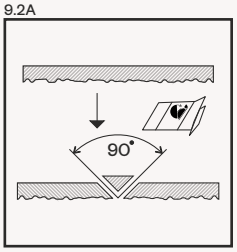
The recommended methods for cutting the panels can be seen in the diagrams shown.Figure 9.28-Using a circular saw. Figure 9.2C-Using a table saw.



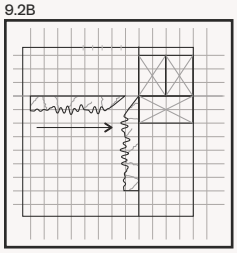
9.2A



9.2B



9.2C



9.2D

*Note: Please Refer to TCNA Guidelines

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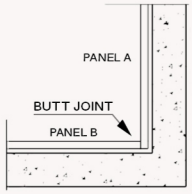
CORNER DETAILS

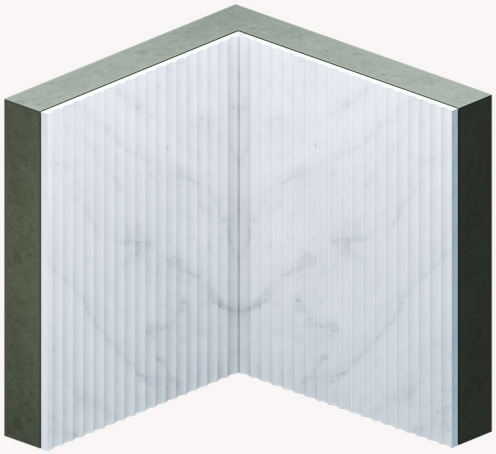
BUTT JOINT

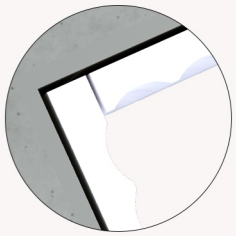
A butt joint brings two panels together with clean, straight edges, allowing the natural texture and thickness of the material to remain consistent. It creates a minimal and refined junction, suitable for both interior and exterior applications.

A. INSIDE CORNER — BUTT JOINT

Install panels so the edges meet tightly at 90°.
Ensure both panels are aligned in the same plane and level.
Use appropriate adhesive as per substrate and environmental conditions.
Maintain minimal joint gap for a seamless finish.



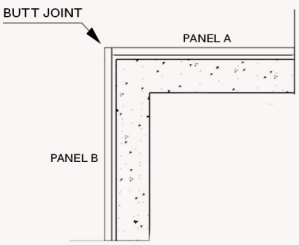


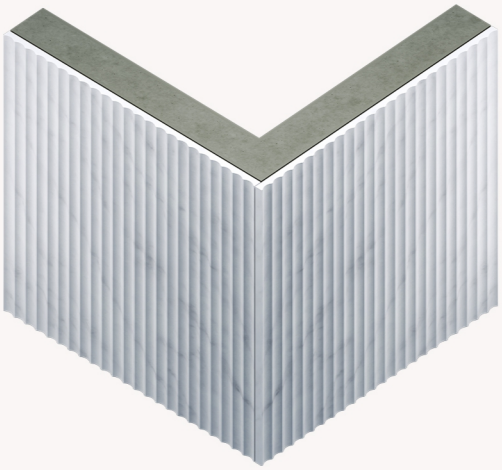


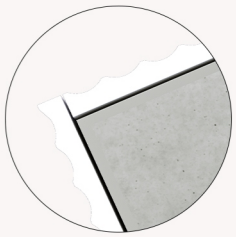
Close-up view
of butt joint at inside corner.

B. OUTSIDE CORNER — BUTT JOINT

Install panels so the edges meet tightly at 90° on the external corner.
Ensure proper alignment and level across both panels.
Use suitable adhesive and support as required.
Maintain minimal joint gap for a clean,continuous edge.
Clean excess adhesive and allow proper curing.







Close-up view
of butt joint at outside corner.

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CORNER DETAILS

MITER JOINT

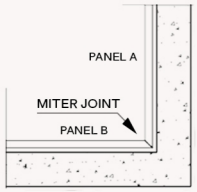
A miter joint brings two panels together by cutting both edges at a 45-degree angle to create a seamless 90-degree corner. This hides the raw panel edges and maintains visual continuity for textured, ribbed, or patterned materials across both interior and exterior applications.

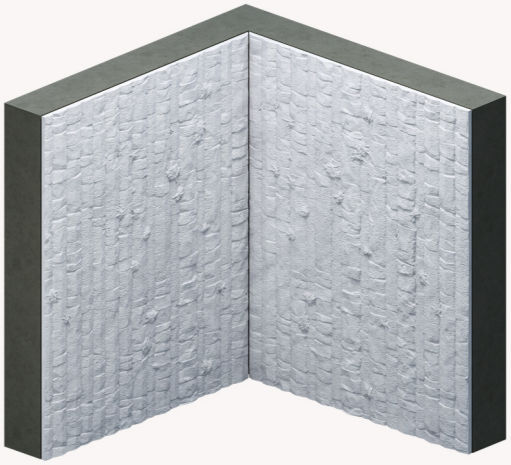
A. INSIDE CORNER — MITER JOINT

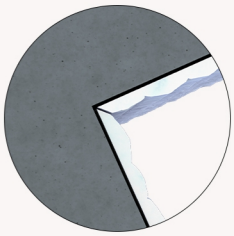
Bevel Cut: Precision-cut the meeting edge of both Panel A and Panel B at a 45-degree angle along the inner corner.

Dry-Fit: Test-align both panels against the internal wall corner to ensure a flush, tight 90-degree seam.
Adhesive: Apply high-strength structural adhesive evenly on the wall substrate and along the cut bevels

Installation: Press panels firmly together to maintain a minimal, uniform joint gap and clean excess adhesive immediately.







Close-up view of Miter joint at inside corner.

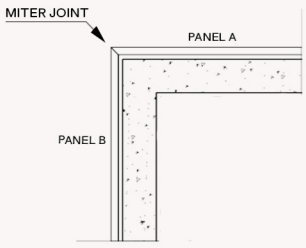
B. OUTSIDE CORNER — MITER JOINT

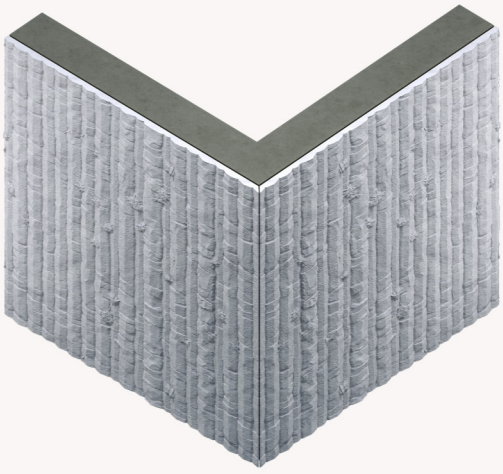
Bevel Cut: Miter-cut the outer edge of both panels at 45 degrees so the finished decorative surfaces meet neatly at the exterior point.

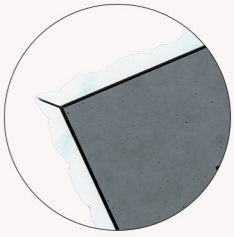
Alignment: Align both panels to maintain continuous horizontal line work, grain, or ribbed texture around the corner.

Adhesive & Support: Apply suitable mounting adhesive and support the external joint as required during set time.

Finishing: Ensure tight contact along the outer point, wipe away squeeze-out, and allow proper curing time.







Close-up view of Miter joint at outside corner.

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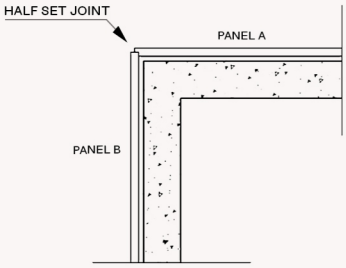
CORNER DETAILS

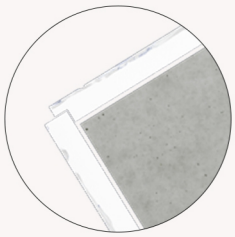
HALF SET

A half set (or half lap) joint brings two panels together by overlapping them with half-thickness stepped cutouts (rabbets).
One panel fits neatly into the recessed edge of the other, creating a strong, interlocking 90-degree corner
with a clean profile for both interior and exterior applications.

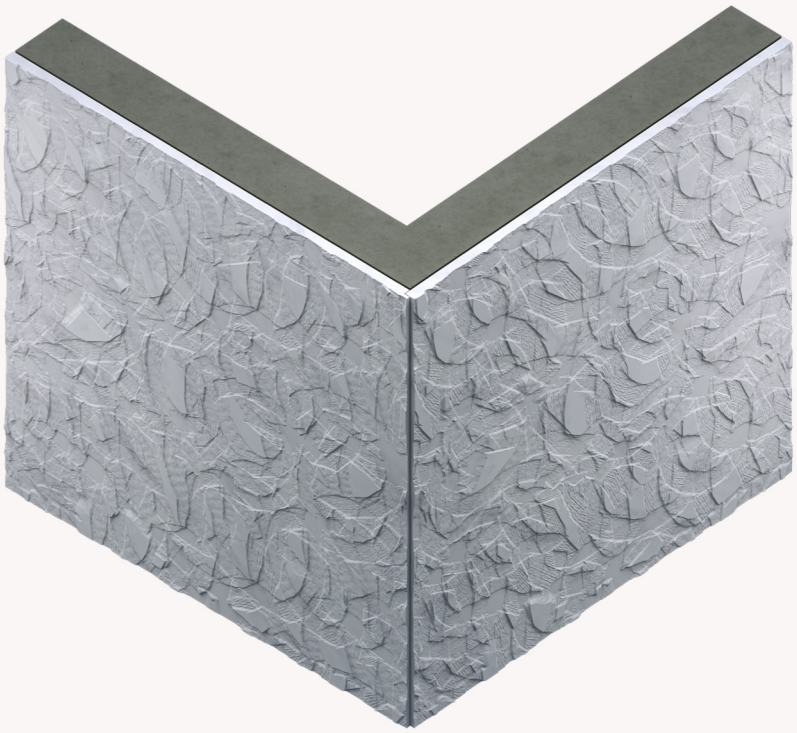
HALF SET JOINT

Rabbet Cut: Cut a recessed step (rabbet) into the inside meeting edge of Panel A equal to half the thickness of Panel B.
Dry-Fit: Test-align Panel B flush into the cut step of Panel A to ensure a tight, square 90-degree internal fit.
Adhesive: Apply high-strength structural adhesive evenly within the rabbet channel and substrate contact area.
Installation: Press Panel B firmly into the joint pocket, ensuring full contact along the seam, and wipe away excess adhesive immediately.





Close-up view
of half set joint at
outside corner.



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CORNER DETAILS

CURVED JOINT

A curved joint transitions two panels smoothly around a corner using pre-formed radiused corner profiles or flexible panel trims. This eliminates sharp raw edges to maintain visual continuity and creates a soft, modern finish across both interior and exterior applications.

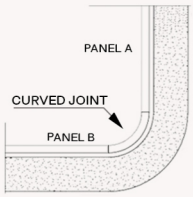
A. INSIDE CORNER — CURVED JOINT

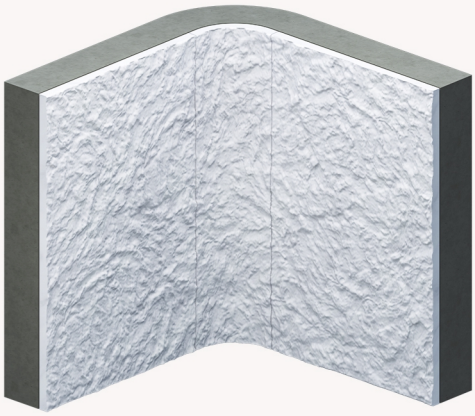
Concave Profile: Position a custom made pre-curved or radiused inner piece of stone at the meeting junction of Panel A and Panel B to form a continuous, smooth concave transition.

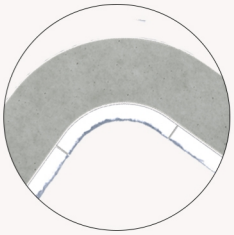
Dry-Fit: Test-align both flat panels along with the curved corner stone piece against the internal wall framing to verify a tight, uniform radiused fit.

Adhesive: Apply high-strength structural adhesive evenly onto the wall substrate and along the mating edges of the curved profile.

Installation: Press panels and the curved section firmly against the substrate to maintain a minimal, uniform joint line and wipe away excess adhesive immediately.







Close-up view of Curved joint at inside corner.

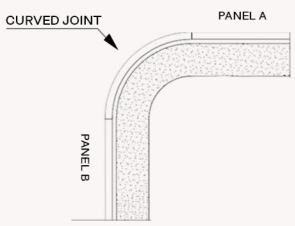
B. OUTSIDE CORNER — CURVED JOINT

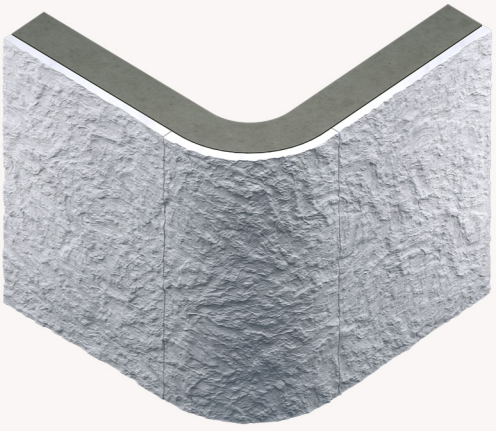
Radiused Outer Trim: Use a custom made matching pre-curved exterior profile or bullnose cap at the outer corner to create a smooth, rounded 90-degree exterior transition.

Alignment: Align adjacent panels flush with the tangential edges of the curved corner piece to maintain continuous horizontal line work, grain, or ribbed texture around the corner.

Adhesive & Support: Apply suitable mounting adhesive to the substrate and use temporary painter's tape or bracing to secure the curved corner section during set time.

Finishing: Ensure tight contact along both transition seams, wipe away squeeze-out, and allow proper curing time







Close-up view of Curved joint at outside corner.

borrowed earth

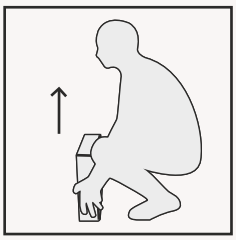
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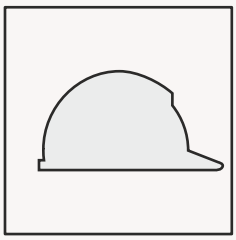
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SUGGESTIONS / BEFORE BEGINNING

Caution: a box of tiles from the Borrowed Earth collection weighs approximately 71 lb. Take care to lift it up and lay it down on the ground while keeping your back straight.



Caution: wear appropriate protective clothing when accessing work areas. This will reduce the risk of personal injuries.



Before unpacking the tiles, check they appear intact. If this is the case, remove them and carefully lay them out on a flat surface, inserting thick pieces of cardboard between each tile. This will protect them, particularly the corners and edges, and will also help them dry.

Returns are not accepted once the tiles have been installed. If you note any tiles are damaged, do not install them and notify your retail within the specified timeline.



Ensure the tiles are completely dry before laying them. They may be slightly damp, due to the use of water in the processing stages, and because of this the colour may appear darker. You can easily check to see if a tile is damp by exposing it directly to a heat source for a few seconds. It should start to visibly lighten and assume its original tone.

NOTE: do not expose natural stone to high temperatures or open flames.



SUGGESTIONS / SPECIAL NOTES

If the area you are working in has an underfloor heating system, ensure it is turned off for the duration of the various laying phases. We strongly advise carrying out a thermal shock test, checking the system's on-off cycle and examining the installation certificates to ensure that the underfloor heating has been installed correctly, so that you can lay the floor over it with complete confidence.



*Note: Please Refer to TCNA Guidelines

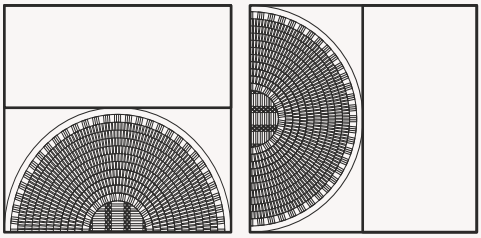
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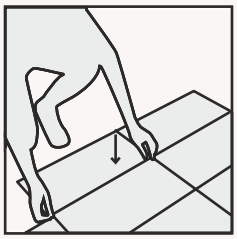
LAYING PATTERN

Borrowed Earth should be laid in a staggered pattern, either horizontally or vertically, according to personal preference. The key thing to observe is that all the lines must run in the same direction. Use the arrows on the back to help ensure this happens.



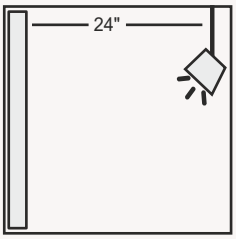
DRY LAYING

No glue is used at this stage. Lay the tiles as per the pattern selected. Being a natural material, the tiles will not have a uniform colour, so we recommend you give some thought during this stage to how you combine any variations in tonality and or/veining to create the most pleasing overall effect.

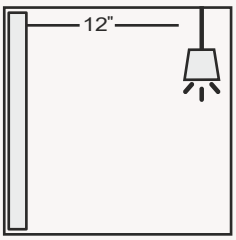


DESIGN / LAYING SUGGESTIONS

The aim is to highlight the ridged effect of Borrowed Earth. If you are laying it so that the lines run horizontally, we recommend that the light comes from above whilst if you place the tiles so that the lines run vertically, ideally lighting should be directed from the side. The interaction of light with Borrowed Earth is extremely important as it highlights the texture and brings it to life.



Like any other textured finish, Borrowed Earth is particularly highlighted by oblique light. Therefore, in the event of adjustable lighting, we recommend installing the light source no more than 24" away.



If the light is fixed, installation of the light source must not be closer than 12".

*Note: Please Refer to TCNA Guidelines

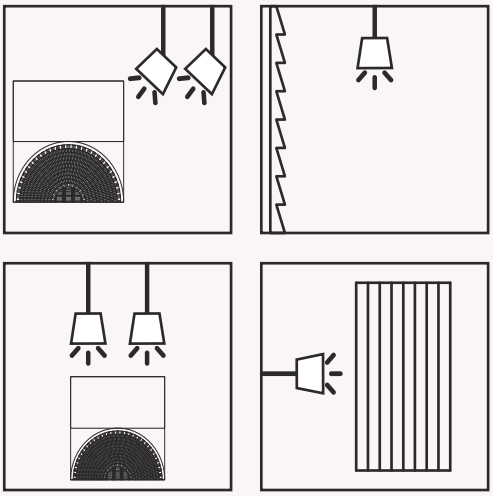
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DESIGN / LAYING SUGGESTIONS

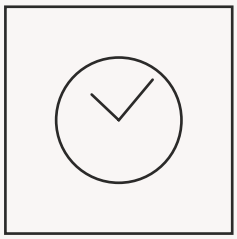
Lighting is key to the overall effect of Borrowed Earth and therefore we strongly recommend that it is installed so that the light washes down or across the surface, following the downward profile. This creates natural shadows, whereas if the light is installed so that it goes against the natural flow of the tile, it will hit each ridge and "bounce" off. In addition, we recommend that you take natural light sources into account and consider how they hit the surface, so that you can decide upon the best way to position the tiles so that the light and shadow "play" with them.



PRETREATMENT

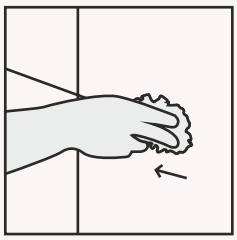
If you are installing Borrowed Earth in an area where it will be exposed to water, we recommend you lay the tiles as close together as possible and to pretreat the rear of each tile with Fila PW10. Because of their higher absorbency, Crema d'Orcia Select and Silk Georgette should always be protected with a pretreatment before grouting to prevent staining.

DRYING



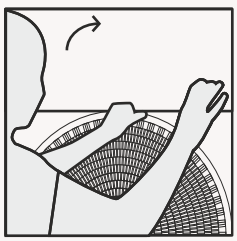
Let dry 24 hours before use.

ADHESIVE CLEANING

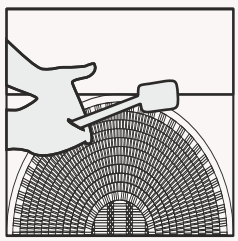


Immediately remove any excess adhesive from the spacing with a damp sponge and clean the adhesive left in the spacing.

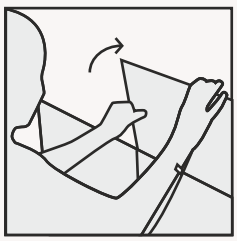
GLUING



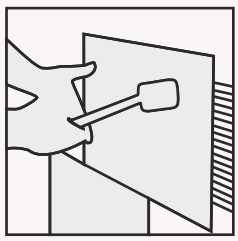
Using a toothed spatula, spread a thin layer of adhesive on the laying surface.



Using a smooth trowel, spread a layer of adhesive on the entire rough face (back) of the tile.



Glue the tile to the surface.



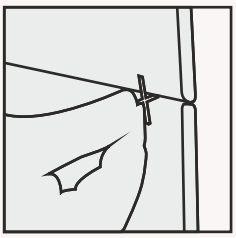
Level the tiles with your hands or with a rubber mallet.

*IMPORTANT NOTE

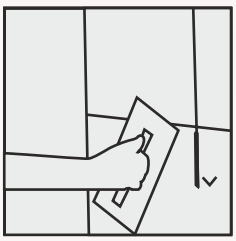
If you are laying on plasterboard or a similar type of surface, you must apply MAPEI Primer G before starting the gluing phase.

*Note: Please Refer to TCNA Guidelines

SPACING AND GROUT

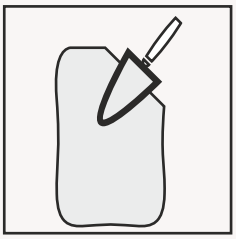


The beauty of the Borrowed Earth nish comes from the continuity of the texture. You may wish to leave only a very thin joint between tiles, but in this case, you should check with the designer to ensure any local building regulations are respected.

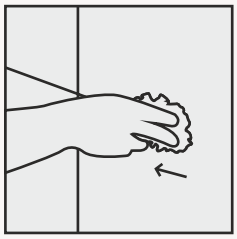


Fill the spacing and the entire surface of the tile with the recommended grout.

RECOMMENDED GROUT

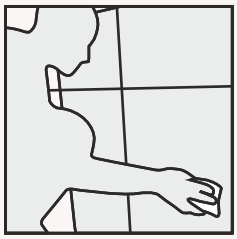


CLEANING OF GROUT MATERIAL



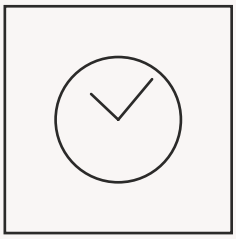
We strongly recommend MAPEI Ultracolor Plus FA as a grout. Using diagonal movements, cover the entire tile and ensure the joints are completely filled. Remove all excess grout before it starts to dry (typically 5-30 minutes), using water and a large, thick dampened sponge so that you avoidcreating any indents in the joints. Make sure the water is always clean, and use circular motions, except for the final movements, which should be diagonal wipes with your sponge. Use plenty of water over the entire surface, to avoid smears or other types of marks.

CLEANING

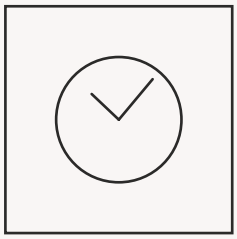


We recommend the product shown in the table below. Follow the instructions on the packaging, ensuring you dilute the product as outlined by the manufacturer. Leave it to penetrate for a few minutes, as per the instructions on the packaging, and then clean vigorously, using a single-disc floor machine (where appropriate) or mop or cloth. Remove with a cloth or wet vac. Rinse the surface well.

DRYING

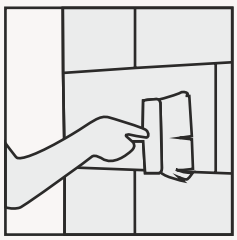


Leave to dry for 24-48 hours (may require longer, depending on the actual environment's conditions).



Let dry 24 hours before use.

FINAL TREATMENT



Once laying is complete, apply a water-oil-repellent product that will protect both the stone and the spacing. Follow the instructions on the package. If applying to a vertical surface, we recommend applying from the bottom upwards so as to avoid any drips. To prevent possible leakages of the product from staining the material, we suggest always applying the product from the bottom upwards.



After treatment, cover the area with a non-woven fabric so that the surface stays protected during the remaining installation phases. For flooring in particular, it is critical that you use several layers of fabric, so any breakages due to the continuous passage of workers do not uncover the stone and expose it to the possibility of staining or damage.

*NOTE

In the case of Pietra d'Avola, to avoid the creation of a "film" on the surface of the stone, any excess of STONEPLUS must be removed within 5-10 minutes with a light-coloured cloth or paper towel.

*Note: Please Refer to TCNA Guidelines

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ONGOING MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING

For routine maintenance of the surfaces, always use neutral cleansers (for example, Fila CLEANER PRO or neutral soap). Avoid harsh products that could irreparably damage the surface of the stone (such as acids or descaling products).

We strongly recommend that you do not place hot objects such as kettles or pans directly onto natural stone as it may cause discolouration or staining.

If your stone is exposed to "hard water" where there is a high mineral content, you will need to take a little extra care as the cleaning properties of the Fila CLEANER PRO or neutral detergent will be weakened. You will therefore need to use these products a little more frequently so that soap scum, lime scale and the like do not have the chance to build up and congea.



GLOSSARY OF PRODUCTS

PRETREATMENT
Fila PW10: water-based efflorescence-blocking product which should be applied to the rear of tiles.

PRIMER
MAPEI Primer G for installation on plasterboard.

ADHESIVE
MAPEI USA Planicrete W for installation on wood
MAPEI USA Granirapid System (part A & part B) for installation on plasterboard and concrete.

GROUT
MAPEI Ultracolor Plus FA

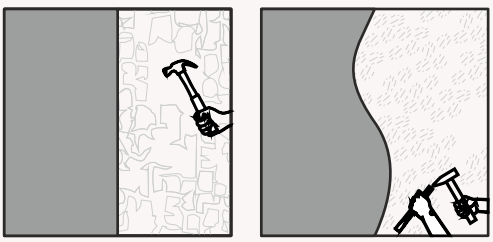
POST-LAYING CLEANING
Fila PS87 PRO: suitable for most types of stone, it is recommended for use during installation and for when particular maintenance is required
Fila CLEANER PRO: for use on Pietra d'Avola during the laying process and when particular cleaning intervention is required

FINAL TREATMENT
Fila FOB XTREME or Fila MP90 ECO: neutral solvent-based protectant
Fila STONEPLUS or Fila STONEPLUS ECO: a solvent-based protectant which also enhances the colour of the stone and is recommended for Pietra d'Avola

ONGOING CLEANING
Fila CLEANER PRO or neutral soap: a neutral cleaner for normal maintenance of stone surfaces

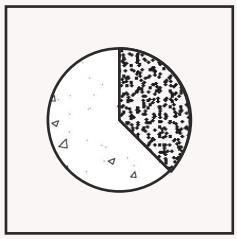
SURFACE PREPARATION

Plastered wall to be rough finished for mechanical ponding, wet cladding can be initiated directly on wall. If your wall is painted remove the layer using grinders than cut grooves into wall using an angle grinder, horizontally as well as vertically to create keys, for mechanical bonding. Hacking of old plaster using a chisel or a hammer to make the surface.



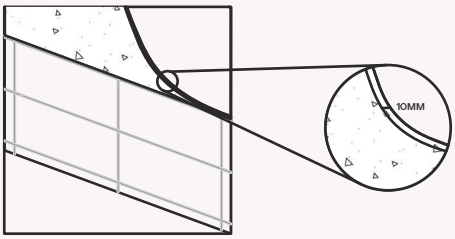
MIXING THE MORTAR

Marble and natural stone are installed with thin-set mortar mix (2 parts sand to 1 part PPC Cement) mixed only with clean cold water. Make sure that the colour of your mortar doesn't affect the natural stone.



INSTALLATION PROCEDURE

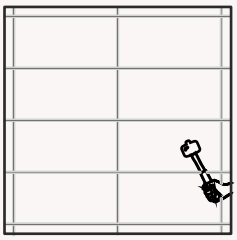
Mortar mix must be applied to the surface to a minimum bed thickness of 10mm. Spread only enough mortar/adhesive for each individual piece. Should a thin film (skin) appear on the surface of the adhesive, re-agitate with trowel before bedded.



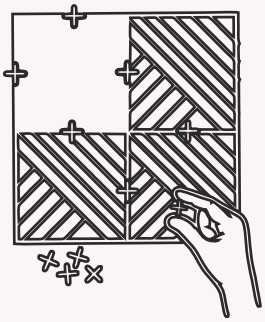
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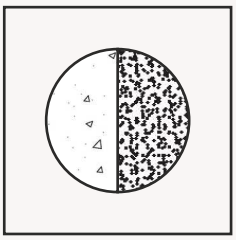
Press the dry Natural stone cladding firmly into wet mortar with a twisting action. Product must be bedded with the aid of a Rubber mallet. Lift and replace random cladding to ensure that 100% contact is being achieved between the cladding and mortar (no voids behind cladding).

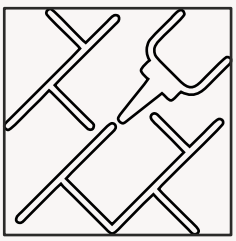


The beauty of the Borrowed Earth nish comes from the continuity of the texture. You may wish to leave only a very thin joint between tiles, but in this case, you should check with the designer to ensure any local building regulations are respected.



If and when required the cladding can now be grouted – using a mortar mix (1 parts sand to 1 part PPC Cement, preferably with a cement modifier chemical to get non-shrink properties).

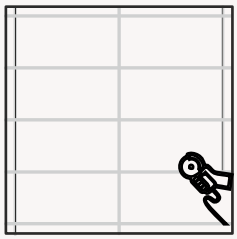




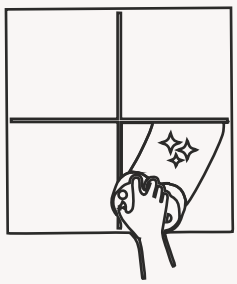
Back buttering of Natural stone cladding is recommended where the back of the cladding product surface is irregular or when cladding in awkward locations.



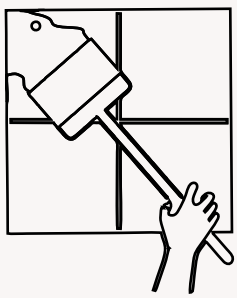
Remove excess mortar from joints and cladding product before drying has occurred. The minimum joint width for Natural stone cladding is 2mm.



Once you've finished grouting, it's really important to clean the tiles. Use a sponge and a bucket of water to wipe over the tiles and remove any excess grout. This will help to smooth the grout in the gaps and eliminate the white haze from the top of the tiles.



Some tiles will need sealing after they have been laid. Apply the sealant, according to the manufacturer's instructions, with a soft-bristled brush immediately after installation of the tiles.



*Note: Please Refer to TCNA Guidelines

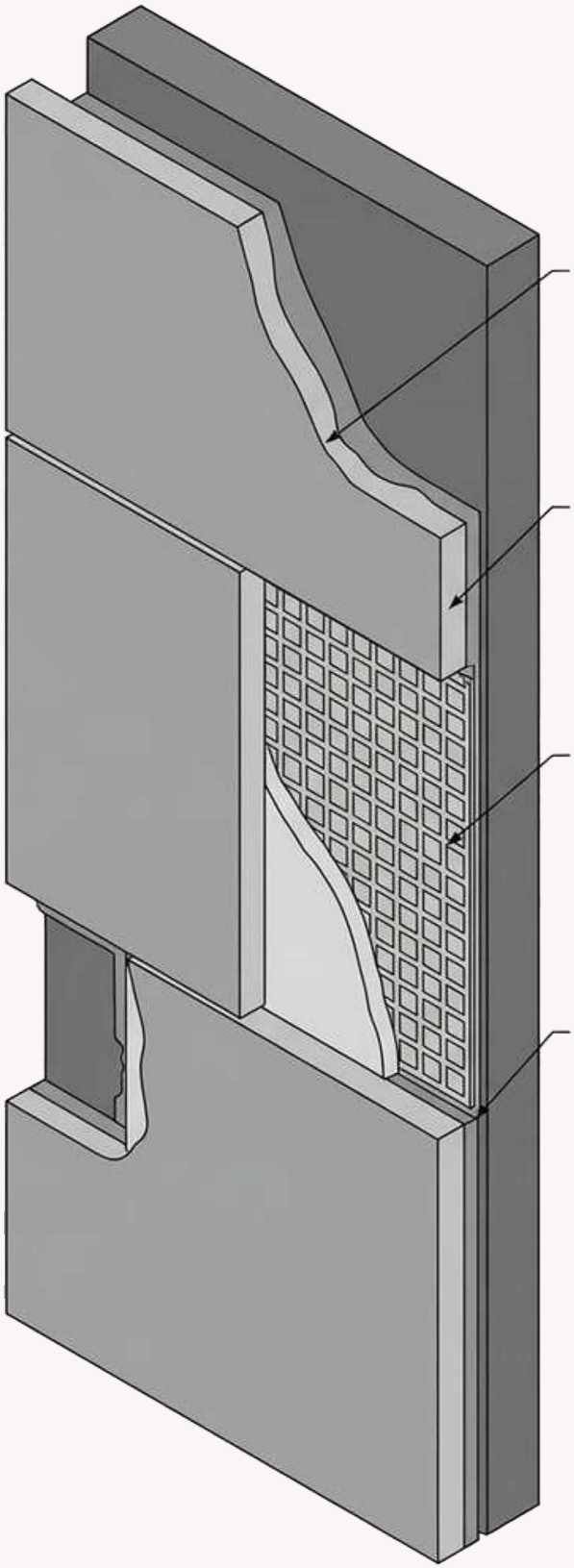
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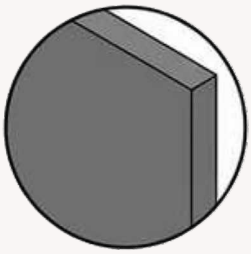
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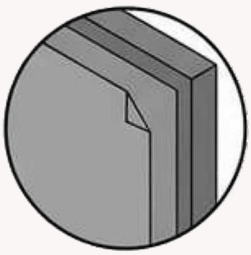
INTERIOR WALLS OVER MASONRY OR CONCRETE

Masonry or Concrete • Bonded Mortar Bed • Natural Stone Tile

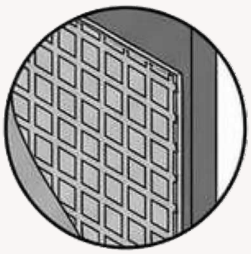




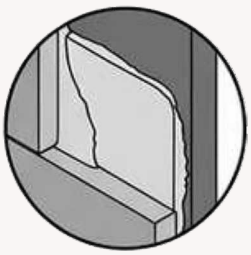
Level and Solid Substrate
(e.g., Concrete), 1/8" in 10' large format stone)



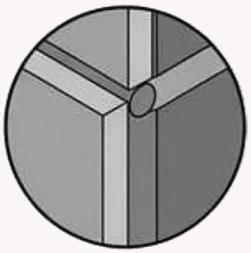
Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Membrane
(per TCNA)



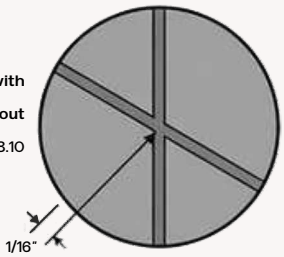
Full Back-Buttering TCNA Guidelines for large-format tiles (1'x2' and larger)



Thin-Bed Mortar Application Detail (White Mortar for light-colored stone)



Movement Joint (as per EJ171, showing sealant)



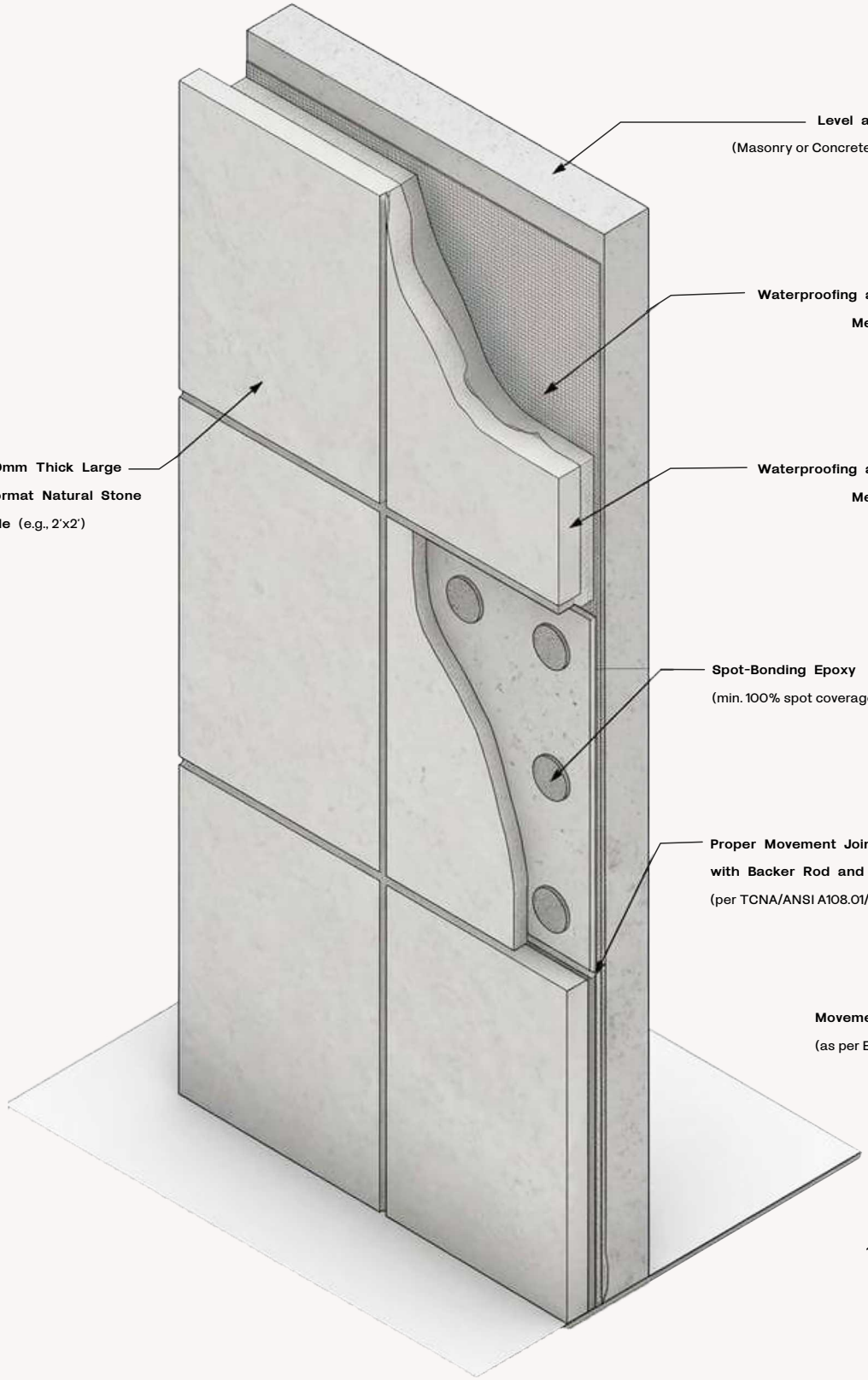
1/16" Grout Joint with Cementitious Grout
(ANSI A118.6 or A118.10

Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

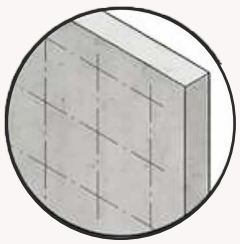
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INTERIOR WALLS OVER MASONRY OR CONCRETE

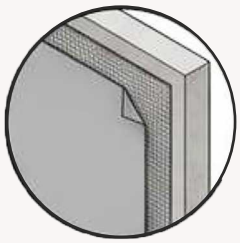
Masonry or Concrete • Spot-Bonding Epoxy • Natural Stone Tile



Level and Solid Substrate (Masonry or Concrete), tolerance, 1/4" in 10'

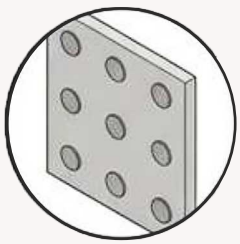


Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Membrane (per TCNA)



20mm Thick Large Format Natural Stone Tile (e.g., 2'x2')

Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Membrane (per TCNA)

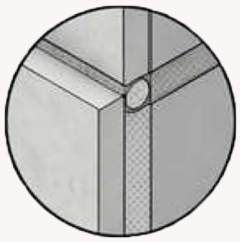


Spot-Bonding Epoxy (min. 100% spot coverage per directions)

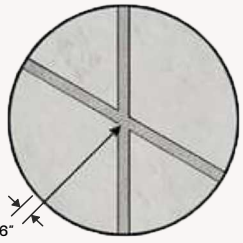
Spot-Bonding Epoxy: applied in distinct circular spots per epoxy manufacturer's directions

Proper Movement Joint Placement with Backer Rod and Sealan Sealant (per TCNA/ANSI A108.01/EJ171)

Movement Joint (as per EJ171, showing sealant)



1/16" Grout Joint with Cementitious Grout (ANSI A118.6 or better



Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

borrowed earth

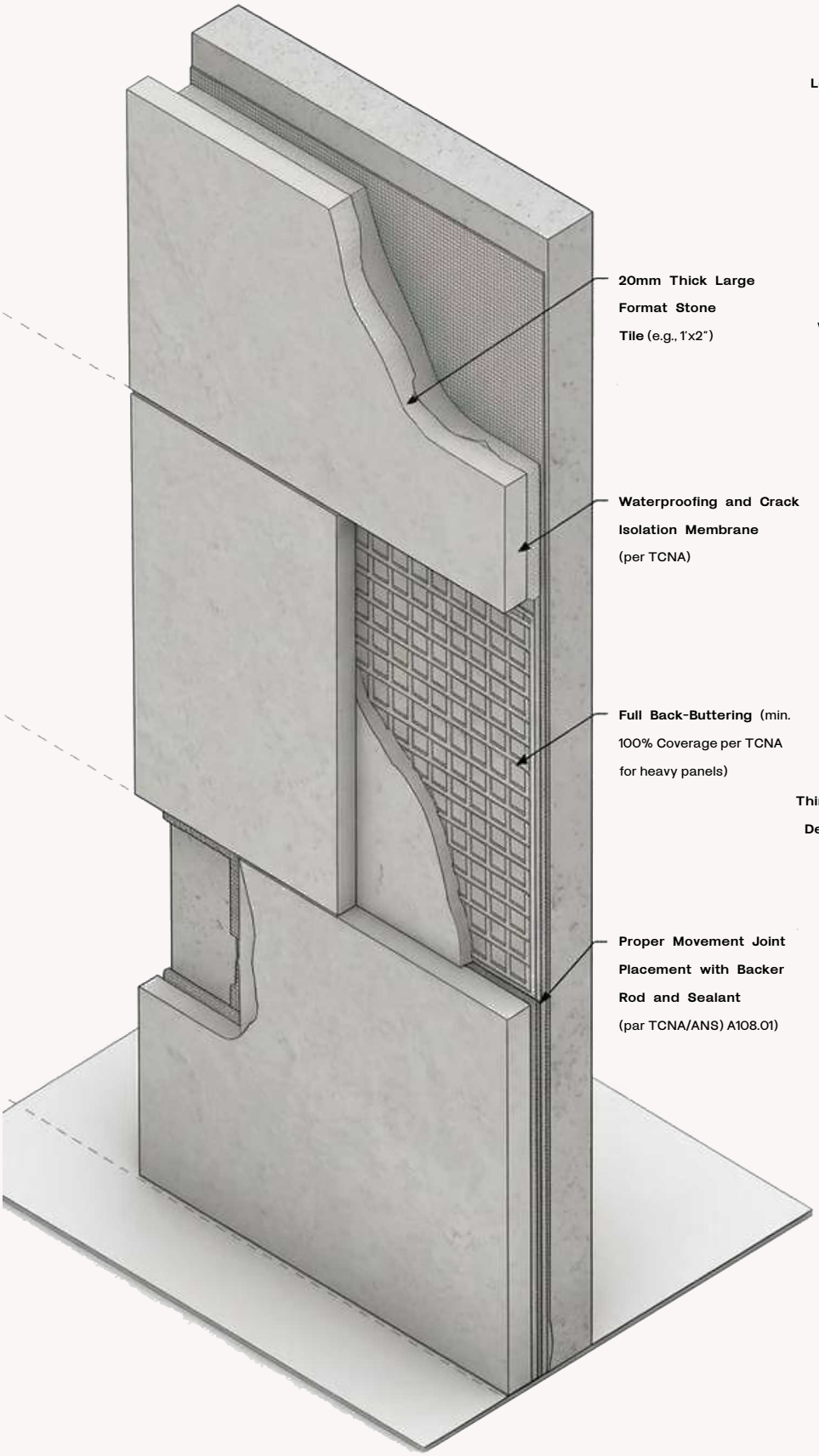
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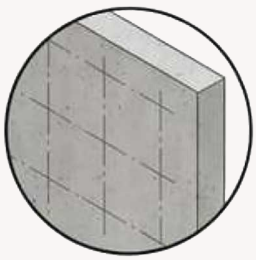
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INTERIOR WALLS OVER MASONRY OR CONCRETE

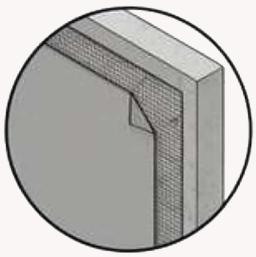
Masonry or Concrete • Natural Stone Tile



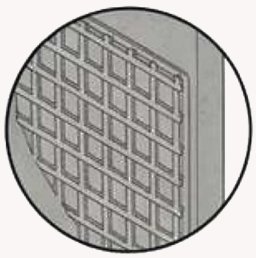
Level and Solid Substrate (e.g., Concrete), 1/8" in 10' **Large Format Stone)**



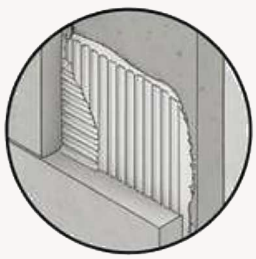
Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Membrane (per TCNA)



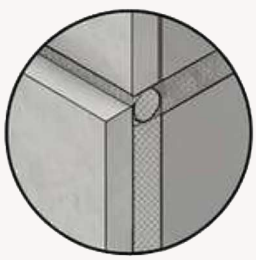
Full Back-Buttering TCNA Guidelines for large-format tiles (1'x2' and larger)



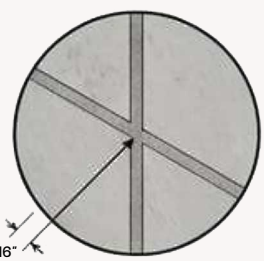
Thin-Bed Mortar Application Detail (White Mortar for light-colored stone)



Movement Joint (as per EJ171, showing sealant)



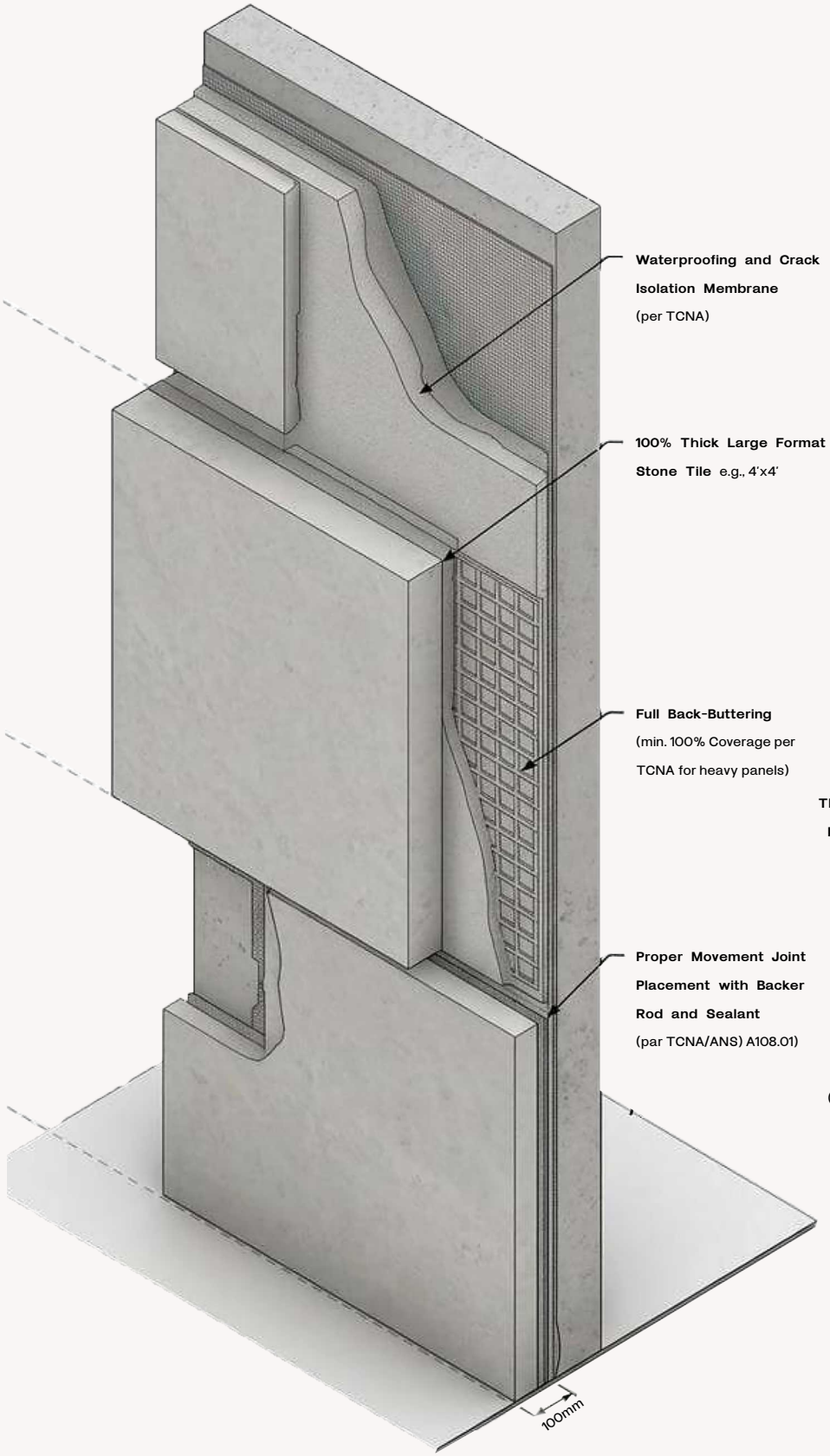
1/16" Grout Joint with Cementitious Grout (ANSI A118.6 or A118.10



Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

INTERIOR WALLS OVER SOLID BACKING

Solid Backing • Mortar Bed • Natural Stone Tile



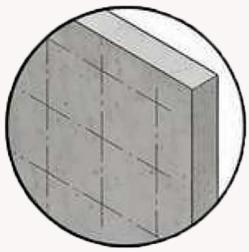
Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Membrane (per TCNA)

100% Thick Large Format Stone Tile e.g., 4'x4'

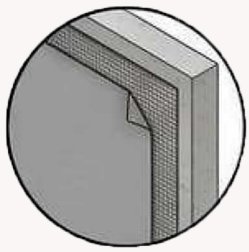
Full Back-Buttering (min. 100% Coverage per TCNA for heavy panels)

Proper Movement Joint Placement with Backer Rod and Sealant (par TCNA/ANS) A108.01)

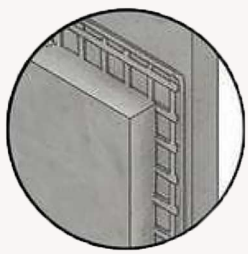
Level and Solid Substrate (e.g., Concrete), 1/8" in 10' Large Format panels)



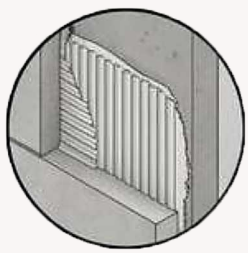
Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Membrane (per TCNA)



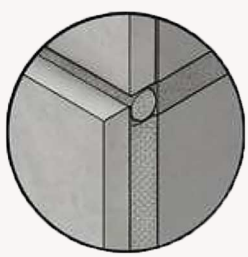
Full Back-Buttering TCNA Guidelines for large-format tiles (1'x2', 4'x4' and larger)



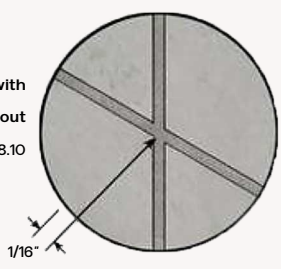
Thin-Bed Mortar Application Detail (White Mortar for light-colored stone)



Movement Joint (as per EJ171, showing sealant)



1/16" Grout Joint with Cementitious Grout (ANSI A118.6 or A118.10



Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

borrowed earth

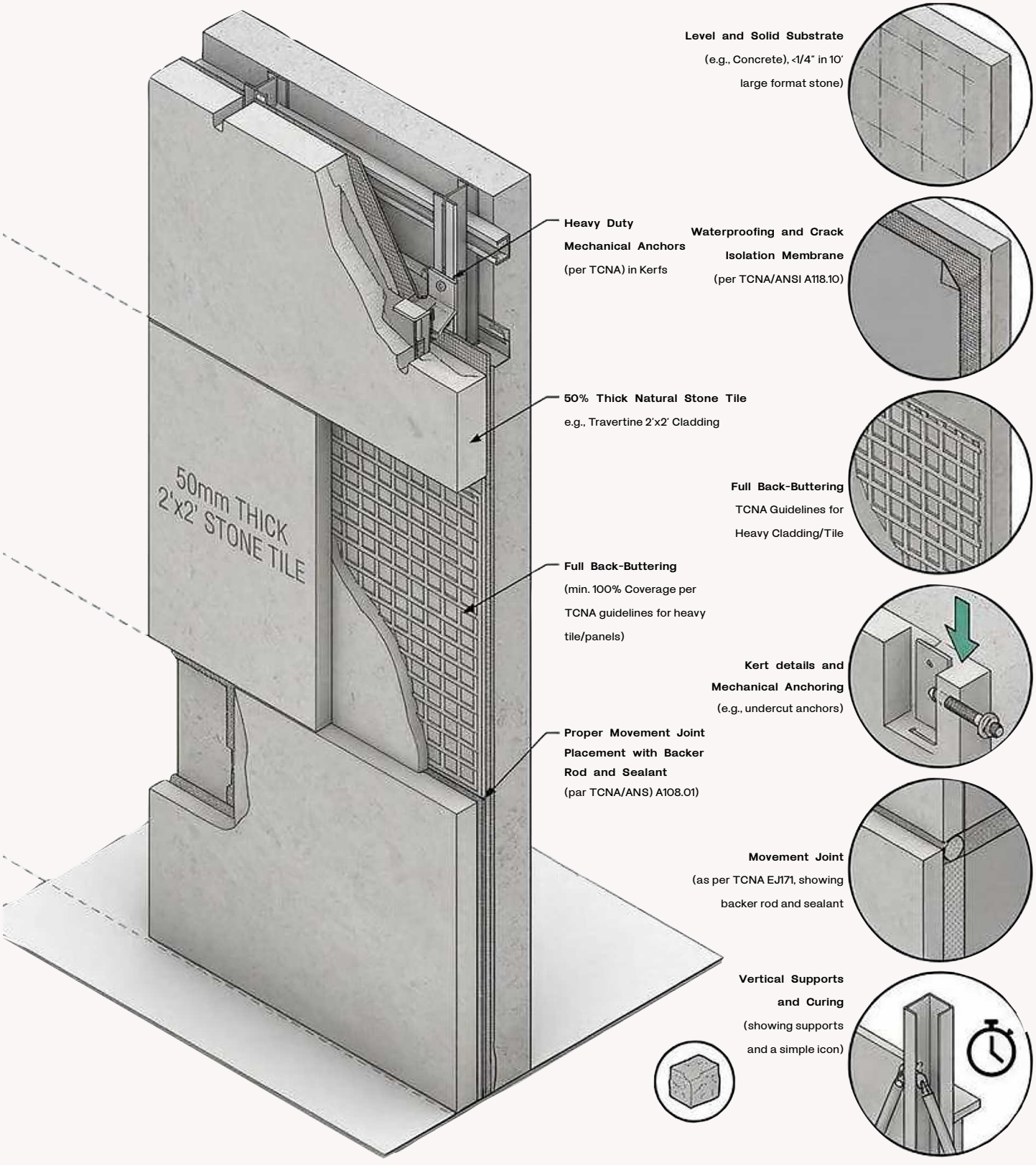
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INTERIOR WALLS OVER SOLID BACKING

Solid Backing • Mortar Bed • Natural Stone Tile • Mechanical Anchoring



Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

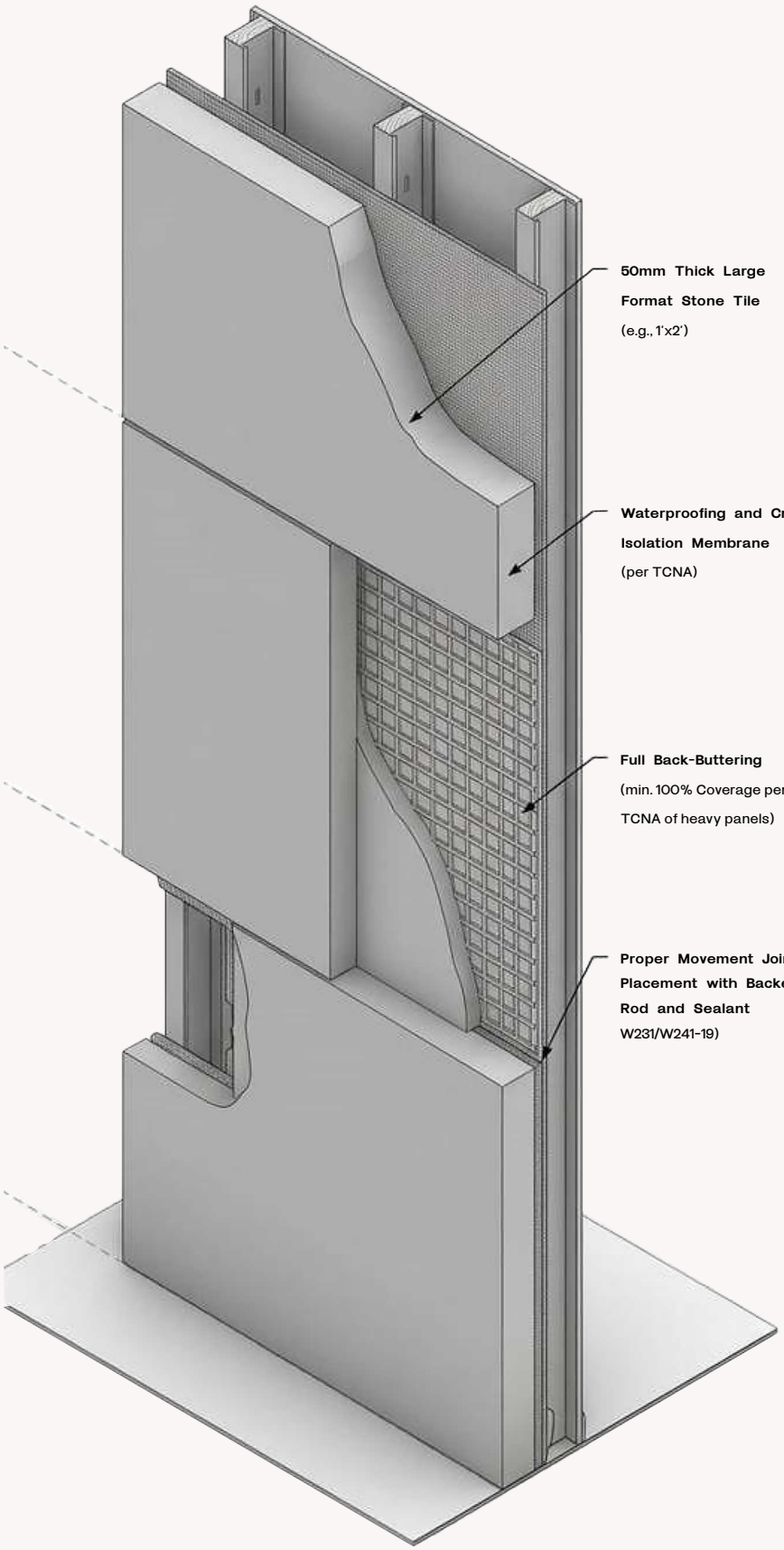
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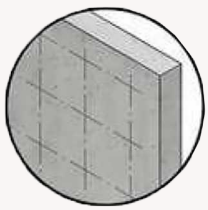
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INTERIOR WALLS OVER WOOD OR METAL STUDS

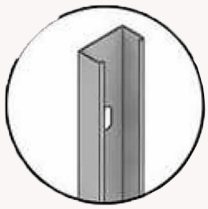
Wood or Metal Studs • Mortar Bed • Natural Stone Tile



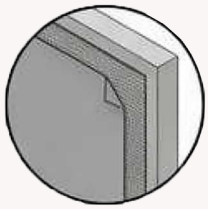
Level and Solid Substrate
(Concrete or Plywood 1/8" in 10' large format stone)



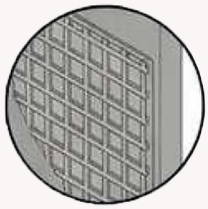
Metal Shud Farming
(per ASMT C645, min. 20ga.)



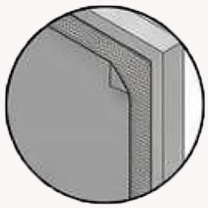
Water-Resistive Barrier/ Vapor Retarder
(ANSI A108.02-3.8)



Full Back-Buttering
(min. 100% Coverage per TCNA of heavy panels)



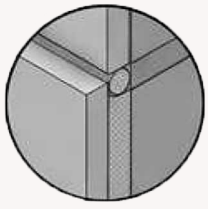
Waterproofing Membrane
(ANSI A118.10)



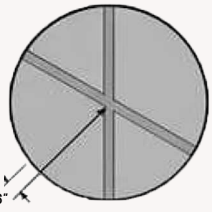
Proper Bonding Mortar
(White for light stone, ANSI A118.4/A118.15)



Movement Joint
(per TCNA EJ171, with backer rod & sealant)



1/16" Grout Joint
(Cementitious, ANSI A118.6



Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

borrowed earth

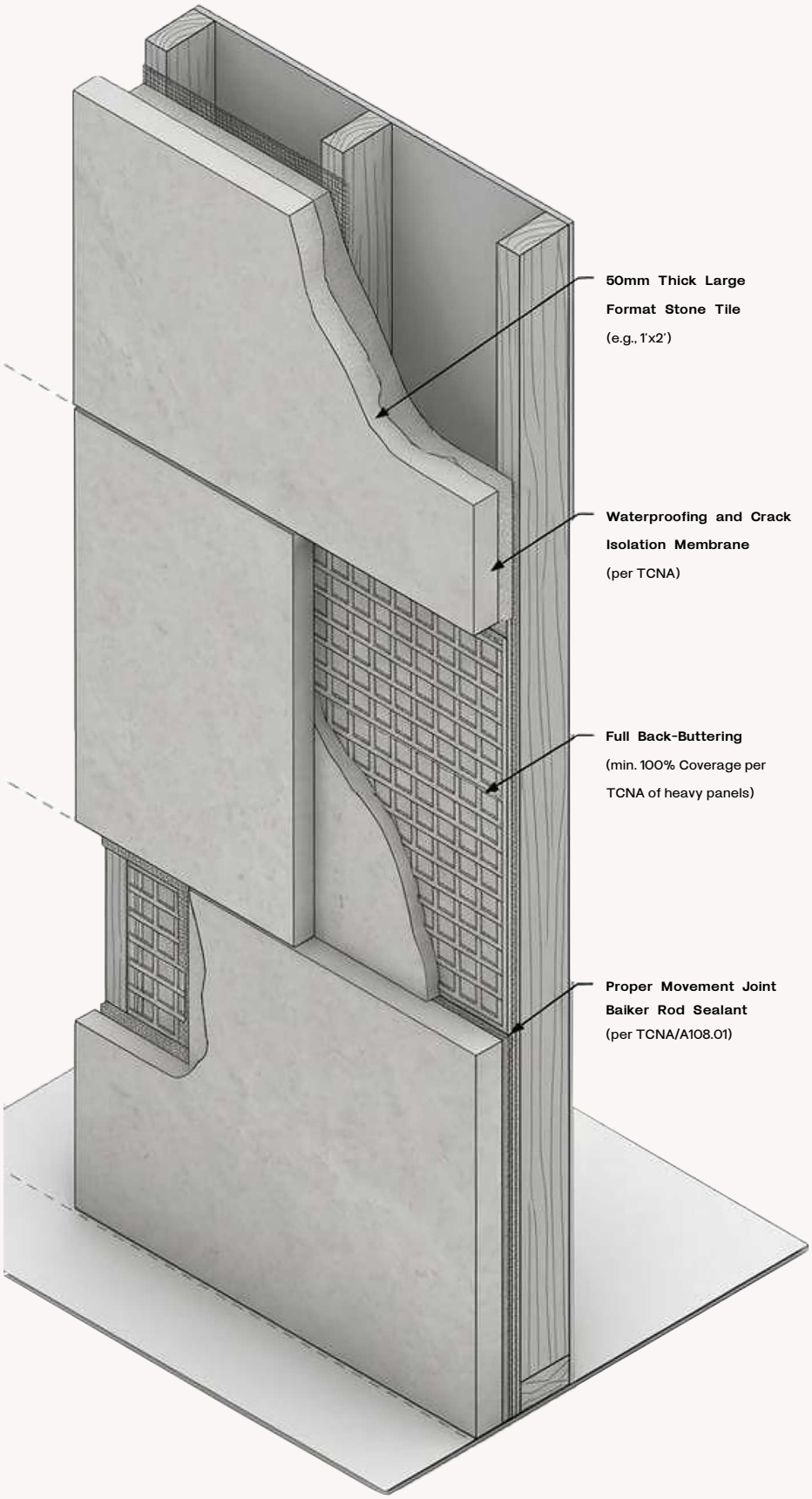
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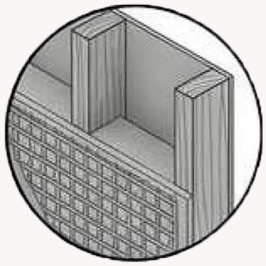
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INTERIOR WALLS OVER WOOD OR METAL STUDS

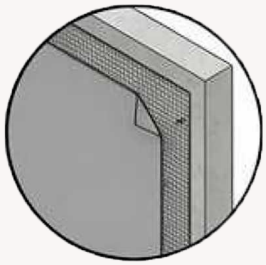
Wood or Metal Studs • Mortar Bed • Natural Stone Tile



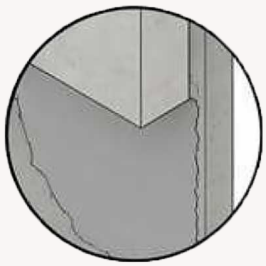
Level and Solid Substrate (e.g.,Wood Studs/Mortar Bed), 1/8" in 10' large format stone)



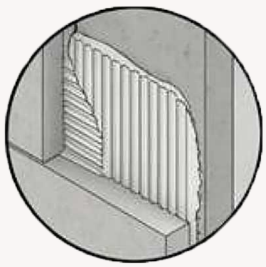
Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Membrane (per TCNA)



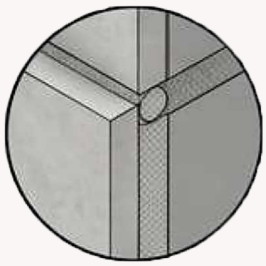
Full Back-Buttering TCNA Guidelines for large-format tiles (1'x2' and larger)



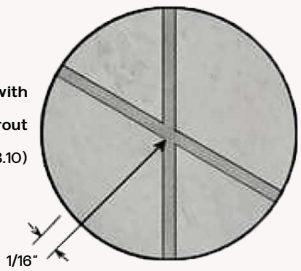
Thin-Bed Mortar Application Detail (White Mortar for light-colored stone)



Movement Joint (as per EJ171, showing sealant)



1/16"Grout Joint with Cementitious Grout (ANSI A118.6 or A118.10)



Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

borrowed earth

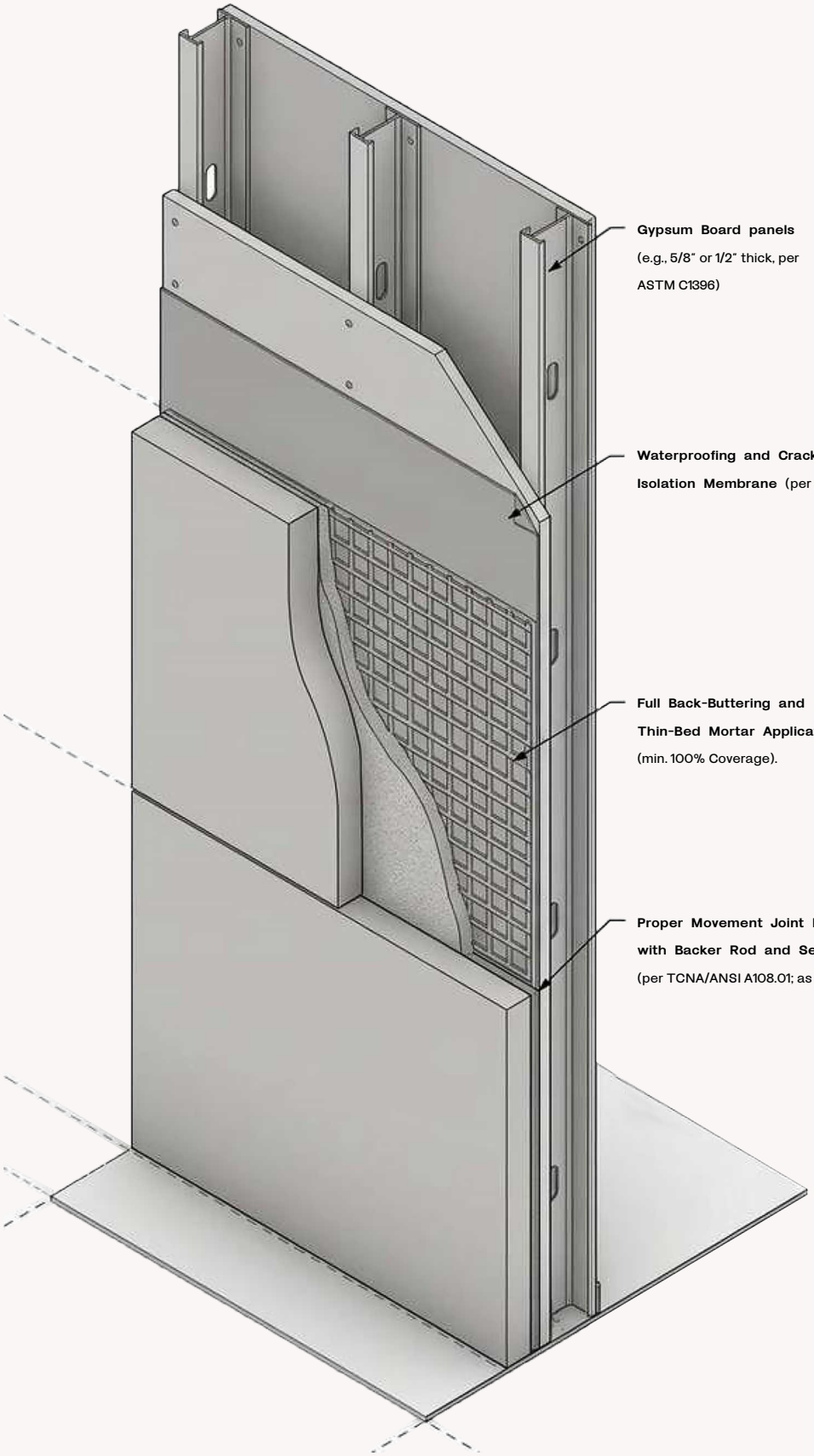
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INTERIOR WALLS OVER WOOD OR METAL STUDS

Wood or Metal Studs • Gypsum Board • Natural Stone Tile



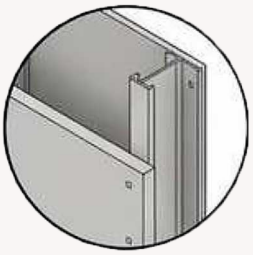
Gypsum Board panels (e.g., 5/8" or 1/2" thick, per ASTM C1396)

Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Membrane (per TCNA).

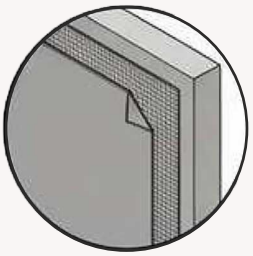
Full Back-Buttering and Thin-Bed Mortar Application (min. 100% Coverage).

Proper Movement Joint Placement with Backer Rod and Sealant (per TCNA/ANSI A108.01; as per Ej171).

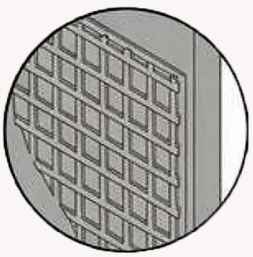
Corrected Substrate:Metal Studs with Gypsum Board (e.g., 16" o.c.).



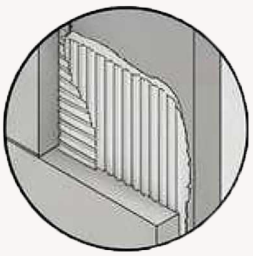
Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Membrane



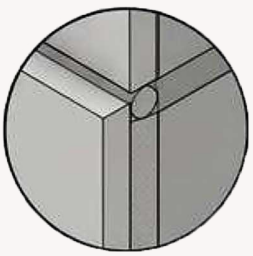
Full Back-Buttering TCNA for large-format tiles.



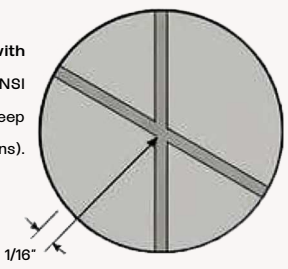
Thin-Bed Mortar Detail (over Gypsum Board).



Movement Joint with Sealant and Backer Rod (per TCNA/ANSI A108.01).



1/16" Grout Joint with Cementitious Grout (ANSI A118.6 or A118.10) (Keep detailed dimensions).



Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

borrowed earth

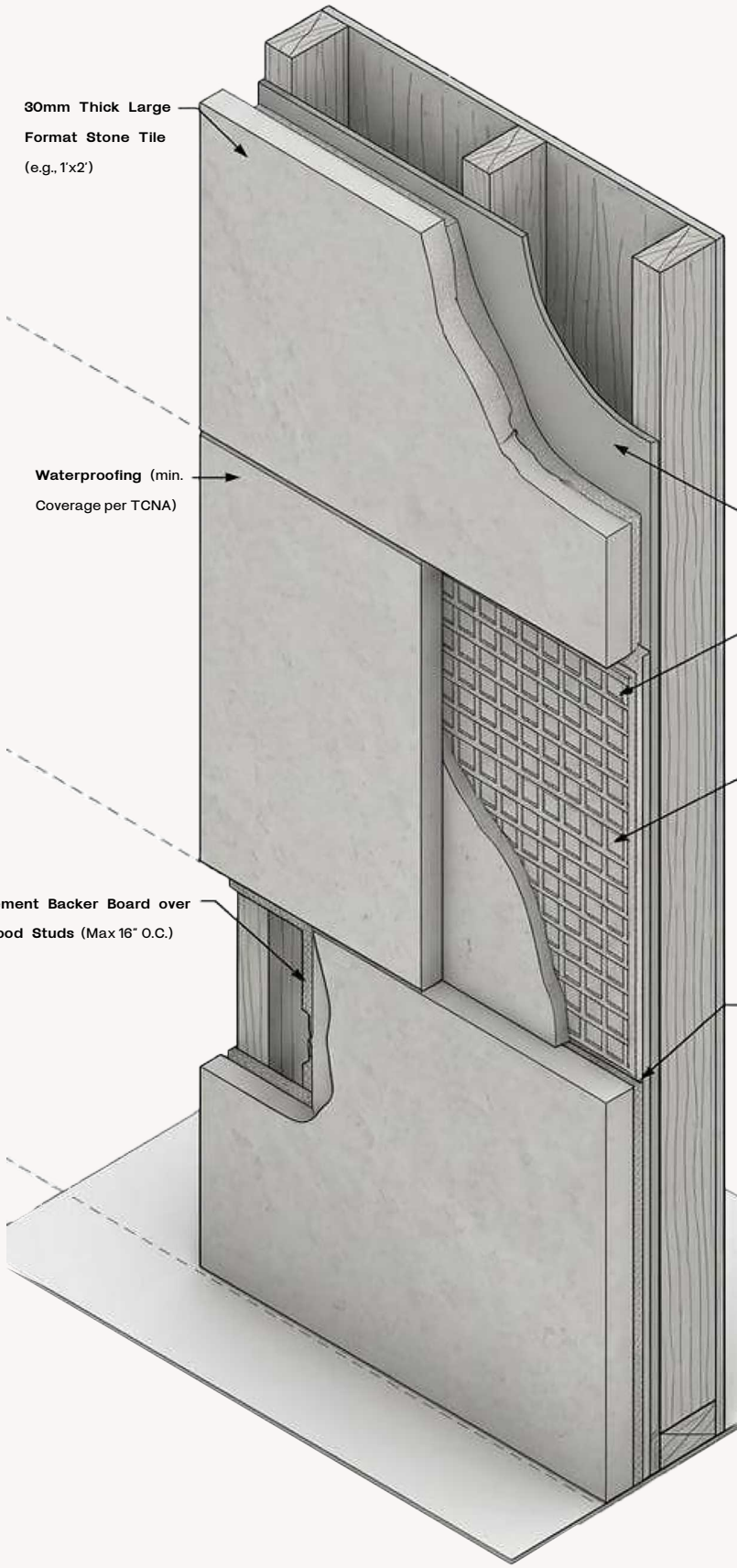
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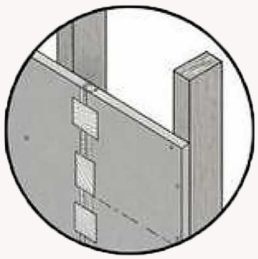
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INTERIOR WALLS OVER WOOD OR METAL STUDS

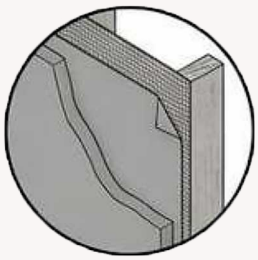
Wood or Metal Studs • Cement Backer Board • Natural Stone Tile

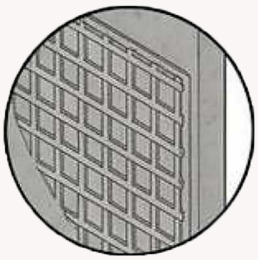


Cement Backer Board Installation on Wood Studs (Correct joint taping and staggered joints)

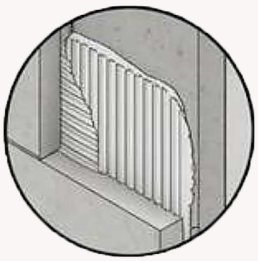


Waterproofing Crack Isolation Membrane (per TCNA)

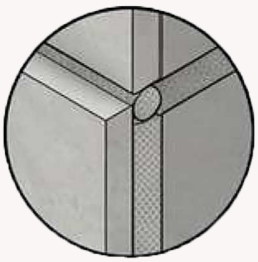




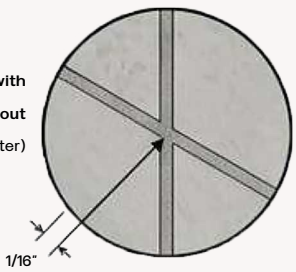
Thin-Bed Mortar Application Detail (White Mortar)



Movement Joint (as per EJ177, showing sealant)



1/16" Grout Joint with Cementitious Grout (ANSI A118.6 or better)

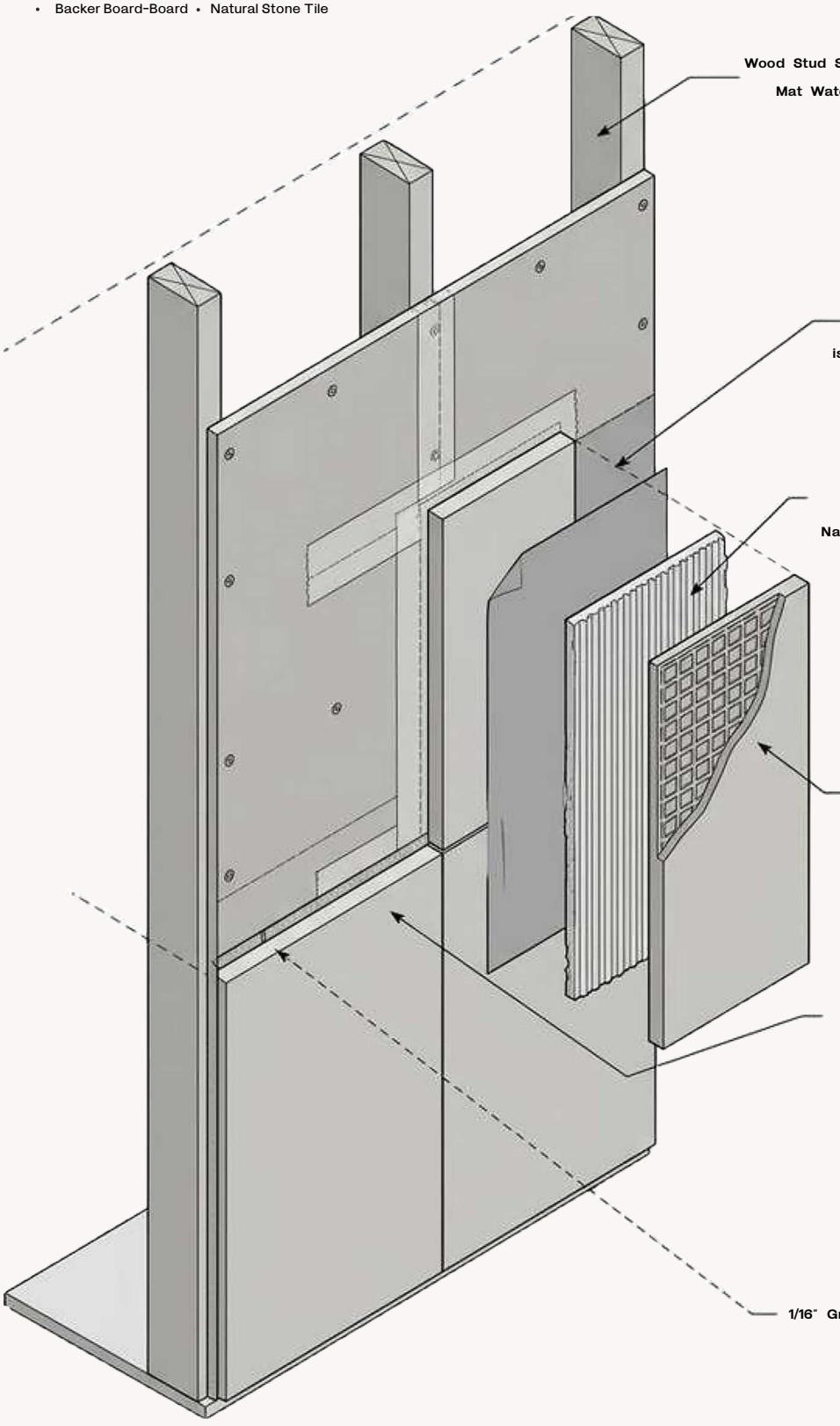


Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

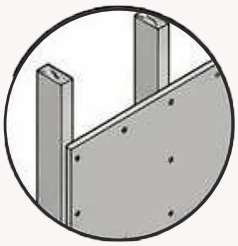
INTERIOR WALLS OVER WOOD OR METAL STUDS

Wood or Metal Studs • Gypsum Backer Board • Natural Stone Tile

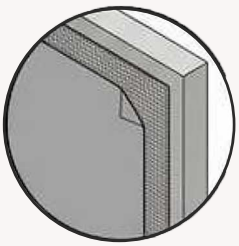
- Wood Studs | • Coated Glass Mat Water-Resistant Gypsum
- Backer Board-Board • Natural Stone Tile



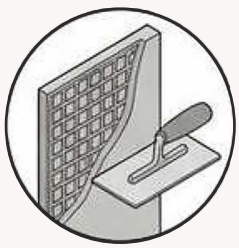
Wood Stud Substrate with Coated Glass Mat Water-Resistant Gypsum Backer Board (max. 16" o.c. spacing)



Waterproofing and crack isolation membrane (per tcna)



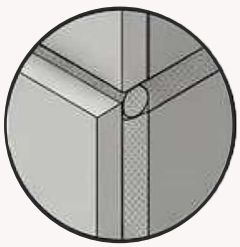
Full Back-Buttering for 1'x2' Natural Stone Tile (20mm thick), ensuring min. 100% coverage.



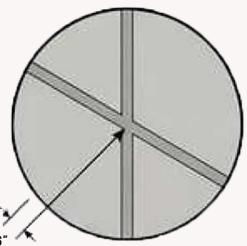
Thin-bed Mortar Application Detail (White Mortar For Light-colored Stone)



Proper Movement Joint Placement with Backer Rod and Sealant (per TCNA/ANSI A108.01, EJ171)



1/16" Grout Joint with Cementitious Grout (ANSI A118.6 or A118.10



Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

borrowed earth

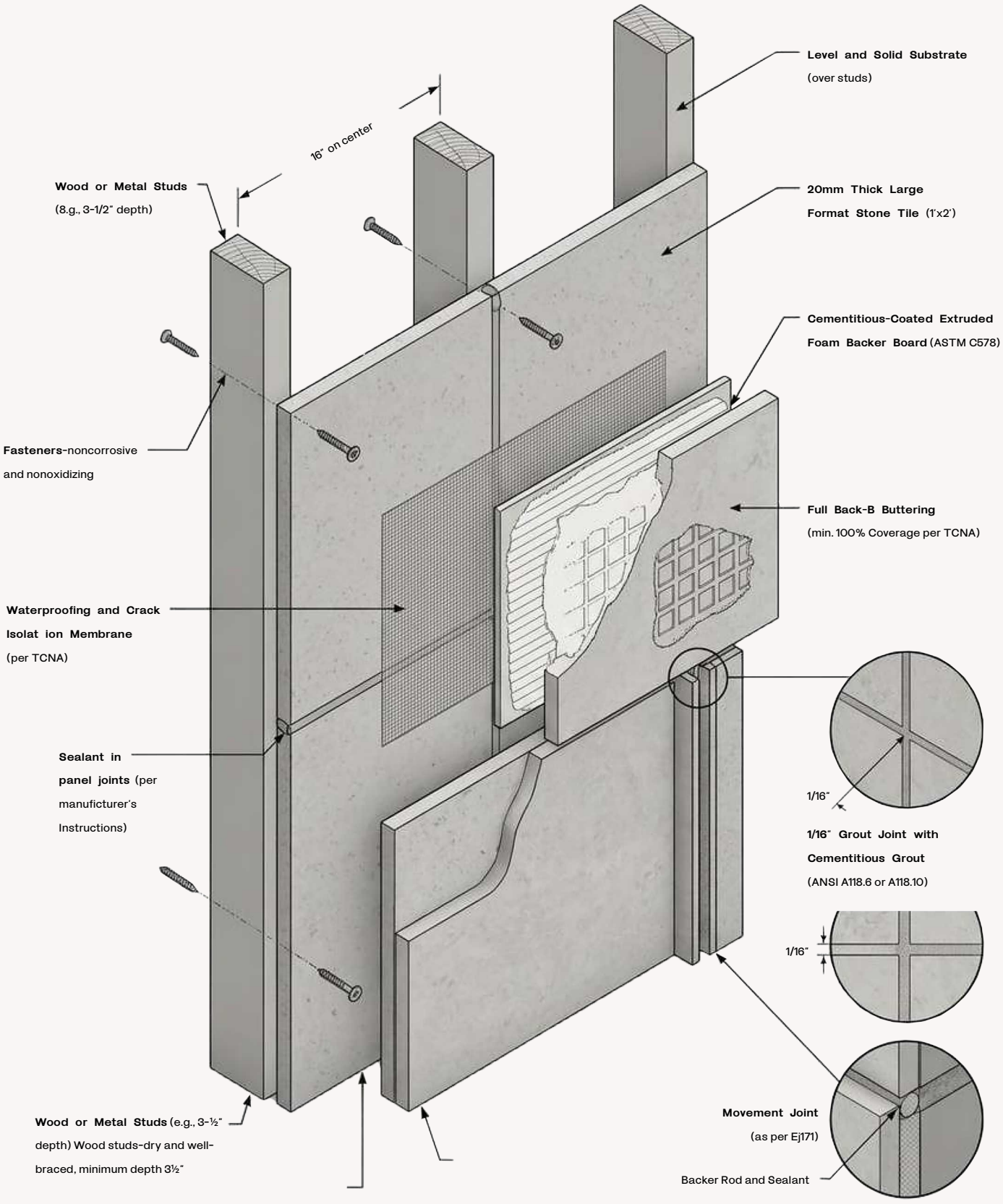
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INTERIOR WALLS OVER WOOD OR METAL STUDS

Wood or Metal Studs • Cementitious-Coated Extruded Foam Backer Board • Natural Stone Tile



Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

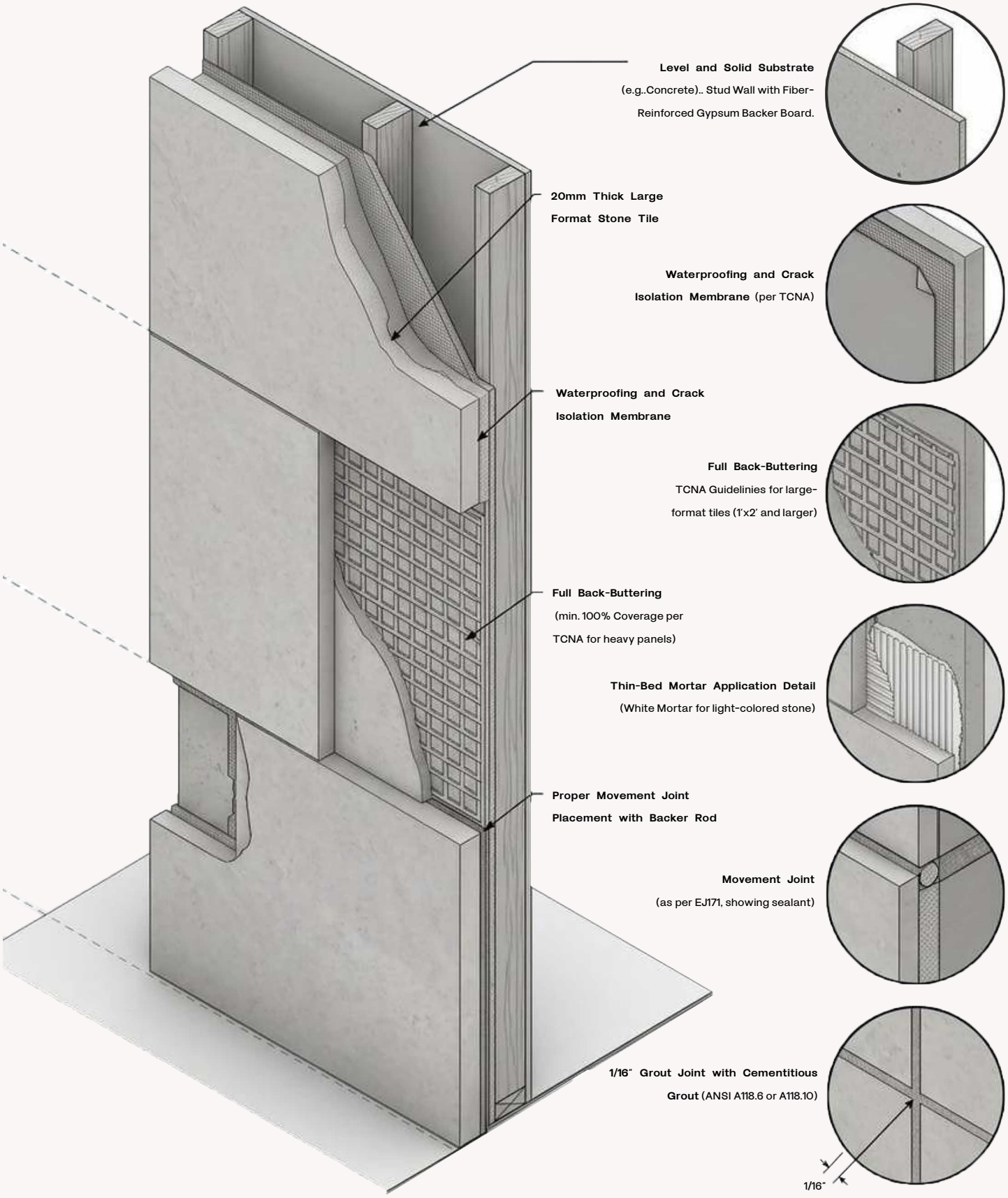
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INTERIOR WALLS OVER WOOD OR METAL STUDS

Wood or Metal Studs • Cement Backer Board • Spot-Bonding Epoxy • Natural Stone Tile



Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

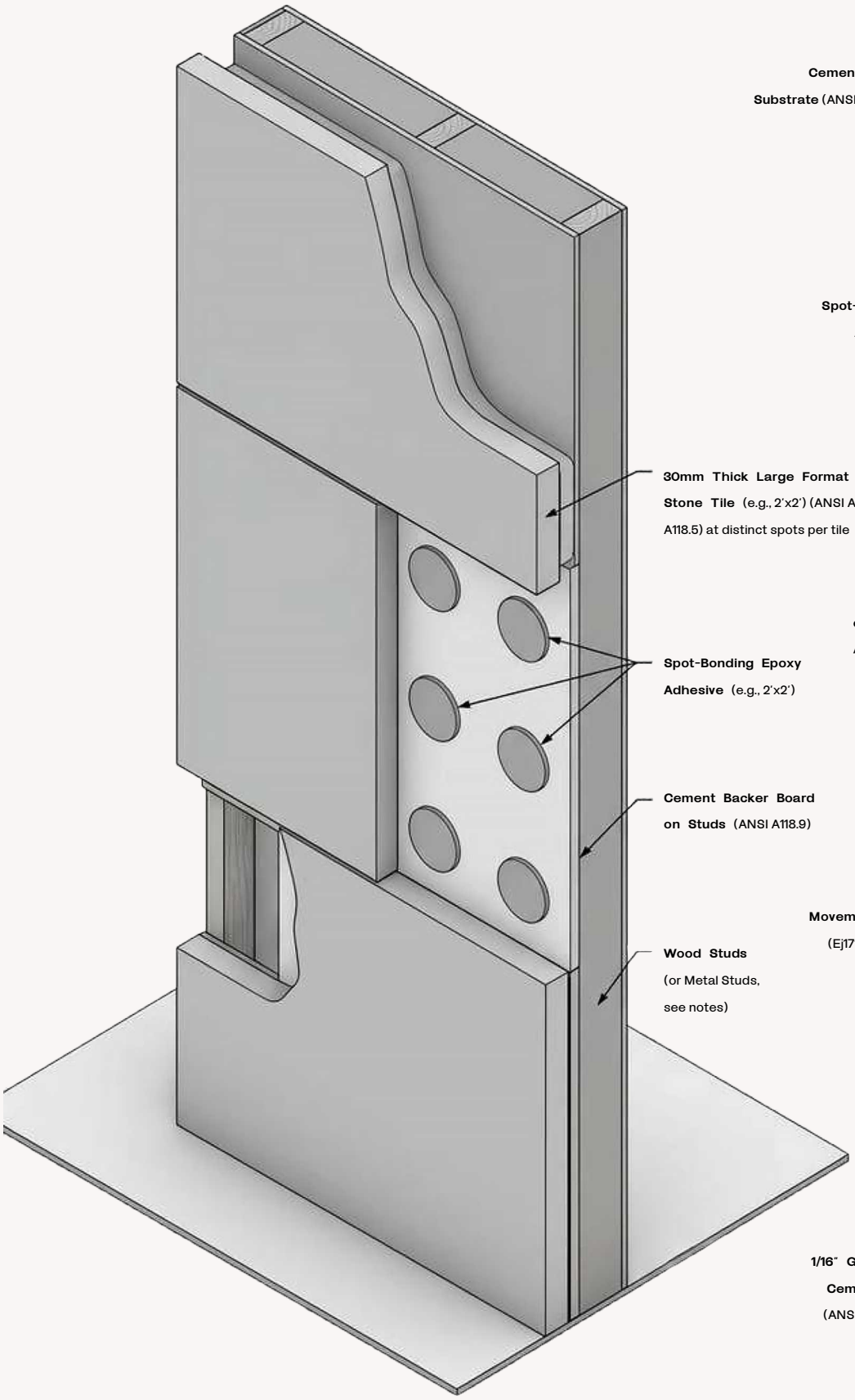
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INTERIOR WALLS OVER WOOD OR METAL STUDS

Wood or Metal Studs • Cement Backer Board • Spot-Bonding Epoxy • Natural Stone Tile



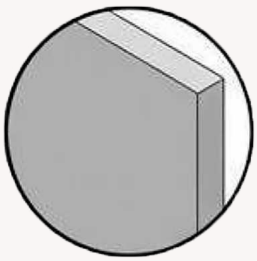
30mm Thick Large Format Natural Stone Tile (e.g., 2'x2') (ANSI A118.3 or A118.5) at distinct spots per tile

Spot-Bonding Epoxy Adhesive (e.g., 2'x2')

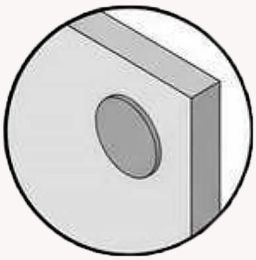
Cement Backer Board on Studs (ANSI A118.9)

Wood Studs (or Metal Studs, see notes)

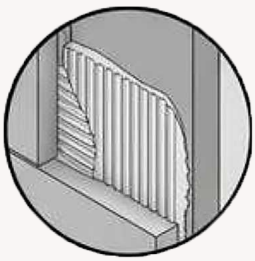
Cement Backer Board Substrate (ANSI A118.9), 1/4" in 10'



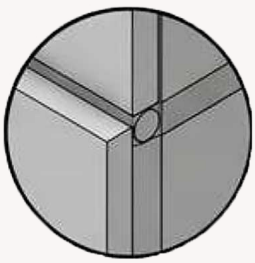
Spot-Bonding Epoxy Adhesive Detail



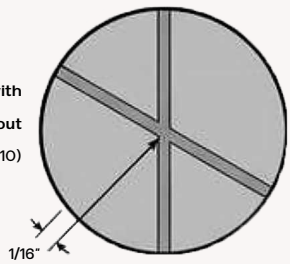
Full-Bed Grout or Epoxy Grout Application Detail



Movement Joint Detai (Ej171, showing sealan and backer rod)



1/16" Grout Joint with Cementitious Grout (ANSI A118.6 or A118.10)



Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

borrowed earth

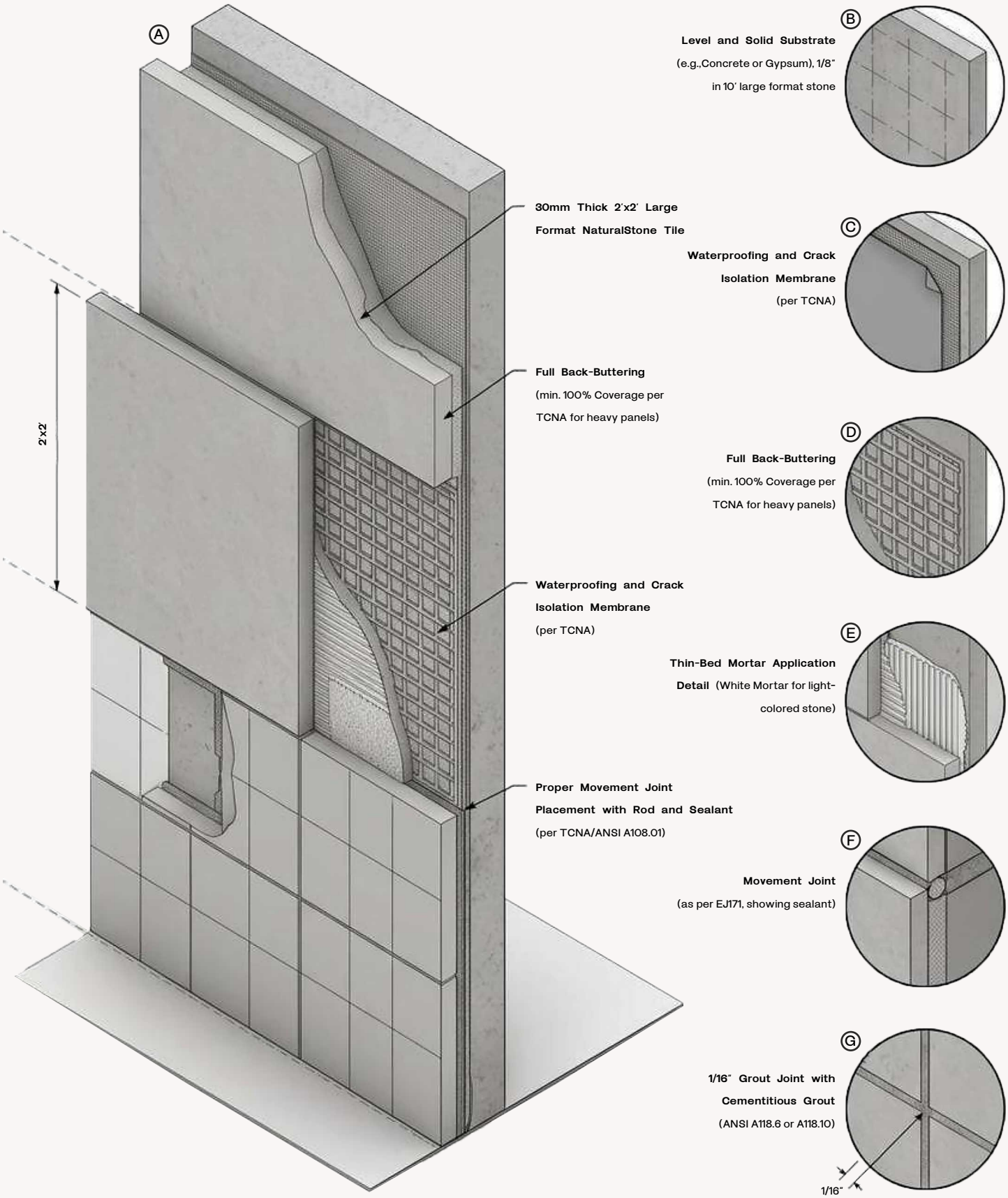
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BATHTUB WALLS (NO SHOWERHEAD)

Gypsum Board or Glass Mat Gypsum Board • Natural Stone Tile



Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

borrowed earth

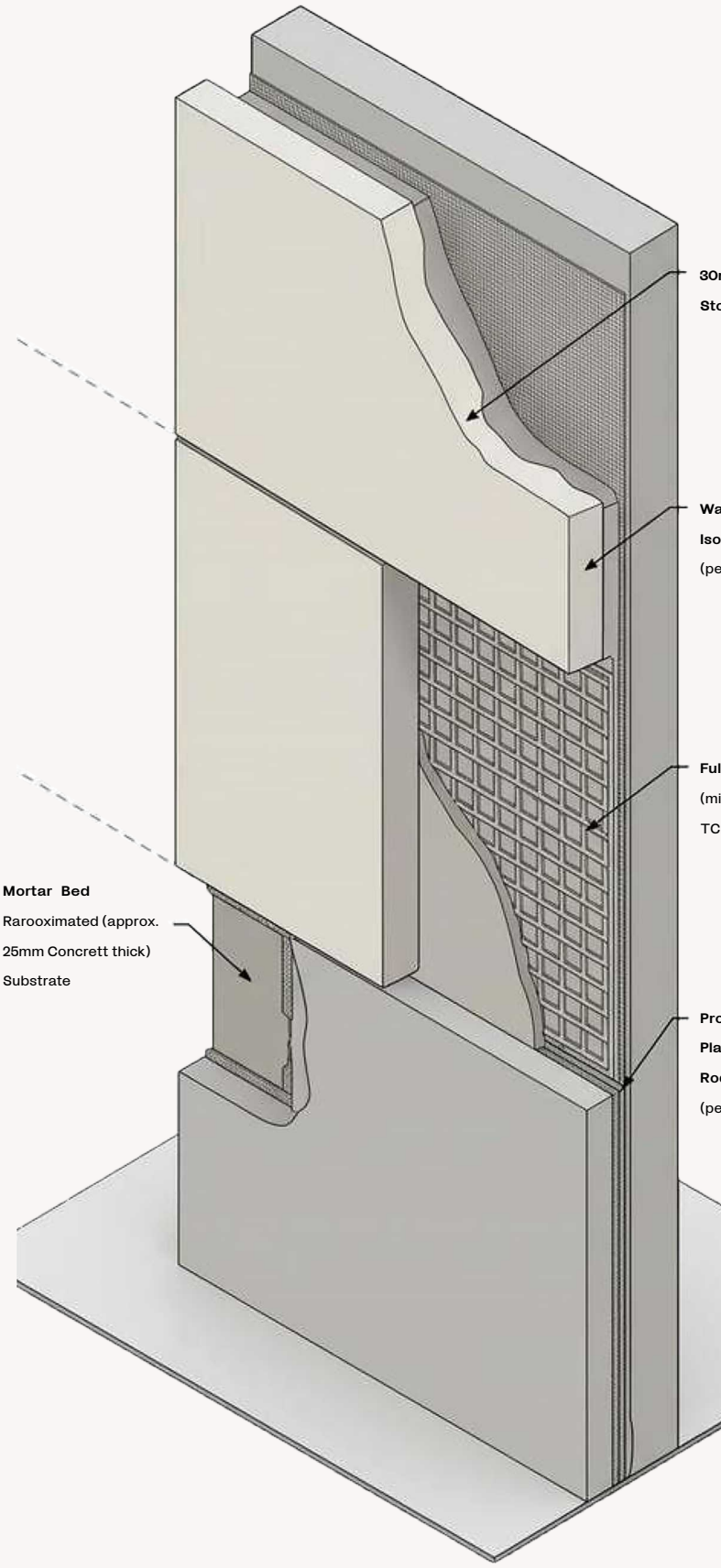
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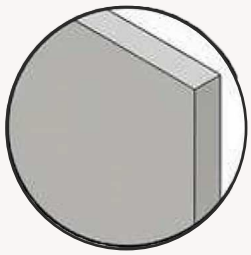
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EXTERIOR WALLS

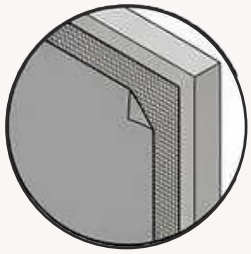
Masonry or Concrete • Bonded Mortar Bed • Natural Stone Tile



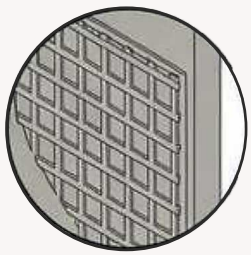
Level and Solid Substrate (e.g.. Concrete with Mortar Bed)



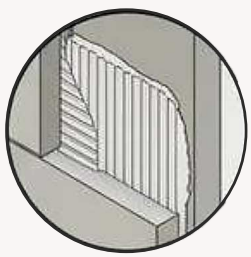
Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Membrane (per TCNA)



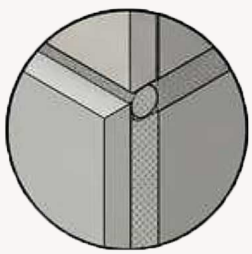
Full Back-Buttering TCNA Guidelinesfor large-format tiles(1'x2' and larger,30mm thick)



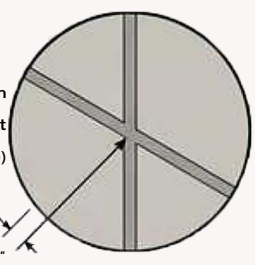
Thin-Bed/Mortar Application Detail (Cementitious bond coat on mortar bed)



Movement Joint (as per EJ171, showing sealant and backer rod)



1/16" Grout Joint with Cementitious Grout (ANSI A118.6 or A118.10)



Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

borrowed earth

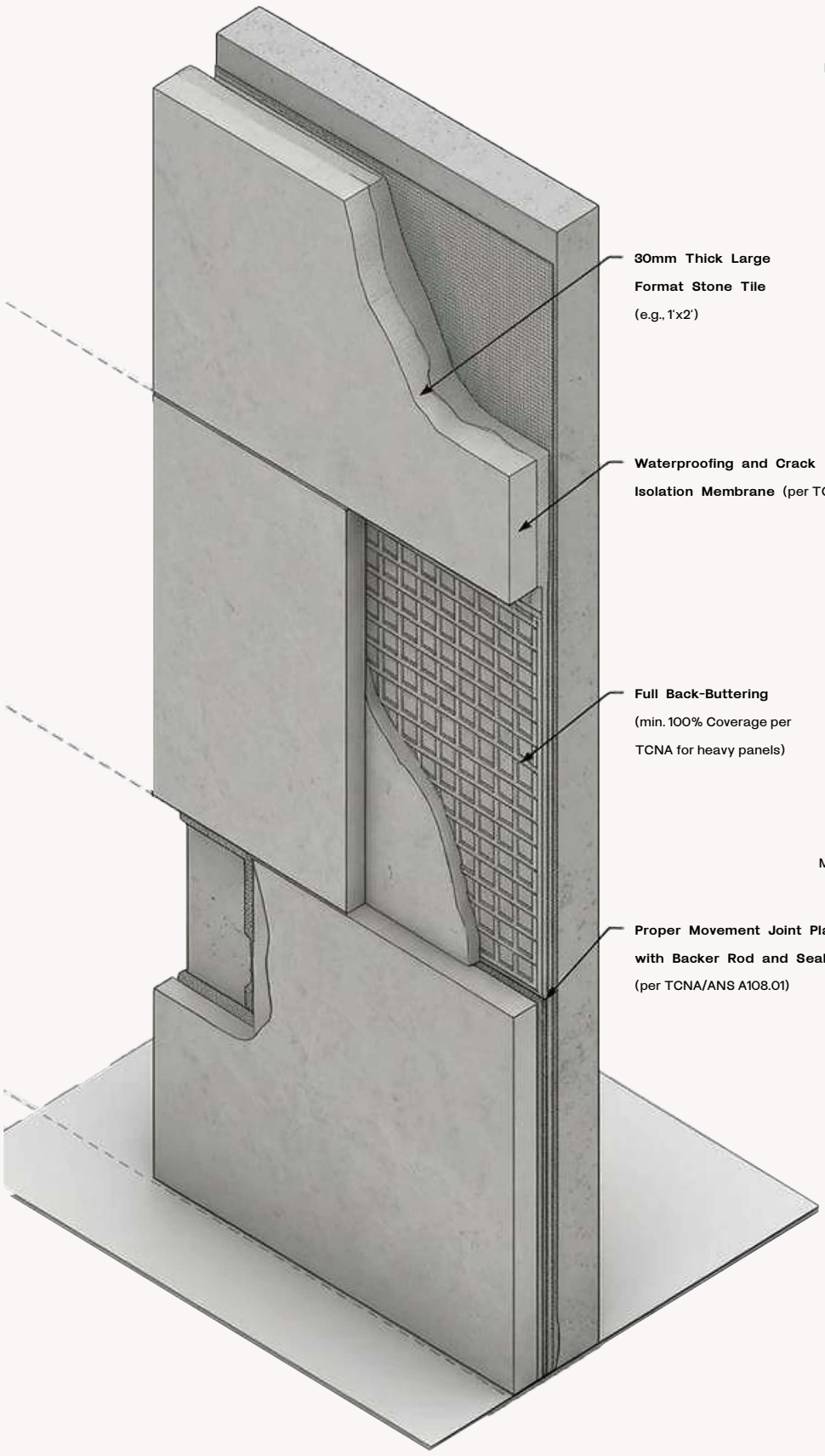
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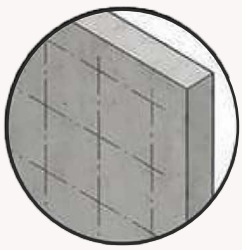
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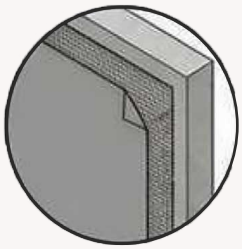
EXTERIOR WALLS

Masonry or Concrete • Natural Stone Tile

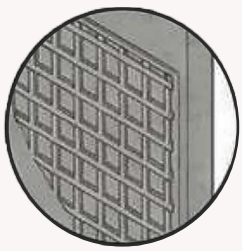




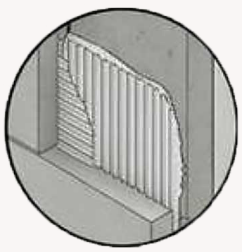
Level and Solid Substrate (e.g., Concrete), 1/8" in 10' large format stone)



Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Membrane (per TCNA)



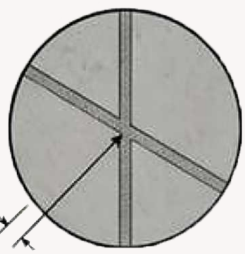
Full Back-Buttering TCNA Guidelines for large-format tiles (1'x2' and larger)



Thin-Bed Mortar Application Detail (White Mortar for light-colored stone)



Movement Joint (as per EJ171, showing sealant)

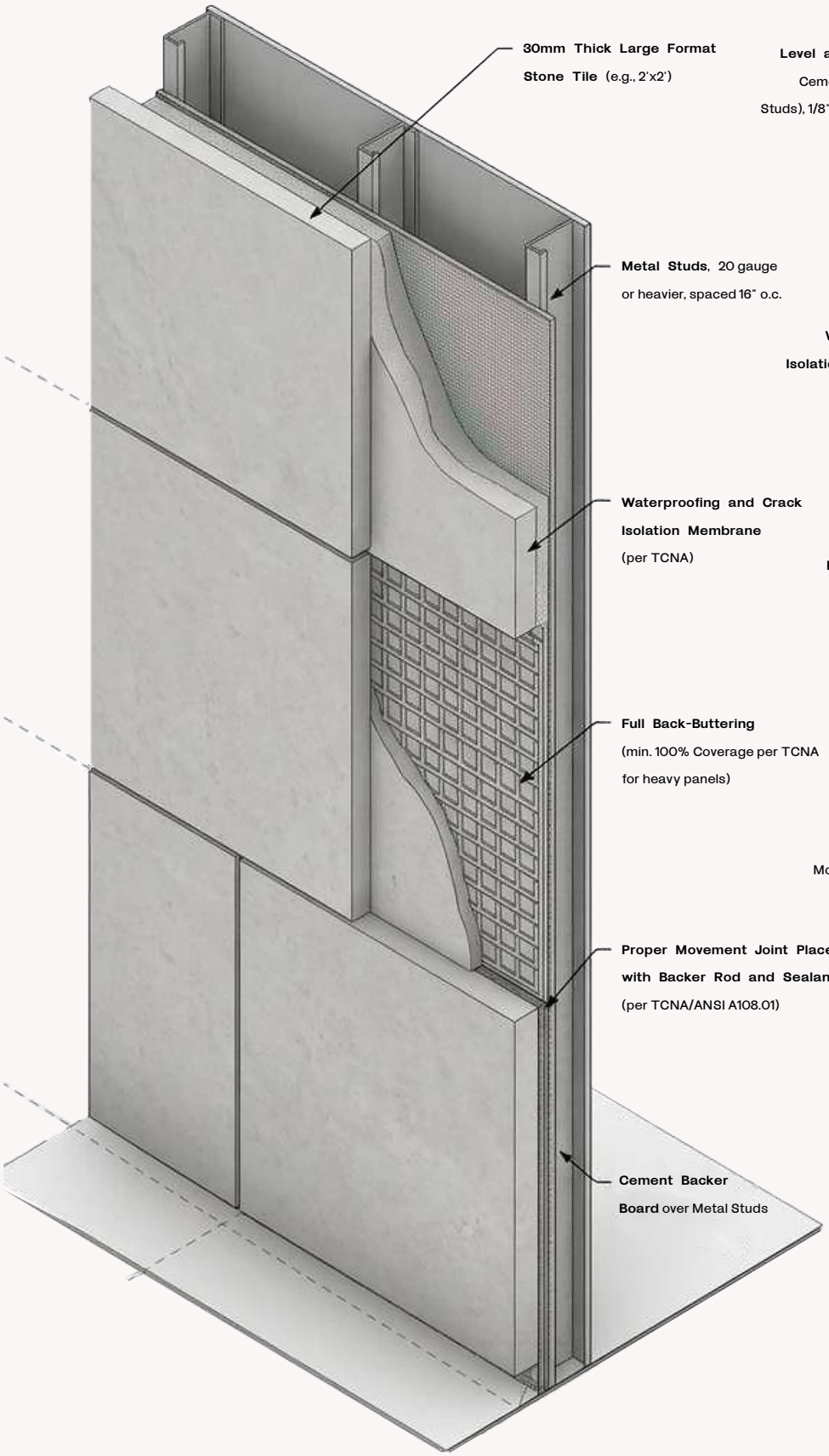


1/16" Grout Joint with Cementitious Grout (ANSI A118.6 or A118.10)

Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

EXTERIOR WALLS

Wood or Metal Studs • Cement Backer Board • Natural Stone Tile



30mm Thick Large Format Stone Tile (e.g., 2'x2')

Metal Studs, 20 gauge or heavier, spaced 16" o.c.

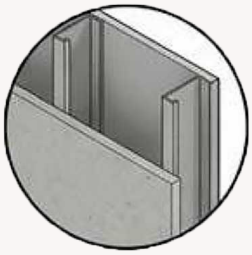
Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Membrane (per TCNA)

Full Back-Buttering (min. 100% Coverage per TCNA for heavy panels)

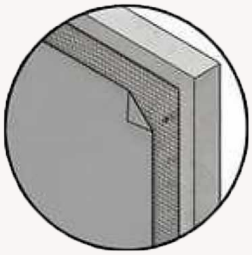
Proper Movement Joint Placement with Backer Rod and Sealant (per TCNA/ANSI A108.01)

Cement Backer Board over Metal Studs

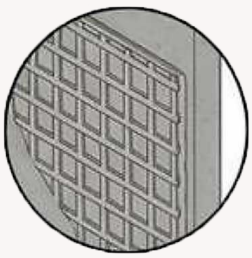
Level and Solid Substrate (e.g., Cement Backer Board over Metal Studs), 1/8" in 10' for large format stone



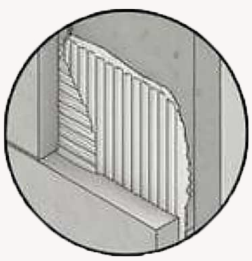
Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Membrane (per TCNA)



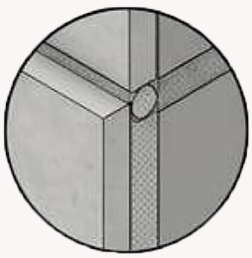
Full Back-Buttering TCNA Guidelines for large-format tiles (2'x2' and larger)



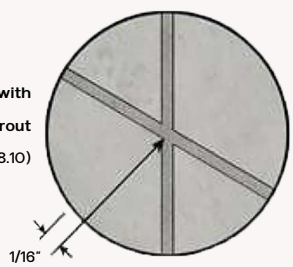
Thin-Bed Mortar Application Detail (White Mortar for light-colored stone)



Movement Joint (as per EJ171, showing sealant)



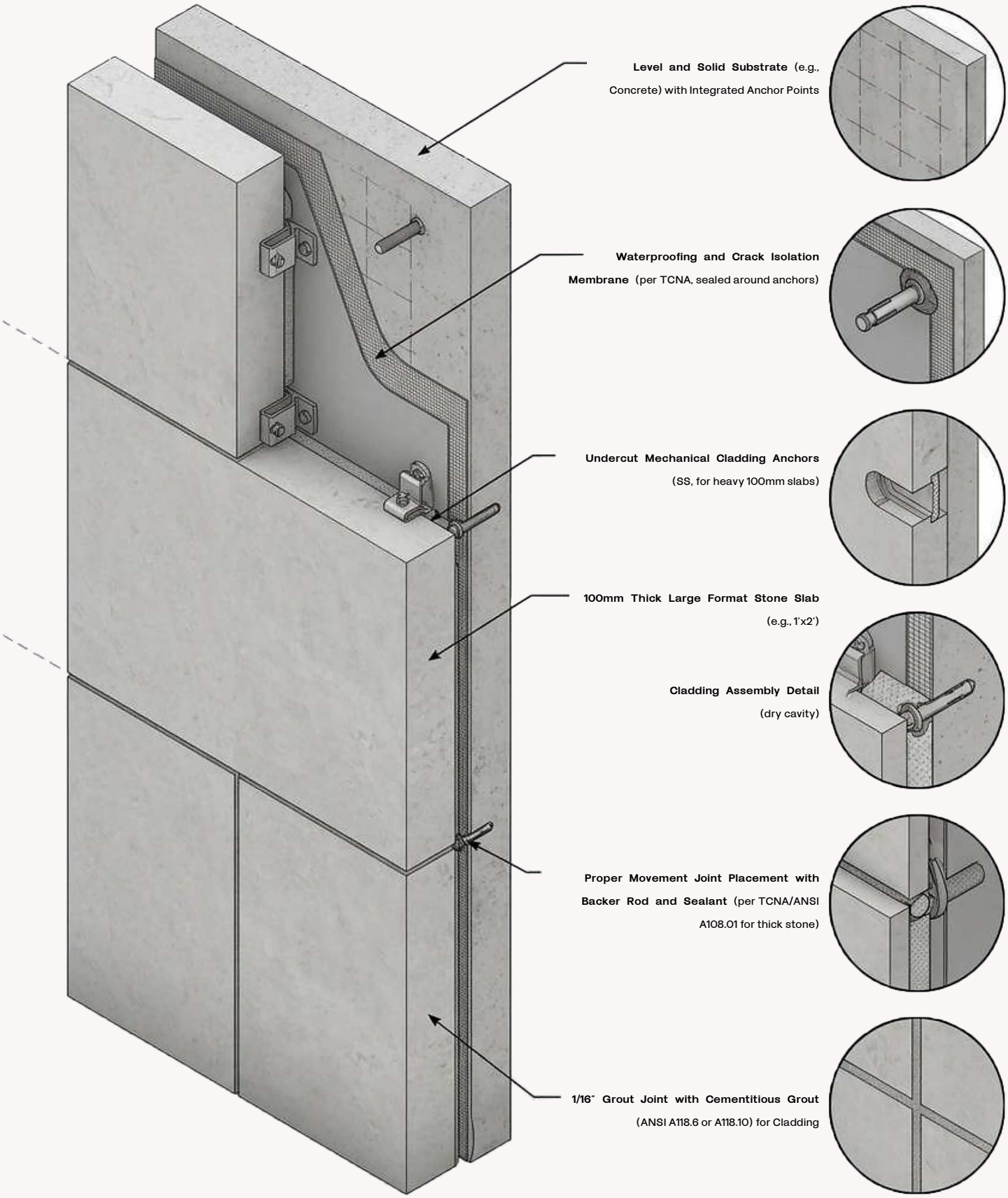
1/16" Grout Joint with Cementitious Grout (ANSI A118.6 or A118.10)



Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

EXTERIOR WALLS

2"-4" thick stone Mechanical cladding



Level and Solid Substrate (e.g., Concrete) with Integrated Anchor Points

Waterproofing and Crack Isolation Membrane (per TCNA, sealed around anchors)

Undercut Mechanical Cladding Anchors (SS, for heavy 100mm slabs)

100mm Thick Large Format Stone Slab (e.g., 1'x2')

Cladding Assembly Detail (dry cavity)

Proper Movement Joint Placement with Backer Rod and Sealant (per TCNA/ANSI A108.01 for thick stone)

1/16" Grout Joint with Cementitious Grout (ANSI A118.6 or A118.10) for Cladding

Source: 2019 Tile Council of North America

DISCLAIMER – INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

The installation recommendations, details, drawings, and specifications provided by Borrowed Earth Collaborative ("Borrowed Earth") are intended solely as general guidance based on typical industry practices and prior project experience. These guidelines are not exhaustive and are not a substitute for professional judgment, site-specific evaluation, or compliance with applicable laws and codes.

No Site-Specific Warranty

All project conditions—including but not limited to substrate quality, structural conditions, environmental exposure, load requirements, moisture presence, and adjacent materials—vary significantly by location and application. Borrowed Earth does not represent or warrant that these guidelines are appropriate for any specific project or site condition.

Responsibility of Project Team

It is the sole responsibility of the project owner, architect, contractor, installer, fabricator, and/or engineer of record to:

- Verify site conditions and dimensions prior to installation
- Ensure compatibility of Borrowed Earth products with the intended application and supporting systems
- Engage licensed professionals (including structural engineers, facade consultants, waterproofing specialists, and other relevant experts) as required
- Determine appropriate installation methods, anchoring systems, tolerances, and safety measures
- Ensure compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local building codes, regulations, ordinances, and standards, , including but not limited to those set by authorities having ordinances, and standards, including but not limited to those set by authorities having jurisdiction (AHJ)

Jurisdictional Variations

Borrowed Earth products are used across multiple jurisdictions, including all 50 U.S. states, each of which may have different building codes, seismic requirements, wind load criteria, fire ratings, accessibility requirements, and permitting processes. It is the responsibility of the project team to ensure that all installations meet local code requirements and approval processes.

Third-Party Materials and Methods

Products is provided for convenience only. Borrowed Earth does not manufacture or control thesematerials and makes no warranties, express or implied, regarding their performance, suitability, or compatibility.

No Installation Liability

Borrowed Earth does not perform installation services and assumes no responsibility or liability for:

- Installation errors or improper workmanship
- Structural failure or performance issues related to installation systems
- Damage resulting from improper handling, storage, fabrication, or installation
- Failure to follow applicable codes, standards, or best practices

Natural Material Disclaimer

Borrowed Earth products are made from natural stone and are subject to inherent variations in color, veining, texture, fissures, and structural composition. These characteristics are not defects but are intrinsic to the material. Performance may vary based on stone type, thickness, finish, and application.

Limitation of Liability

To the fullest extent permitted by law, Borrowed Earth shall not be liable for any direct, indirect, incidental, consequential, or special damages, including but not limited to loss of use, project delays, cost of replacement, or labor costs, arising from the use of these guidelines or the installation of its products.

Final Approval

All drawings, shop drawings, engineering details, and installation methods must be reviewed and approved by the project's licensed professionals and relevant authorities prior to execution.