DO'S and DON'TS for installing stone worktops



This document provides practical guidance for installers, their managers and supervisors who are involved in the installation of stone worktops (whether made of natural, artificial or engineered stone).

staff and

effective

processes

DO ensure you and fellow installers are trained to work with stone and know how to report any issues occurring on-site.

and maintain any equipment (tools or controls) that may be needed on-site. Ensure filters in on-tool extraction, vacuums and RPE are changed as

• DO regularly check

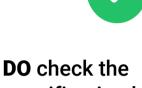
DON'T use untrained

installers - handling and fitting stone worktops, even without on-site fabrication, can put your health at risk. Competent **DON'T** provide or

> poorly maintained, tools or controls.

use inadequate, or

necessary.



- specification before starting installation and ensure that any optional aspects e.g. cutting drainage grooves are resolved. DO eliminate on-site fabrication as much as
- & tap holes in the workshop. Clean dust off worktops before transport to site e.g. by wet cleaning or the use of class M vacuum. **DO** use accurate measurements for fabrication e.g. get

specifications from

measuring devices.

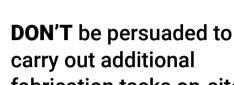
contractors/customers or

use templates or infrared

DO identify any fabrication

possible e.g. cut out sink

tasks that must be done on-site, and any controls required. Develop a safe system of work and ensure all facilities e.g. adequate water supply for suppression, segregated area etc are available.



- fabrication tasks on-site that have not been covered within the specification. DON'T do fabrication
- done in the workshop. Thin overlays and upstands may need to be cut on site if they would be too fragile for transport. **Pre-installation DON'T** rely on poor

measurements or

estimates that make

tasks on-site that could be

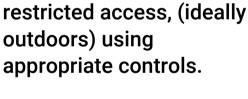
 DON'T assume any combination of controls will work - check you know the right combination and how to correctly use each.

it more likely that

fabrication of finishing

may need to be

undertaken on-site.



DO any minor on-site

segregated area with

modifications in a

well-ventilated.

DO use appropriate controls: - apply on-tool controls like water suppression or on-tool extraction (with shroud and dust collector attached to class M vacuum).

also use RPE

least 20 to

with APF of at

protect against mist/dust unless monitoring data shows is unnecessary for adequate control. **DO** shut down any local heating systems with

this level of protection blowers or air-conditioning units that could resuspend settled dust and increase airborne concentrations.



DON'T carry out major

to the workshop.

modifications on-site.

Take your worktop back

DON'T rely on RPE alone unless your risk assessment shows it is adequate.

On-site installation

> **DON'T** use any cleaning method that creates

> > airborne dust e.g. dry

sweeping or compressed

DON'T assume all air

ventilation - check that

any airborne dust is being

movement is good

carried away from

workers.

pressure wet hosing) or vacuum (dust class M) and RPE.

DO clean up after

methods (e.g. low

installation - use wet

waste materials (wet slurry & captured dust) promptly in a safe manner.

DO discard all stone

DO avoid transferring dust between areas by keeping PPE clean e.g. Use a vacuum to clean coveralls when leaving a dusty area. **DON'T** delay

air.

cleaning up - wet slurries can dry out, and dust become airborne.

DON'T use dry brushing or compressed air to clean dust off work clothing.



Post-installation