

SHOWER STALLS

The use of natural stone in up-scale condominiums and high end homes has been on the increase in recent years, mostly due to it's inherent value. Homeowners have come to appreciate its beauty, durability and performance. Many showers are being clad with 19 mm (3/4") thick natural stone slabs which are pre-cut, pre-finished, fabricated in the shop to exact dimensions and delivered ready to be installed.

Installation Shower Floor

Shower floors are usually installed on wood or concrete substrates. The substrate must be designed to limit deflection to L/360. Pre-fabricated shower pan or waterproof membranes must be installed on the floor and turned up the wall at least 152 mm. Mortar bed must not be less than 25 mm in thickness at drain connection and must have a slope of 6 mm per 305 mm to drain.

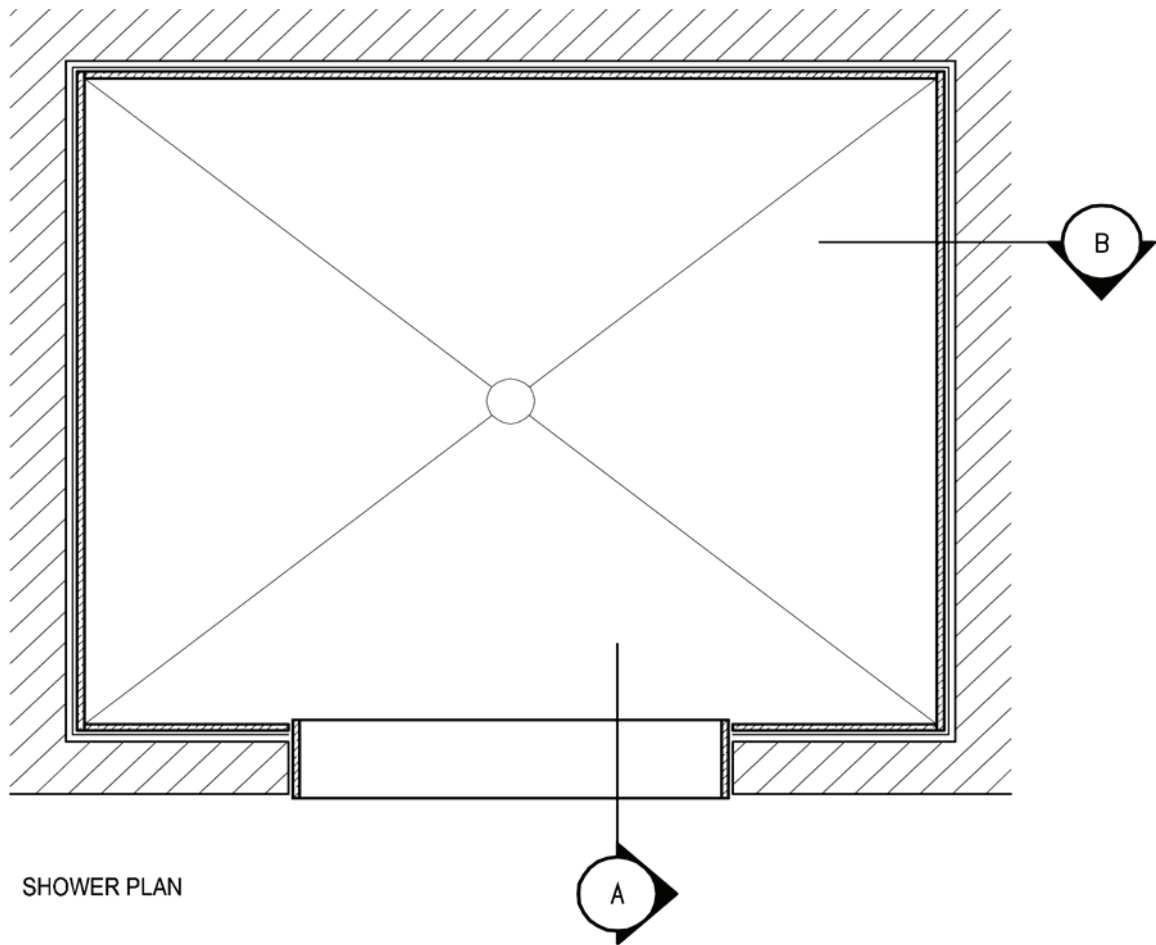
NOTE: In order to achieve a greater COF (Co-efficient of Friction) in wet area applications, 100 mm x 100 mm (4" x 4") or smaller are generally recommended for this application. Where larger pieces are required, the slope to drain requirement must be respected.

Shower Wall Substrate

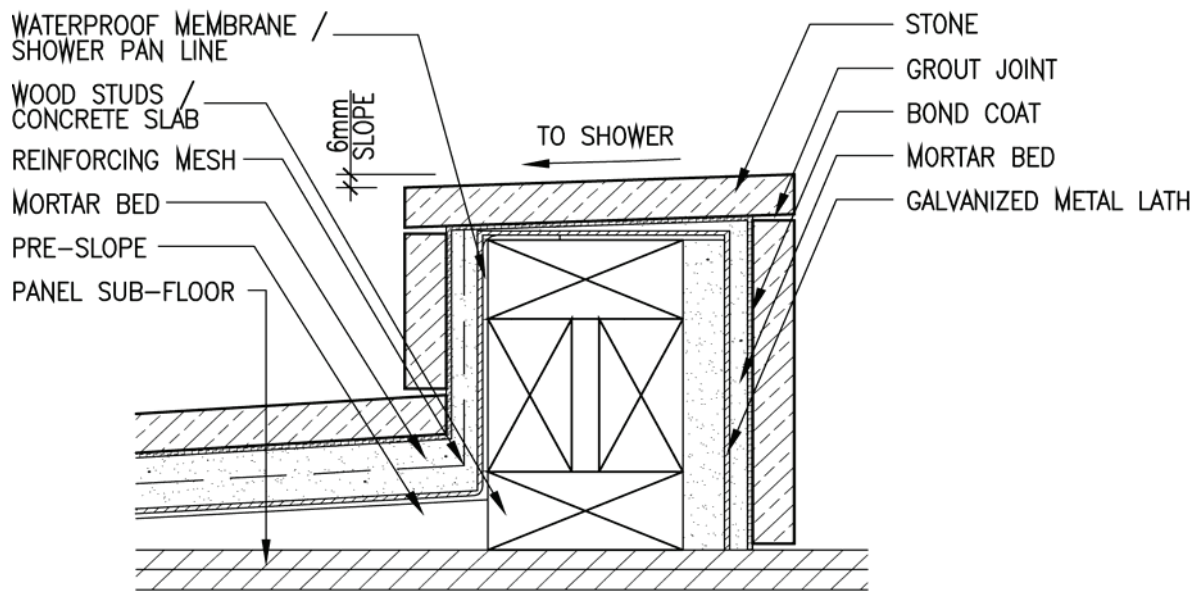
There are numerous acceptable substrates used for the installation of natural stone. The most preferred would be masonry. Alternatively coated glass mat backer board, fibre-cement backerboard or a cementitious backer unit (CBU) will provide for a suitable backup surface for the installation. The substrate must be designed stiff enough to limit the deflection to a maximum of L/360 of the span. An alternate method, is to provide a cement mortar bed. This method provides a sturdy surface where installation challenges may present custom shaped walls or curved surfaces.

Installation Systems

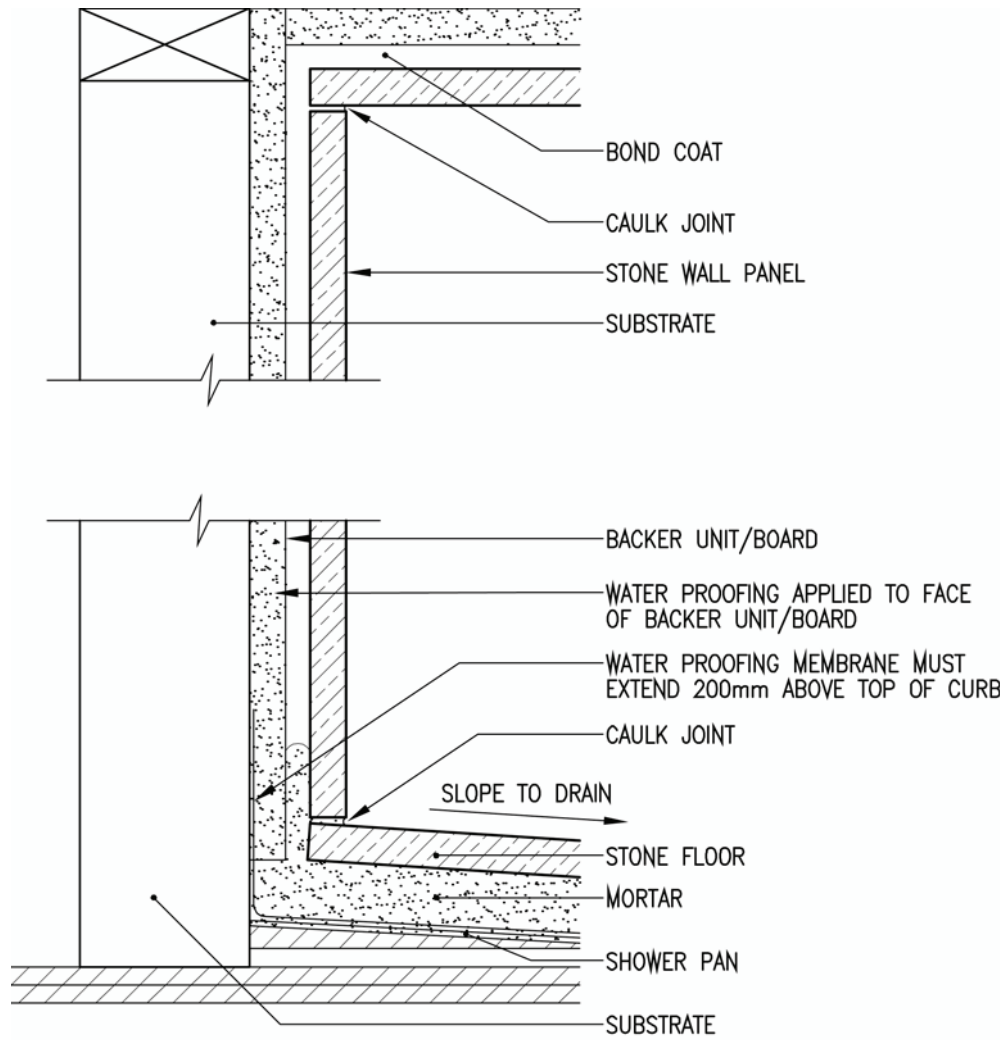
The installation system most commonly used in residential showers is to bond the slabs thin-set method on to the substrate by fully backerbutting the back of the slab and randomly setting spots for leveling purposes using latex Portland cement mortar. An alternate to using cement based setting material is to use non staining silicone. This should be approached with caution as certain light coloured stones may be subject to staining. Silicones should be tested prior to use. The slabs can also be set using the conventional method using copper or stainless steel wire. The wire is engaged into a drilled hole in the stone and through the sheathing tied around the self tapping screw which is drilled into the wood or metal studs framing, or the wire is looped around the stud and held in place by setting spots of cement mortar. Waterproof membrane if required must be specified (ANSI A118.10-1999). Follow manufacturer's recommendations for installation and use. Setting material must be compatible with waterproof membrane. All openings and cuts must be treated to ensure waterproof integrity.



SHOWER PLAN



SECTION A - CURB DETAIL



SECTION B - BASE AND SOFFIT DETAIL