



## **Kirei Coco Tile installation Instructions (plywood backer):**

### **Tile Storage:**

Before using, tiles must be stored flat in sealed packaging for an acclimation period of 72 hours in the area where they will be installed. Temperature during acclimation period must be maintained between 65° F and 75°F and a relative humidity between 45% and 65%.

### **Installation Conditions**

Installation should only be performed in temperatures between 65° F and 75°F and at a relative humidity between 45% and 65%. In addition, since Kirei Coco Tiles are backed with wood subject to swelling in changing humidity conditions, it is important to leave 1/16" between tiles to allow for any dimensional change.

### **Site Prep:**

Before starting, inspect all tiles for cracks or chips. Repair any loose chips with clear wood glue. Lay out tiles in intended arrangement on clean horizontal surface to check seam match and layout. Ensure a smooth, clean work surface for the intended installation area. (either the existing wall with all prior materials removed and sanded to prepped, slightly roughened surface or use a backerboard. - 1/2" thick, water resistant greenboard sheetrock and cementitious type tile backerboards recommended.)

### **Installation:**

Kirei Coco Tiles can be applied using Mastic or construction adhesive. Apply mastic/adhesive as directed. If using mastic apply with notched trowel. Lay tiles on mastic/adhesive-coated wall as arranged during site prep. Pin nails nailed diagonally through tile backer edges avoiding the coconut tile chips can be used to set tiles along with mastic/adhesive. Brace tiles to the wall while the adhesive sets using soft-faced bracing to avoid damage to the coconut chips. Allow mastic/adhesive to dry thoroughly. Apply spray-on polyurethane-type finish if desired. *NOTE: Test finish first on tile to be sure that finished look matches desired finish look*

### **Cutting Tiles:**

To cut tiles, use table or chop saw with new, sharp blade (at least 80-tooth blade). Placing masking tape along cut lines and cutting through tape can minimize cracking and chipping. Have clear wood glue on hand to replace any tile pieces that chip out during cutting. *Do not use water when cutting, as this may cause swelling of the plywood backer.*

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