

INSTALLATION GUIDE

DECORATIVE CLADDING MADE OF GYPSUM,
CEMENT AND NATURAL STONE



FOR INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR USE,
WITH OR WITHOUT GROUT JOINTS

MODULO

THE FASHION HOUSE FOR WALLS

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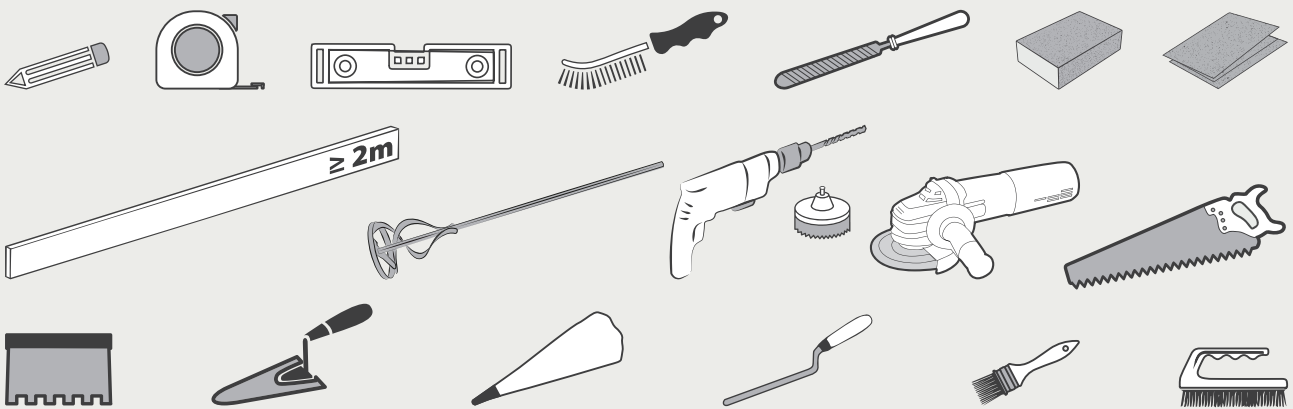
⚠ IMPORTANT

THIS INSTALLATION GUIDE MUST BE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE INSTALLATION AND KEPT TOGETHER WITH THE PURCHASE INVOICE. THIS GUIDE PROVIDES THE NECESSARY INFORMATION FOR THE CORRECT INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE PRODUCT.

MODULO products may be intended for indoor or outdoor use, depending on the type of product purchased. Always follow the product specifications and recommendations regarding the field of application.

Gypsum-based products are intended exclusively for indoor use and are not recommended for spaces with high humidity or direct exposure to water.

For exterior applications, use adhesives compatible with freeze-thaw exposure and ensure surface protection against water infiltration and runoff originating from roofs, window sills, canopies, or other construction elements.

Recommended Personal Protective Equipment**Required Tools****Product Storage**

- Store products only in covered and dry areas.
- Protect products against moisture, weather conditions, freeze-thaw cycles, and mechanical shocks.

BEFORE INSTALLATION**Substrate Preparation**

- The substrate must be clean, dry, stable, and in good condition.
- The substrate must be level and free of irregularities that may affect adhesion or alignment of the cladding.
- The surface must be free of dust, grease, moisture, traces of paint, or wallpaper.

- Compatible substrates: concrete, plaster, masonry, AAC blocks, plasterboard, rendered surfaces, fiber cement, wood, OSB, MDF, or ceramic tiles, according to the specifications of the adhesive used.
- For absorbent substrates, the application of a compatible primer before installation is recommended.
- Do not install products on floors or ceilings.
- Do not install products on metal surfaces, damp surfaces, or unstable substrates.
- Gypsum-based products are not recommended for spaces with high humidity.
- Do not expose the cladding to temperatures higher than:
 - 40°C for interior gypsum-based products;
 - 70°C for interior/exterior cement-based or natural stone products.
- For gypsum-based products, it is recommended to maintain a minimum distance of approximately 60 cm from direct heat sources (fireplaces, stoves, high-power radiators, etc.).
- Recommended installation temperature: between 5°C and 25°C.

Installation on Thermal Insulation Systems

- For installation on thermal insulation systems, the use of adhesives compatible with ETICS systems is recommended.
- The use of a suitable reinforcement mesh and compliance with the specifications of the thermal insulation system manufacturer are recommended.
- For applications on thick thermal insulation systems or under special usage conditions, consult the manufacturer of the thermal insulation system.

Tile Preparation

- Purchase the entire required quantity in a single order to avoid shade differences.
- Mix tiles from several boxes for a harmonious and natural appearance.
- Check dimensions, cut-outs, and positioning before installation.
- If the product includes dedicated corner pieces or decorative elements, these must be prepared and installed before the standard tiles to avoid irregular cuts.
- In the case of 2-piece corner elements, follow the positioning markings to ensure pattern continuity.
- Ensure that the back of the tiles is clean, dry, and free from dust, oil, or other anti-adhesive substances.

Important Recommendations

- Use an adhesive compatible with the substrate and the type of cladding.
- Always follow the instructions of the adhesive manufacturer.
- For interior cladding with gypsum-based products, the use of *MODULO Adhesive* or *PARMUR Colle* is recommended.
- For decorative 3D tiles, the use of *MODULO Adhesive* or a high-strength universal mounting adhesive (tube type) is recommended.
- For interior cladding with cement-based products or natural stone, the use of *MODULO Adhesive* is recommended.
- For exterior cladding with cement-based products and natural stone, the use of *MODULO Colle Extra Flex* is recommended.
- Interior/exterior products are frost-resistant when correctly installed.
- Work on small surfaces to avoid premature drying of the adhesive or mortar.
- Before applying protective solutions, perform a preliminary test in a less visible area.
- The use of protective or finishing products must be carried out according to the recommendations of their manufacturer.

INSTALLATION STEPS

① PLANNING AND MARKING LEVELS

- Plan the installation layout before installation to reduce visible cut-outs.
- Mark horizontal and vertical reference lines to ensure correct tile alignment.
- Use a spirit level to check alignment.
- To avoid unattractive cuts, plan the installation so that cut-outs and cut pieces are positioned in less visible areas of the wall (e.g. lower areas, hidden corners, or behind furniture), while the most visible areas contain as many full tiles as possible.

② PREPARING AND MAKING CUTS

- Select and prepare the tiles before installation.
- Make all necessary cuts before final bonding.
- For gypsum-based products, use a hand saw or fine cutting tools.
- For cement-based products or natural stone, use an angle grinder with a diamond disc.
- For sockets and switches, a hole saw may be used.
- Check tile positioning before permanent bonding.

③ PREPARING THE BACK OF THE TILES

- Lightly scrape the back of the tiles with a rasp or suitable brush to improve adhesion.
- Remove impurities, dust, and residues before bonding.
- Ensure that the tiles are clean and dust-free before installation.

④ PREPARING THE ADHESIVE

- Use an adhesive compatible with the substrate and the type of cladding.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions regarding preparation and working time of the adhesive.
- For interior cladding with gypsum-based products, the use of *MODULO Adhesive* or *PARMUR Colle* is recommended.
- For decorative 3D tiles, the use of *MODULO Adhesive* or a high-strength universal mounting adhesive (tube type) is recommended.
- For interior cladding with cement-based products or natural stone, the use of *MODULO Adhesive* is recommended.
- For exterior cladding with cement-based products and natural stone, the use of *MODULO Colle Extra Flex* is recommended.

⑤ APPLYING THE ADHESIVE

- Spread the adhesive evenly using a notched trowel adapted to the size and weight of the tiles:
 - approximately 4–6 mm for small and lightweight tiles;
 - approximately 8–10 mm for large, textured, or heavy tiles.
- Avoid applying adhesive too close to the tile edges to prevent excess adhesive during installation.
- For interior/exterior products (cement-based or natural stone), adhesive must be applied both to the substrate and to the back of the tiles in a continuous layer.
- For gypsum-based products installed in areas occasionally exposed to water splashes (kitchens, hallways, decorative walls near humid areas, etc.), adhesive must be applied both to the substrate and to the back of the tiles for improved adhesion.
- In the case of tube-type mounting adhesives used for decorative 3D tiles, apply adhesive beads according to the adhesive manufacturer's instructions, taking into account the size and weight of the tiles.
- Work on small areas to avoid premature drying of the adhesive.

⑥ INSTALLING THE TILES

- Installation is recommended starting from the lower part of the installation surface.
- Apply the tiles using a slight left-right lateral movement to evenly distribute the adhesive and ensure good adhesion.
- Maintain alignment and uniform contact between elements.
- For products with joints, follow the recommended joint width or maintain a regular spacing of approximately 1–2 cm if no other specifications are provided.
- Install corner pieces and dedicated decorative elements first.
- Periodically check alignment during installation.

⑦ CLEANING EXCESS MATERIAL AND SURFACE INSPECTION

- Remove excess adhesive immediately before drying.
- Periodically check the flatness and alignment of the installed surface.
- Correct any positioning issues before the adhesive hardens.
- Avoid soiling the cladding surface with adhesive or other materials.

⑧ DRYING TIME

- Respect the drying time recommended by the adhesive manufacturer.
- Avoid mechanical stress on the surface before the adhesive has fully hardened.
- Before grouting, a waiting time of approximately 24 hours after installation is recommended.

GROUTING

(only for products requiring joints)

① PREPARING THE GROUT MORTAR

- For products requiring grouting, the use of *MODULO Joint* or *PARMUR Joint* mortars is recommended.
- Prepare the mortar according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Cut the corner of the grouting bag approximately 1–2 cm and fill the bag approximately halfway.

② APPLYING THE GROUT MORTAR

- Using gentle and constant pressure, completely fill the joints while keeping the tip of the bag in contact with the wall surface.
- Ensure uniform and complete filling of all joints.
- If mortar gets onto the tile surface, allow it to harden before removal.
- Do not attempt to remove fresh mortar using wet sponges or abrasive materials.

③ FINISHING THE JOINTS

- Once the mortar begins to harden (approximately 30–120 minutes, depending on ambient temperature and product type), finish the joints using a spatula or suitable tool.
- For a smooth and uniform appearance, joints may be shaped using a rigid rubber/plastic hose or a leveling tool.
- For a rustic appearance, use a soft-bristle brush.
- Never use metal brushes or wet sponges to clean the cladding surface.

MAINTENANCE

Surface Cleaning

- Remove residues using a soft brush or a vacuum cleaner without direct contact with the cladding surface.
- For products intended exclusively for indoor use, clean the surface using a vacuum cleaner while avoiding direct contact between the vacuum head and the cladding.
- Do not use pressure washers, abrasive materials, wet sponges, or excessive force that may damage the cladding surface or joints.
- Use only pH-neutral cleaning solutions.
- Superficial stains may be removed by gently wiping with a damp microfiber cloth.
- For interior/exterior products, the use of *MODULO Cleaner for Dust and Stains* is recommended for removing difficult stains.
- For natural stone, persistent deposits caused by smog, algae, moss, moisture, or traces of mortar and adhesive may be removed using *MODULO Cleaner for Resistant Mold* or *MODULO Cleaner for Excess of Adhesive, Cement and Grout*, according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- For deep or difficult stains, seek specialist advice and avoid the use of non-specific or unauthorized cleaning products.

Surface Protection

- After complete drying of the wall and, where applicable, the joints, a protective solution compatible with the type of cladding may be applied.
- For all product types, *MODULO Protection Spray* may be used for protection against water and stains.
- For interior/exterior products and natural stone, the use of *MODULO Surface Protector* is recommended to limit infiltration and facilitate maintenance.
- To intensify the color and achieve an enhanced surface appearance, *MODULO Surface Protector Wet Effect* may be used.
- For certain natural stone applications exposed to high humidity, *MODULO Surface Protector Anti Dampness* may be used.
- For protection against stains and accidental markings, *MODULO Surface Protector Anti Graffiti* may be used.
- For interior/exterior products, periodic application of compatible protective solutions is recommended to limit infiltration and ensure long-term surface protection.
- Do not apply products incompatible with gypsum or solvent-based solutions on gypsum products.
- Gypsum-based products must be protected against direct and prolonged exposure to water or humidity.
- **Products from the Signature range do not require additional treatments.**

⚠ The application of any other types of cleaning or protective solutions of any kind, including varnishes, other than those recommended by Modulo Decorative Solutions, is strictly prohibited. Failure to comply with this instruction results in the immediate and complete cancellation of the warranty.

RECOMMENDED CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTS

Estimated Consumption and Recommended MODULO Products

Product Type	Recommended MODULO Products	Estimated Consumption
Decorative 3D tiles	MODULO Adhesive	±3 kg/m ²
	High-strength universal mounting adhesive (tube type)	±0.25 kg/m ²
Cement-based and natural stone products installed outdoors	MODULO Colle Extra Flex	±5 kg/m ²
Cement-based and natural stone products installed indoors	MODULO Adhesive	±5 kg/m ²
Interior gypsum-based products	MODULO Adhesive	±3 kg/m ²
	PARMUR Colle	±3 kg/m ²
Grout mortars	MODULO Joint	±3-4 kg/m ²
	PARMUR Joint	±3-4 kg/m ²

Accessories and Complementary Products

Product Type	Recommended MODULO Products
Adhesives for exterior cement-based or natural stone cladding	MODULO Colle Extra Flex
Adhesives for interior gypsum-based cladding	MODULO Adhesive / PARMUR Colle
Adhesives for interior cement-based or natural stone cladding	MODULO Adhesive
Adhesives for decorative 3D tiles	High-strength universal mounting adhesive (tube type)
Grout mortars	PARMUR Joint A'Lancienne / PARMUR Joint Nuance Pierre / MODULO Joint Grey / MODULO Joint White / MODULO Joint Dark Grey / MODULO Joint Cement Grey / MODULO Joint Anthracite
Universal protective solutions	MODULO Protection Spray
Protective solutions for interior/exterior products and natural stone	MODULO Surface Protector Natural Effect / MODULO Surface Protector Wet Effect / MODULO Surface Protector Anti Graffiti
Cleaning solutions	MODULO Cleaner for Dust and Stains
Anti-dampness solutions for natural stone	MODULO Surface Protector Anti Dampness
Solutions for natural stone	MODULO Cleaner for Resistant Mold / MODULO Cleaner for Excess of Adhesive, Cement and Grout

⚠ ATTENTION: Product consumption values are indicative and may vary depending on the type of substrate, surface flatness, application method, and joint dimensions.

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Any installed product is considered accepted.

The warranty covers manufacturing defects or non-conformities identified upon delivery.

The manufacturer's warranty applies exclusively to the replacement of affected products, provided that MODULO installation instructions and recommendations have been followed.

The warranty does not cover damage caused by:

- incorrect installation;
- unsuitable substrate;
- use of non-recommended products;
- water infiltration, excessive humidity, frost, or high temperatures;
- shocks, improper modifications, or incorrect cuts;
- normal product wear.

⚠ The final appearance of the cladding may vary slightly depending on the installation method, lighting, production batch, and conditions of use.

