Installation of Cast Fit™ product is similar to installation of Cultured Stone® product but there are a few key differences which will be outlined in this installation addendum. This addendum is intended to be used in concert with the standard Cultured Stone® product Installation Instructions. All wall preparation requirements, all materials requirements, all cautions, disclaimers and general information should be reviewed and followed.

**BEFORE YOU START**

1. Prepare wall to receive adhered veneer following the Cultured Stone® Installation Instructions. Application of a uniform and true scratch coat will also accommodate variations in the substrate surface and improve the appearance of final installation.

2. Plan for and maintain 4” clearance from grade or 2” clearance from a paved surface. Chalk or draw a level line at this location.

3. Install a temporary straight and true piece of 2x4 material for use as a starter board.

4. Lay out Cast Fit™ product pieces on a tarp and blend material from multiple boxes. Cast Fit™ is manufactured with a dimensional tolerance and should be sorted into like sizes. To prevent scuffing, use packaging materials or other soft scrap to prevent sorted pieces from rubbing against each other. At this time, also take note of pieces with attractive texture on ends as you may choose those pieces for your outside corners as described below.

**NOTE:** The Cast-Fit™ product has been designed for the best appearance and performance when installed with a 3/8” mortar joint. Only the most skilled craftsman should attempt to install Cast-Fit™ in a tight fit application. See cautionary note below. It is recommended that 3/8” dowel pins or shims be used to maintain a uniform head and bed joint space during installation.

**SETTING STONES**

Starting with a level line/board set your first course, maintaining level, plumb and joint spacing. Use 3/8” dowel pins/shims between units as you proceed. Select stones of like dimensions for each course. To achieve an even face plane start with thicker stones to set face plane and then use mortar setting bed thickness to even face plane of thinner stones. Setting bed mortar will also help absorb variations in substrate surface.

**CORNERS**

Cast Fit™ flat product is also used to create attractive outside corner applications. There are 3 options for this application.

1. **Straight butt joint.** Where the flats on one wall plane all extend past the corner and the flats on the adjacent wall butt into the back of them. Fig. 1

2. **Bonded Corner.** Similar to a straight butt joint, however the extending course is alternated between the two meeting walls. Fig. 2

3. **Quirk-Miter corner.** Start with a factory end or clean straight cut stone. Miter the end of each stone at a 45 degree angle. The miter cuts end ¼” short of the face of the stone to create the quirk notch as shown in Fig. 3.
**TOOLING JOINTS**

When mortar is thumbprint hard, the mortar joints should be tooled to a concave shape, just below the surface of the stone. Dry brush the mortar joints only when the mortar becomes crumbly. Tooling or brushing too early will cause mortar smears or haze. To obtain the coverage stated on packaging and literature 3/8 inch mortar joint spacing must be maintained. When quirk-miter corner or straight butt joint corner are used, fill the joint with a high quality mortar colored sealant designed for exterior masonry applications.

**CAUTIONARY NOTE**

Each Cast Fit™ unit covers a larger wall area and can be more challenging to press into place. Proper bonding materials and technique is essential. A key to good bond is achieving a full setting bed of quality mortar with ample squeeze out. DO NOT DISTURB PREVIOUSLY INSTALLED UNITS. While Cast Fit™ units may be installed with standard ASTM C270 Type N or S mortar, consider stronger bonding polymer modified mortars as outlined in the Cultured Stone® Installation Instructions. Extra care should be taken to avoid mortar droppings and smears as polymer modified mortar is difficult to remove. If you choose to install Cast-Fit™ product in a tight-fit or mortar-less joint application you must achieve complete mortar setting bed coverage and full perimeter squeeze out. To achieve this, with stones of this size, it may be necessary to use a mortar application method in which mortar is troweled onto the scratch coat and back buttered on the stone.