

ARCHITECTURAL CONCRETE FORMLINERS SUPPLEMENTAL INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS

FOR #328, #439, #440, #454, #460 AND #477 STONE FORMLINER PATTERNS



Sika formliners also include the #328 Drystack Random Stone, #439 Sierra Drystack Stone, #440 River Rock, #454 Spring Creek Stone, #460 Ashlar Cut Stone and #477 Meramec Drystack Stone. This allows casting of these unique patterns into any concrete wall using the most economical formliner grade, regardless of jobsite conditions.

Please note that the #328, #439, #440, #454, #460 (see note #2 below for special instructions), and #477 patterns have special features that result in a finished concrete wall that looks as though it was built using individual stones. This gives the end product a more natural looking appearance. With this in mind, the above patterns do require some special care and attention when being installed in comparison to other plastic formliner patterns that are offered.

Please refer to the installation guide for Architectural Concrete Formliners for complete information addressing the care and use of your formliners. In addition to those detailed instructions, the following directions provide additional information to improve the performance of the #328, #439, #440, #454, #460 and #477 formliner:

1. The #328, #439, #440, #454 and #477 patterns are “pattern-matched” from left-to-right and top-to-bottom. In other words, when two formliners are butted side-to-side or top-to-bottom, the stones at the perimeter of the formliner appear as though they run continuously through the formliner joint between adjacent formliners. This eliminates the appearance of a long, continuous grout line around an entire formliner perimeter, common with many stone patterns. This long, continuous grout line draws attention to formliner joints, effectively creating a “grid” pattern around each individual formliner, and creating an unnatural looking stone layout. The #328, #439, #440, #454 and #477 patterns eliminate that unsightly “grid” feature. With this in mind, all #328, #439, #440, #454, and #477 formliner patterns must be secured to the formwork in the same orientation (i.e. one formliner cannot be mounted to the form right-side-up and then the next formliner in sequence be mounted to the form upside-down). This keeps the “pattern-matched” perimeter stones continuous through all formliner joints. These joints are difficult to see in the finished wall, which can be very difficult (if not impossible) to achieve with most plastic formliners.

There is not necessarily a designated “top” or “bottom” to the #328, #439, #440, #454 and #477 formliners, but they must always be used in the same orientation in which the first formliner is fastened to the forms.

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2. The #460 pattern is unique in that it has only (2) matching stones on each of the four sides. This is different than the other “pattern” matched profiles that have all of the stones around the perimeter matching. This feature provides a more random look to the finished surface as the panels are allowed to be rotated 180 degrees and still maintain the match points on the (2) perimeter stones on each of the four sides. With the #460 pattern, the grout lines at the (2) stones on each of the four sides will need to be supported from sheet to sheet as the grout lines will be away from the form. The entire perimeter will also need supported as is typical for the non-pattern matched patterns.
3. In order to keep the “pattern-match” feature continuous at all formliner joints, it is important that the formliner NOT be cut/trimmed on an edge where another formliner will butt up to it. This will change the pattern and the location where the next abutting formliner is intended to butt up to the previous formliner. This may result in grout lines that do not match up at formliner joints. Stone textures may also appear inconsistent through the improperly cut formliner joint.
4. It is imperative to seal all formliner joints with an appropriate caulk or sealant. It is also important to seal any formliner penetrations, such as form ties or weephole pipes, in order to prevent concrete bleeding. Essentially, any location where concrete may bleed past the formliner shall be sealed. This procedure is recommended with any plastic formliner pattern, but worth mentioning again.
5. If the formliner is held short of the top of the form, or not extended entirely to the bottom of the form, it is necessary to use a closure strip at the top or bottom of the limits of the formliner. The closure strip shall be at least as deep as the deepest part of the formliner pattern to prevent concrete bleeding between the formliner and form. It is also highly suggested to seal the joint between the formliner and closure strip to prevent concrete bleeding. This procedure is recommended with any formliner pattern, but worth mentioning again.
6. It is highly suggested to use a large diameter backer rod to bridge between the grout lines located at formliner joints. This backer rod will help seal the joint as well as provide additional support for the grout lines at the perimeter of the formliner, which are essentially not in contact with the form face. This can also help line up the grout lines on adjacent formliners.

Following the above steps, along with the instructions provided in the installation guide for Sika Architectural Concrete Formliners, should result in an extraordinary looking decorative concrete wall!

Should you require additional technical support, please contact Sika’s St. Louis Sales Office for assistance.

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