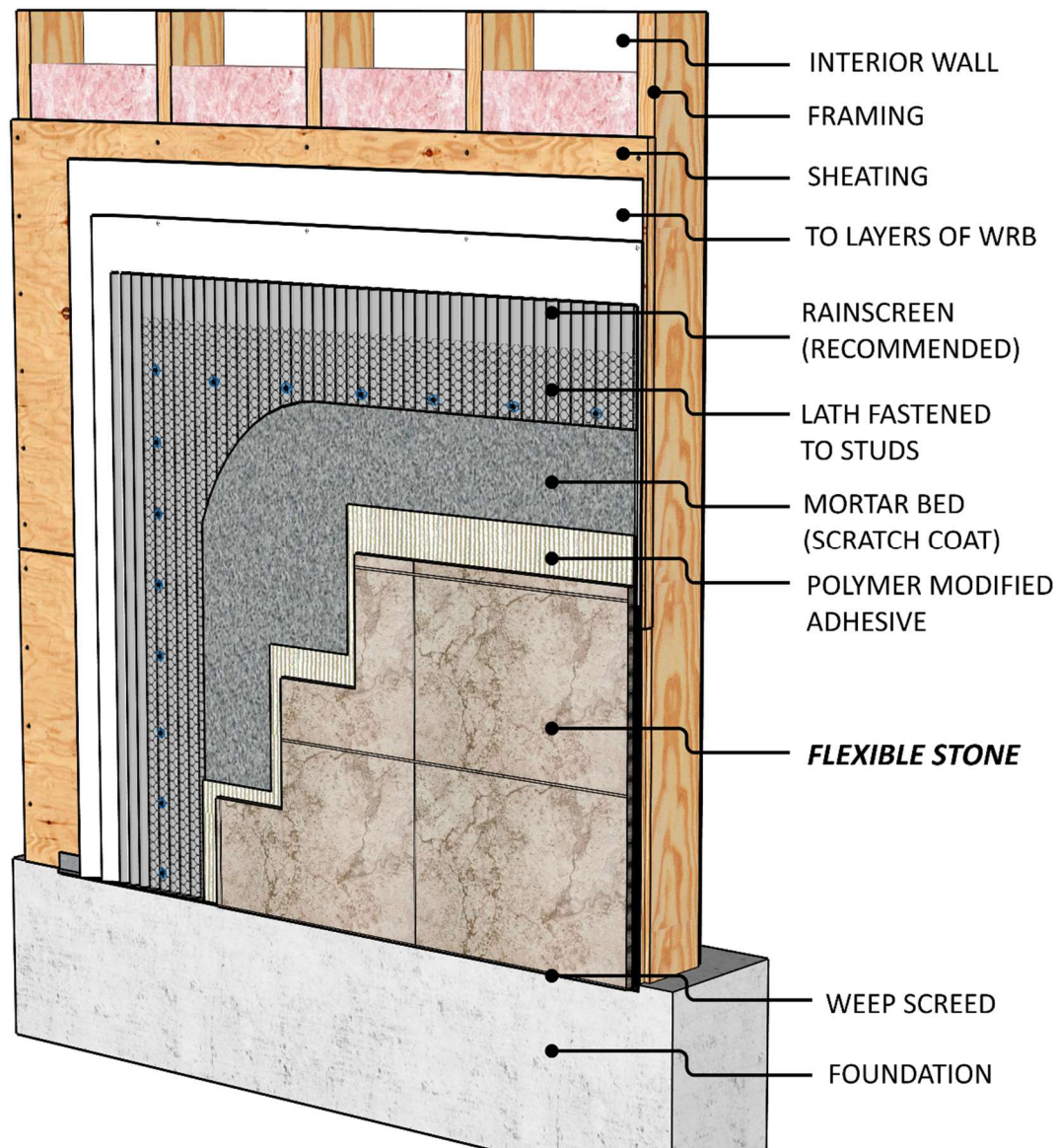


Exterior Installation – Flexible Stone Veneer

For exterior walls, flexible stone veneer is applied over sheathing with two layers of WRB and a rainscreen, or directly on prepared masonry surfaces, using polymer-modified tile adhesive. The veneer sheets can wrap around curves and maintain flexibility while providing a durable, weather-resistant surface. Optional rigid insulation can be added beneath the rainscreen for higher R-value, and a breathable sealer ensures long-term protection against moisture and UV.



1. Substrate Preparation

- Acceptable substrates: cement board (over framing), concrete block, poured concrete, brick, or exterior sheathing with WRB.
- On framed walls:
 - Apply **2 layers of Water-Resistive Barrier (WRB)**.
 - Add a **rainscreen or drainage mat** as required by code.
 - Fasten **cement board** over framing.
- On masonry (block, brick, concrete): clean, repair cracks, and roughen smooth surfaces with mechanical abrasion or bonding primer.

2. Insulation Option

- Rigid insulation boards (EPS or XPS) may be added behind the WRB and scratch coat to improve thermal performance (R-value), provided local code allows. Ensure mechanical fastening through to framing or substrate.

3. Adhesive Application

- Always use **polymer-modified tile adhesive (thin-set mortar)** for exterior use. Mix per manufacturer's instructions.
- Apply with a notched trowel, back-butter sheets if needed, and press firmly into place with a float or roller.

4. Corners & Curves

- Curves and columns: veneer can bend to follow the radius.
- 90° corners: cut and bevel edges with an angle grinder, install edge-to-edge, and fill seam with color-matched grout.

5. Joints

- For exterior applications, always leave a **minimum 1/4 inch grout joint** between sheets to accommodate expansion and contraction due to temperature changes.
- Fill joints with **color-matched grout** for a consistent look and extra moisture protection.

6. Finishing & Protection

- Clean excess adhesive before it cures.
- Apply a **breathable stone sealer** for added protection against weather, UV, and staining.
- Protect from rain or freezing during the 24–48 hour curing period.