



Trade Secrets Guide

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   @VersitalUK



Installation, Maintenance and FAQs

Thank you for your Versital purchase. Each piece of Versital has been handmade in the UK by time-served craftsmen. A composition of polyester resin, mineral fillers and pigments – Versital is an open cast material finished with a protective gel coat. The intrinsic make-up of Versital ensures that it is a fully waterproof and 100% stainproof surface, ideal for a wide range of applications including domestic and commercial.

Manufactured in the UK to order, Versital offers the benefit of being 100% bespoke. With over 100 colour options and new finishes being added all the time, we are sure to have something to suit your project and application.

If you have any other queries please contact the team on **01204 380780** who will be happy to help. Please note, this is a guide only and no substitute for personal advice for your individual project.

Storing Versital prior to fitting

Versital should be stored flat. If Versital cannot be stored flat, support it with a sheet of flat 18mm ply, inclined against a wall. The ideal support would be an A-frame support. It is very important that Versital is not left leaning unsupported at any time or with items on top of it. Ensure the protective film stays in place for storage and only removed for fitting.

DO NOT

- Stack other items on top of Versital
- Lean unsupported Versital products against a wall
- Stand or place tools on Versital surfaces
- Carry Versital horizontally (this could result in distortion or breakage)

Installation

What tools do I need to install Versital?

When installing Versital you may need some or all of the following tools and materials:

- Sanitary grade silicone
- Masking tape
- Router with tungsten carbide cutters
- Acetone (for the rear of the material – never the front)
- Self-tapping screws
- Soft cotton polishing cloths
- Polishing compound
- Jigsaw with Bosch T118B & T318B (or similar blades)
- Hole cutters



What safety equipment should I use for installing Versital?

As with any installation job you should take the proper precautions to protect yourself from injury. We recommend using the following equipment as a standard:

- Safety glasses
- Gloves
- Protective clothing if necessary, including aprons, safety shoes, long sleeves, etc.
- Face mask for use whilst cutting/grinding
- Ear plugs whilst using loud equipment

This list is by no means exhaustive. Please do use any safety equipment and any precautions you feel are necessary to protect yourself when using silicone and tooling.

Fixing Panels and Tops

Versital can be fixed to most surfaces, including plasterboard, plywood, plaster, tiles and so on. This includes studwork clad in one of these materials.

- Before fixing ensure all surfaces are free from grease, dust and grime.
- Use only sanitary grade silicone. **DO NOT USE FIXING COMPOUNDS SUCH AS 'NO NAILS' OR SIMILAR PRODUCTS.**
- **BACK SURFACES ONLY** should be cleaned with acetone and be perfectly dry before silicone is applied.
- When dry, silicone should be applied generously in 6mm beads at 100/150mm intervals. For the back of panels and tops, it should be applied in a diamond matrix. 3 x 300ml tubes per square metre is recommended.
- With panels, a continuous bead of silicone should be applied around the periphery.

Video Guides Available

Video guides are available to offer further advice on installation and other frequently asked questions. Visit the Versital website and Youtube channel see more.



Insulation of Pipes

Where pipes are running behind a Versital panel, we recommend the use of foam insulation lagging to help dissipate heat.

If used in conjunction with a steam generator, ensure that pipework is not directly touching Versital panels. Steam nozzles should be fitted using a steam patras which can be ordered from Versital and be a minimum of 300mm from a panel edge and 500mm from other holes or jets.

How to cut and scribe Versital

Many of Versital's products can be cut and scribed easily on site during installation using ordinary woodworking tools. Being a cast material, all edges have a small radius. It is important to remember that any cut edge will then become 'raw' and no longer be protected by the gel coat and polished finish. Once cut, this surface cannot be polished back to its original state. This cut edge will need to be butted up to another piece of Versital, or an edge of other material. For example, when scribing a top we would recommend butting the cut edge against a wall. This is ideal for installing panels and tops where scribing is required for a perfect fit.

It is not recommended to cut shower trays to size to fit an area, and we would instead recommend using our bespoke shower tray service.

- When cutting **DO NOT** lean on Versital – ensure it is fully supported on each side of the cut.
- Use only tungsten carbide cutters. With jigsaws we recommend the use of Bosch blades T118B and T318A or similar.
- When cutting a hole or length it is recommended to mask over the area to be cut and cut over the masking tape to prevent damage to the surface.
- Hole saws can be used for tap holes or shower fittings.
- If drilling holes in panels for screws, ensure they are well oversized and ensure the screw does not impinge on the sides of the hole. If you don't, the material can expand and contract when used in a hot environment such as a shower, and a fixed point could cause cracks.
- When fixing undermounted basins **DO NOT USE WOODSCREWS**. You **MUST** use self-tappers screwed into a pilot hole.

How to install a Versital shower tray

Versital shower trays are installed in the same way as any other stone resin shower tray. Being made from a heavy stone resin, it is essential that the shower tray is fully supported on a strong base, either a platform or supported floor. Versital trays, floor slabs and drying areas should always be bedded down onto silicone. **DO NOT** use cement, sand or other system to bed the tray onto. If the tray is not fully supported or bedded down correctly it can lead to issues such as warping, sagging or even cracking of the tray/floor.

Versital shower trays can be used in conjunction with either tiling or, ideally, Versital shower panels.



Bar Top/Vanity Top Installation

As with all other Versital materials, tops from Versital should be bedded down onto sanitary grade silicone. Tops need to be fully supported with backing boards/subtops. Versital is available in lengths up to 3 metres long. Tops over this size are available in sections with joints to be fixed on site. Bar tops can, in most instances, be supplied pre-levelled with domino joints. Please refer to the bar top installation videos available on the website for full details on how to create a clean, neat joint.

Table Tops

Versital table tops are available with a pre-fitted MDF or external ply subtop. If supplying your own, ensure this is fixed to the Versital top with silicone before attaching the base.

When fixing a top to a table base, ensure you drill or screw into the subtop and **NEVER** the Versital material itself. Subtops do not come pre-drilled as bases vary in their requirements. MDF subtops from Versital are a minimum of 18mm thick – make sure screws are no longer than this.

Repairing a chip or polishing out scratches

With Versital, it is possible to repair chips or polish surface scratches using a kit supplied by Versital. Call a member of the team to order the correct kit for your order as pigments will vary to suit. A full video guide is available on the website taking you step by step through carrying out any repair.

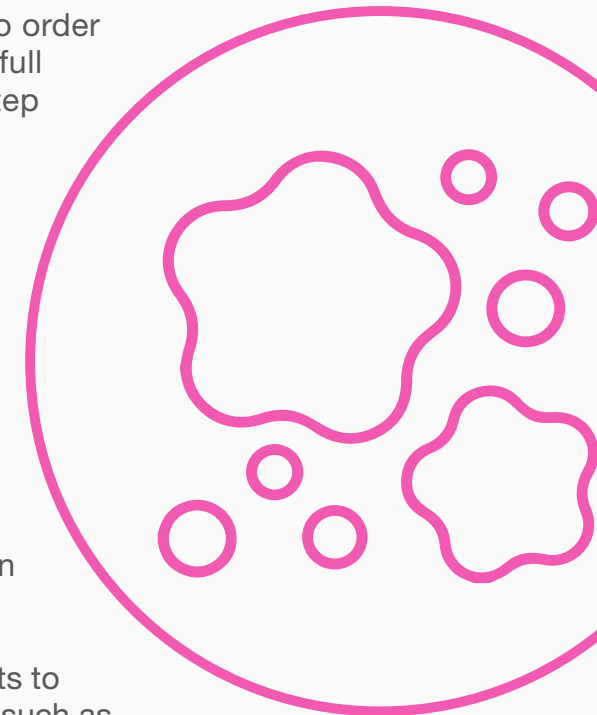
Care & Maintenance

How to clean and care for Versital

In day to day use, wipe off dust with a fine cloth and use a soft cloth and mild surface cleaner, or warm soapy water. This can be as simple as a gentle washing up liquid. Finish by using a proprietary window cleaning spray and buff with a clean cotton cloth.

NEVER use abrasive or corrosive materials or cleaning products to clean Versital surfaces. This includes cream cleaning products such as the likes of Cif, or anything gritty or abrasive. The use of acetone, paint thinners or similar can cause damage and marks to the gel coat and should never be used.

For deeper marks or to bring Versital back to its original glory you may wish to order a polishing kit – contact the Versital team.



Versital is a beautiful, high-quality solid surface made to order in a huge range of colour options including imitation marble, granite and sparkle finishes. We have included our most frequently asked questions. If the answer isn't here, please call us direct on **01204 380780**.

Where is Versital manufactured?

Versital is manufactured in the heart of Bolton, in the UK, and is a proud member of Made in Britain, which stands for all values we hold dear: trust, transparency, quality products, unrivalled customer service, sustainability and ethically sound business practices.

What is Versital made from?

Versital is a handmade solid surface material, and also known as 'cultured marble' or 'imitation marble'; a mixture of resin composite, minerals and fillers, perfectly combined and engineered to tried and tested formulas. Each piece of Versital is manufactured to order, allowing clients to specify exact sizes where required.

Are dark colours suitable for all situations?

All Versital colours and finishes are available in the full range of products manufactured. However, darker colours are not necessarily the most suitable option for high traffic areas such as hospitality table tops and bar tops, as given their nature they will inherently show up marks more readily than lighter colours. The website offers guidelines with finishes relating to suitability for applications based on traffic and usage. Speak to a member of the Versital team for help and advice on the most suitable colour options for your needs.

What adhesive do I use to fit Versital?

It is very important that you only use silicone when fitting Versital. **DO NOT** use liquid nails or other 'instant' type adhesives. We can supply this at the same time as your Versital order on request. Please ask when placing your Versital order.

How heat-resistant is Versital?

Versital is a very durable material that can withstand fluctuations of temperature expected in a general domestic and commercial setting. However, it is not recommended to use in areas of extreme heat such as next to ovens, kitchens and high heat areas. If it is to be used in conjunction with extreme temperatures, please ensure you protect Versital with a heat mat or similar. Exposure to extreme temperatures could cause Versital to be marked.

What surfaces can Versital be fixed to?

Versital solid surface can be fixed to most surfaces, including plasterboard, plywood, plasters, tiles and so on. Prior to fixing, you must ensure that all surfaces are free from grease, dust and grime. Back surfaces only should be cleaned with acetone and be perfectly dry before silicone is applied. Versital can be fixed onto studwork that is clad in one of the materials listed above.

Can I use Versital wall panels in the shower?

Yes! Versital is the ideal surface for use in the shower or wetroom. It can be made in sheets up to 3 metres long, has no joins and seams and is easy and hygienic to keep clean. This is your chance to have the marble or stone shower you have always dreamt of. Unlike the natural material, Versital imitation marble does not suffer from watermarks, is exceptionally stain and scratch resistant and is warm to the touch. Please ask for further details.

Is Versital susceptible to stains?

On the contrary – one of the major benefits of Versital is that due to the make-up of the material and the protective gel coat, it is 100% waterproof and stainproof. It is the ideal surface for bathrooms, bars, restaurants and hospitality areas. It is not affected by acidic and difficult liquids, such as lemon juice, red wine and balsamic vinegar, making it ideal for table tops and hospitality surfaces.

Can scratches be repaired?

Yes – surface scratches can be polished out using G3 polishing compound and soft cloth. An instructional video is available on the website and kit is available from Versital.

How do I clean and maintain Versital?

All Versital surfaces should be cleaned with a non-abrasive cleaning product. A warm, soapy cotton cloth is soft and ideal. Finish to a high shine with glass cleaner.

How do I get a quote?

To get a price you can either fill in the quick quote request form on our website www.versital.co.uk or call a member of the team on **01204 380780**.

How can I see a sample of Versital?

The full Versital colour range can be viewed on our website. You can order up to three colour samples free of charge via the website. For commercial enquiries you can also contact a member of the team on **01204 380780**.





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