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## INSPIRE Installation Techniques – FASTENERS

A range of the appropriate fasteners is essential to ensure you can finish the installation, regardless of the obstacles encountered. As wall and floor covering/sheeting prevents the installer from seeing the substrate, the installer must be prepared for any situation. An installer will be required to fit to timber, concrete, brick and/ or render, blocks, tiles, plasterboard, marble and other natural stone, aluminium or steel frame, or a combination of these. Specific fasteners are required for each of them, to ensure the fixing is permanent. Particularly for bathrooms and the moisture-rich areas, these fasteners may also need to be made from stainless steel.

### Tiles

Plastic expansion plug are generally used when attaching to tiles. Where possible, it is better to fix these into the grout lines, to reduce the risk of cracking tiles. Where this cannot be done, extreme care should be taken when drilling the hole, and for vitreous tiles or tiles with a high glaze it would be preferable to use a glass-cutting spade bit (or other bits specifically made for this purpose) to drill through the tile. Placing masking tape over the area to be drilled can also help to prevent cracking and the drill bit wandering.

If attaching tracks to a tile or polished concrete floor, it is not always necessary to use a mechanical fastener. Specialised doubled sided tapes are available that will permanently attach it to the surface. VHBtape is the preferred product, as it sets almost immediately, is temperature proof, moisture, and chemical resistant (for mopping floors) and has high shear strength. Do not use light duty tapes, as they will not hold.

We recommend a 3M product. Foam Tape, 3M VHB Double/Sided, VHB clear 1mm x 33m x 12mm. If buying from Lincoln Sentry, the product code is: 4M491012

