

PRESS RELEASE

Locked into place

07 May 2014, Johannesburg: Bathroom accessories are usually one of the last things to be installed in a newly renovated bathroom. However, they are arguably some of the most frequently used items in this space, and correct installation is imperative for the optimum functioning of the room in question. However, secure mounting of bathroom accessories has not always been so easy to achieve...

The problem

Traditionally, bathroom accessories have been mounted using grub screws to hold them to the wall. However, this system is quintessentially flawed, as the grub screws eventually work their way loose over time, and they need to be regularly tightened in order for the accessory in question to remain firmly in place. Says Craig Taylor: "Bathroom Butler had only been manufacturing bathroom accessories for a few years using the same grub screw mounting system that most other manufacturers around the world had been using, when we started getting enquiries on whether there was a better and more secure way of mounting bathroom accessories – a system that wouldn't need constant tightening."

The solution

Craig explains that they realised that some form of screw was necessary, otherwise it would not be possible for the bathroom accessory to be tightened to the wall: "We had to figure out and design a mounting system where the screw would not work itself loose over time. After extensive testing and many different designs, we eventually developed Bathroom Butler's unique RIGID Loc mounting system, which keeps bathroom accessories securely locked in place, once and for all."

Tested success

The RIGID Loc System has been rigorously tested notes Craig: "In order to test the performance and durability of Bathroom Butler's RIGID Loc mounting system, we developed a strenuous knock test to simulate the vibration caused by pulling on a toilet roll, or pulling a towel off a towel rail for example. The RIGID Loc system passed more than 100 000 knocks, which was incredible when it was compared to the traditional grub screw mounting system, which failed after just 300 knocks. At last, we had developed a mounting system that would be strong enough to hold any bathroom accessory firmly in place without having to be regularly tightened." Bathroom Butler is so sure of its RIGID Loc mounting system, that it offers a full 10-year warrantee on all of its stainless steel bathroom accessories with the RIGID Loc mounting system.

What makes RIGID Loc so special?

What makes RIGID Loc so special is that it is not difficult to install and tighten, however, try and loosen the screw again and you will notice how tight it has become due to the RIGID Loc effect. Notes Craig: “The success of the RIGID Loc system relies on the fact that there are a number of elements all working together to ensure a secure mounting. Due to the uniqueness, effectiveness and the popularity of this system, we are in the process of patenting our design.”

How does it work?

Each RIGID Loc mounting is supplied with a stick-on Mounting Template, which is “sticker” that gets stuck onto the wall where the accessory is going to be installed. It has been designed to help you drill the holes in the correct place for the mounting. This template also has the added benefit of preventing any slippage on extra smooth surfaces, such as glass and porcelain tiles for example, when the RIGID Loc mounting is tightened to the wall. “When the mount is tightened, the built-in “gripping ribs” on the back of the mount will bite into the template preventing any slippage,” explains Craig.

Craig notes that there are two parts to a successful mounting system: “The first is making sure that the actual mounting part of the system is securely fixed to the wall and that it won’t rotate or move. This can only be achieved reliably with a two-screw mounting system, where the two screws are sufficiently spaced apart to ensure that the mounting can sustain the required leverage.

“The second part of a successful mounting system is effectively preventing any future loosening of the mounting. The RIGID Loc mounting system has achieved this - as the mounting screw on the accessory is tightened, the accessory’s “barrel” slides down over the RIGID Loc mount, securing the accessory tightly into place, and at the same time, clamping the cover plate in position, thereby avoiding any possibility of the cover plate rattling loose over time,” he notes.

Tips to ensure a successful mounting

Craig provides the following important tips and advice on how to successfully install your bathroom accessories:

- **Use the correct screws:** Ask your local hardware retailer what type of drill bit you should use. You will need to be able to tell them whether you are drilling into brick or dry walling, and what kind of tiles you will be drilling through – porcelain, glass, ceramic or natural stone for example. Usually a tile drill bit or a diamond-tipped masonry bit will suffice.
- **Expansion sleeves are essential for masonry:** An expansion sleeve is used to securely fix items to brickwork, stone, concrete or any similar material. The sleeve is pushed into a pre-drilled hole, and then the

sides of the sleeve expand as the bolt is tightened to firmly secure it in place and prevent any movement.

- **Drill the correct size holes:** Once you have determined what type of drill bit you will need, it is imperative that you work out what size hole will be required for the fastener you are using. If the hole you have drilled is too big, then the fastener will wiggle and move around, and the mounting will not be secure. If the hole is too small, the fastener will not fit into the hole.
- **Hammer action:** Make sure that the drill is not on hammer action, when drilling through tiles, as this may crack the tiles. If you are drilling into masonry, you can switch to hammer action once you have drilled passed the depth of the tile. If you are drilling into plasterboard, you don't need to use hammer action at all.
- **Drilling method:** Let the drill do all the work – hold it perpendicularly to the tiles and apply a bit of pressure. Go slow until you break the surface of the tile. Once you are through the tile, you can increase the speed of the drill.
- **Working the RIGID Loc system:** Once you have drilled the holes using the template, make sure that you do not remove it – it forms part of the mounting. Be sure to assemble the product correctly and to firmly tighten it into place by rotating the allen key for extra leverage.

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