



# Stone Pavers Specification

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*All information below should be taken as general advice and will not replace the service of professional installers.*

## **PRODUCT INFORMATION**

Stone paving products are a versatile and practical way of enhancing your entertainment areas. There is great variation in size, colour and texture. All stone paving types fall into one of the 3 following categories.

Igneous. e.g. Bluestone and granite.

Sedimentary. e.g. Travertine, sandstone and limestone.

Metamorphic. e.g. Slate and marble.

Depending on the category of stone there will be variations in porosity which will have an effect on the adhesive and sealers that are required.

## **Installation tips**

### **Prior installation:**

- It is recommended to wash the stone pavers and allow them to dry completely before starting the installation.
- Minor damage such as edge chipping should be expected due to packing and unpacking. These pavers are deemed to be used as cuts during installation.
- Thicker pavers should be installed first while thinner ones should be installed later to ensure an even surface.
- Please take into account the slight variance in size and thickness during installation.

### **Adhesion:**

- Natural Stone pavers should be bedded with adhesives
- Make sure the pavers are well-compacted and maximum bonding has been achieved.
- If possible, fast setting adhesives are recommended to avoid potential problems during installation.

## Grouts & Silicon

- If pavers movement is expected, grout should be filled between pavers at the minimum of 3mm.
- Due to the variance in size, the width joint must be enough to accommodate.
- Grout colours should be chosen to compliment the adhesive colours
- Grouting should not be done before the pavers are solidly set.
- After grouting, make sure the site free of dust and residue.
- Any left-over grout on the surface should be cleaned off immediately because long-sitting grout on the surface will be difficult to remove.

## Subbase/Substrates/Foundation

- The substrate should be fully prepared to maximise the bond with the adhesive.
- Make sure the substrate has enough bearing capacity to accommodate the expected traffic.
- If you have any questions, please contact us for clarification

## Stone Cutting

- Natural Stone pavers should be cut with a bench saw, with a diamond blade.
- The fresh-cut pavers have better be washed to remove all the dirt and ready for installation.
- Please remember to wear health and safety equipment to prevent any potential health problems

## Storage

- Ensure the pavers are stored in a dry area to protect them from the weather.

## Sealing natural stone

- To keep your stone beautiful and prevent future visual damage, it is recommended to seal the pavers on the first application.
- With a small number of pavers, you can seal the them yourself.
- Otherwise, please seek professional help

**Please do not use roller to seal the pavers**

# Maintenance and Cleaning

- The best way to keep maintenance minimal is to properly seal the pavers from the beginning.
- Public area with heavy traffic will need more maintenance.
- Regular sweeping and vacuuming are necessary to required aesthetic appealing over time.
- In addition, the paving should be cleaned with neutral cleaner to avoid any potential damage to the surface.

## INSTALLATION.

- The majority of stone paving is only 15 to 20 mm thick and is required to be laid on a reinforced concrete slab. All stone should be laid on tile adhesive to ensure maximum bond to the substrate is achieved.
- The surface of the stone that connects to the adhesive needs to be free of dust and grime.
- The majority of stone will be sawn and the thickness will be within a plus or minus 1 mm tolerance. However, slate being split rather than sawn may have some dimensional variation in the thickness of the paver. These pavers will need to be graded from thinnest to thickest to eliminate lipping.
- Joint spacings need to be consistent and it is recommended the joints be between 3 to 5 mm. Plastic spacers are recommended. The pavers should be firmly embedded into the adhesive.
- Cutting of stone pavers should be done using a saw with a diamond tip blade. Bench saws are best to achieve accuracy and reduce chipping.
- Jointing should commence as soon as the adhesive has dried sufficiently to be trafficked. Bagged grout is recommended. The stone should be thoroughly cleaned with a damp sponge as soon as possible. Any grout residue can be removed using specific tile cleaning products. Hydrochloric acid should be avoided.

## MOVEMENT JOINTS.

Movement joints, which are sometimes referred to as expansion joints, need to be installed at approximately 4.5 m spacings. These joints are necessary to accommodate thermal expansion and contraction.

## SEALING.

Sealing of stone paving requires expertise and knowledge in regards to the type of sealers to be used and the types of stone being sealed -depending on the porosity of the stone. Sealing is best left to professionals unless it is an extremely small area. If sealing is attempted by a nonprofessional, advice should be obtained from the sealer manufacturer to ensure that the sealer is appropriate for the type of stone being sealed.

## **MAINTENANCE.**

The maintenance of stone paving is a relatively simple process. Regular sweeping and/or vacuuming is recommended. The use of natural proprietary cleaners will remove the majority of dirt and stains, especially if the pavers have been sealed. If more stubborn stains occur it is recommended that professional advice be obtained.