

STONE PRODUCTS

Natural Stone is of timeless quality and beauty quarried from ancient spa areas all over the world. It's qualities and textures make it suitable for almost any application.

Characteristics

Quarried stone is available in Sawcut, Honed, Polished, Brushed or Tumbled finish.

Sawcut stone has a natural sawn finish, saw marks, rust marks and shiny stripes can be present due to the nature of production. This will even out through foot traffic and age, or can be sanded by the Tiler or Finisher. Quarried stone is not rectified and may vary 1-3mm in size or thickness.

It is characteristic for Travertine tiles to display a large range of different textures and sized holes, some of which go right through the tile. This texture provides an excellent non-slip surface. Granular veins through the stone's cross section are not unusual.

HELPFUL TIP – THE HIGHER THE TRAFFIC AREA THE FASTER THE NATURAL PATINA WILL DEVELOP.

Stone is a product of nature and no two pieces will be exactly alike. Some stones have occasional pits, sand holes, fossils, geological flaws, voids, veins and lines of separation. Occasional collapses of small interior caverns may occur during the settling in process and may be brought on by stiletto heels or commercial traffic. These can easily be refilled with grout. The tiler will be able to choose one side verses the other.

CSIRO Slip Resistance Test for SAWCUT and unfilled Travertine

Wet Pendulum Test Class **V**

Interpretation of Class: Contribution of floor surface to risk of slipping when wet = **Very Low**

AS/NZS 3661.1.1993 determination of slip resistance, wet.(pendulum) Mean Coefficient of Friction	PASS	0.71
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Stone Inspection

We recommend that all orders are sighted at our Frenchs Forest warehouse prior to collection or delivery. For interstate or rural clients we suggest that a random selection of tiles from the order be viewed prior to shipping the entire order.

Installation – Unpacking your order

The appearance of the uninstalled stone as it comes out of the crates is very different from the finished installation. Laying, grouting and sealing all enhance the stone's colour. Installed products may be viewed in our showrooms.

Installation – Sorting

Tiles should be mixed by the tiler as they come out of the crates. If there is more than one crate, tiles should be taken randomly and mixed as they are laid. The tiler will be able to choose one side of the tile verse the other. For high traffic areas we recommend tiles be installed that have less cavities. It is normal for some tiles to have chipped edges or more rustic character. These pieces should be used for cutting.

- Installation constitutes acceptance of the material.

Installation – Grouting

Tiles are installed in our showrooms with a 2-3 mm joint.

The grout is wiped off with a sponge with clean water to remove the residue from the surface.

We recommend adding Grout Haze Cleanup in the FINAL rinse to assist with the removal of haze residue.

It is not unusual for the installation to have a grout haze until it has settled.

Grouting unfilled Travertine. Filling the stone crosscut cavity is part of the installation process of grouting. A slurry grout is required to fill the open holes and normal grout joints. The higher the traffic area the faster the natural patina will develop.

PRE SEALING OF LIMESTONE MATERIAL IS ESSENTIAL.

HELPFUL TIP – SHOULD GROUT HAZE STILL BE EVIDENT AFTER FOLLOWING THE INITIAL CLEANUP, SCRUB WITH HOT WATER USING A WHITE SCOUR PAD, OR USE AQUA MIX GROUT HAZE CLEAN UP, REFERRING TO DIRECTIONS.

Kemgrout 20kg bags are stocked at our Frenchs Forest warehouse and can be delivered with orders. Approximate coverage per bag is 20m².

Suggested Grout Colours as per our Showroom Panels.

Kemgrout Sanded BUFF	Kemgrout Sanded LIGHT GREY	Kemgrout Sanded MID GREY
Classic, Classic Taupe, Vario	Peperino	Peperino
Gusto, Gusto Dark, Arno	Noce Dark	Dark Travertine Cobblestone
Mocha Tumbled	Dark Travertine Cobblestone	Dark Brown Marble & mosaic
Crema Maroc Limestone	Mocha Tumbled	
Botticino & Bianco Carrara		
ALTERNATIVE – USE BLUE CIRCLE OFF WHITE CEMENT AND WASHED SYDNEY SAND.	ALTERNATIVE – USE BLUE CIRCLE GREY CEMENT AND WASHED SYDNEY SAND.	ALTERNATIVE – USE BLUE CIRCLE GREY CEMENT AND WASHED SYDNEY SAND.

For further technical information about Kemgrout, contact RobTobin at Construction Chemicals 02 9756 3533.

HELPFUL TIP – PRIOR TO GROUTING, WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND A GROUT COLOUR TEST BE CARRIED OUT ON YOUR TILE CHOICE.

Slab Work

Natural fissures and lines of separation mean that profiles and slabs can separate in these areas at any time prior to installation. Pieces can be rejoined as part of the installation process, or prior to installation, using ground stone and cement. In some instances, pieces which we receive as part of our normal stocks, have been rejoined at the plant by this method.

Kitchen and Bathroom Bench tops

Clients have chosen to oil their bench tops with vegetable oil. Benchtops should be scrubbed down periodically with Aqua Mix Stone Deep Clean and re-oiled, then left overnight. In the morning, remove excess oil with paper towel and wipe down with a mild household cleaner, such as Spray and Wipe.

We suggest the existing matt, unpolished surface of the slab be retained as much as possible, rather than having a gloss (polished) surface. Food acids found in fruits and wine will etch the stone surface if left to sit, however will not be noticeable on the matt surface.

HELPFUL TIP – IF DISASTER STRIKES IN THE FORM OF A CHILD WITH A BLACK MARKER OR RED NAIL POLISH, THE STONE MAY BE SANDED WITH VERY FINE WHITE WET AND DRY SANDPAPER..

It is suggested that a tile is purchased and tested at home by the prospective client. Most of our clients have young children who have well and truly put the bench tops to the test! All bench tops to date have received rave reviews.nnnnn

Sealing & Maintenance of Stone Floors and Benchtops

Sealing

Sealing of stone is recommended in all areas to provide stain resistance and easy on going maintenance. Without a sealer, porous stone and tile will stain almost instantly. Sealers, although not impenetrable, work by providing reaction time to enable you to remove the offending contaminant, or preventing the contaminant from penetrating deep into the stone.

Aqua Mix Stone Sealer's Choice. A water based premium, no-sheen, natural look, penetrating sealer formulated to provide maximum stain resistance, especially in food preparation and service areas.

Clients should be aware that wine, fruits, some vegetable juices, oils and vinegar etc. will mark the stone surface.

May also be used as a **pre-grouting sealer** over clean stone surfaces a minimum of 1 hour prior to grouting.

Sealer's Choice allows moisture vapour transmission. It is also an excellent grout sealer. Recommended for use on all natural stone where a natural look is desired. Always read the instructions on the product label. Average coverage is 20m² per litre (1 coat).

HINT The water bubble test that lasts for 2 minutes will confirm the surface is resistant.

Cleaning

Clean areas such as kitchen and bathroom bench tops and floors regularly with **Aqua Mix Stone Cleaner** stored in a plastic spray bottle for easy use. Otherwise the stone may be cleaned with neutral detergents and cool water. Do not use harsh or abrasive cleaners.

Where a build up may occur with heavy use, we recommend **Stone Deep Clean**, used with a white nylon pad, that will remove grease and soap scum without affecting the sealer.

Read product directions thoroughly prior to use.

- Aeria Country Floors does not recommend the use of acid on stone or ceramic tiles.

Aeria Country floors can provide a listing of Independent Applicators for professional care and maintenance of your stone floors.

Contact **A'nge Kokkaliaris at Aqua Mix** 02 9521 4000 or visit www.aquamix.com.au for technical information.

NOTES:

Salt water Pool Disclaimer

The natural stone is not classed as salt water proof. However clients who are willing to seal tiles at the beginning of each swimming season, and hose tiles down after heavy use, have had successful results.

Freeze / Thaw areas, Under floor heating

Crosscut Stone may be installed in freeze / thaw areas and throughout commercial and residential areas. Stone may also be laid where under floor heating is installed.