

## **PROJECT PROCESS TIPS FOR AN OPTIMUM RESULT**

### **TIPS SUMMARY**

Read your delivery date email and save the date to phone calendar.

Leave stone for installer to cart into site as and when needed.

Leave work area free and clean until completion to avoid damage or delay.

Never use sand for joint filling.

Use a "wet to set" joint powder/gel.

Engineered pavers – do not leave pallets unwrapped and do not stack pavers – permanent hydration stains may occur.

Only seal if required and use only the products recommended in the table overpage to avoid damage.

Sealing is for experienced professionals and DIY is not recommended.

### **TIPS IN MORE DETAIL**

#### **DELIVERY TO SITE**

Once your payment is processed our scheduling team will produce or prepare your pallets and allocate a **delivery date**. This **date will be emailed to you** on your final receipt and can only be changed with 7 days noticed to avoid double charges by freighters who have committed drivers income to that booking. Your site is best loaded than not, as a rule. We are unable to advise what time of day between 7am & 7pm for delivery or contact freighters when driving. Please set a **reminder in your phone calendar** to ensure your site verge remains clear for set down of the number of pallets on your invoice. Pallet space required is 1.2m x 1m per pallet or crate. Then await arrival of installers to use their experience to cart the stone in a safe manner as needed to avoid chipping, damages or placement in the way of their work process.

#### **DURING INSTALLATION**

Whilst half finished works may look safe enough to walk on or touch, you may actually damage the installers alignment, levelling, fixing or grouting process. Please **leave the work area free** from foot traffic, mats, carpets, steel, water or any items which may rust, damage, stain or upset the products or workmanship. Only on completion and curing confirmation from the installer can the project be accessed, admired and enjoyed. Like anything, prevention is better than a cure.

#### **STONE JOIN FINISHING**

Next to concrete restraining of loose edges, joint filling is one of the most important components of any paving project. Filling joints (the gaps between the stones) provides long term durability of your floorspace and help hold the paving firmly in place. **Joins are never for drainage**, all paving should be installed with a fall to ensure water runs away to various drainage points and is never allowed to puddle on the stone.

Yellow or "washed" white **sand is never to be used for joint filling**. Besides holding unwanted moisture around the edges of stones when wet, these sands can allow seeds to land and grow into weeds. These seeds often travel in the breeze and can shoot down roots in any sand. Most weeds do not actually begin under the paving and despite myths about placing materials under the paving to reduce weeds, the joints on the surface are actually where the issue can be.

Washed white sand may look good on the first day but it is all down hill from there. Do not use it, there is an alternative. At a similar cost to troublesome sand, **bagged joint powders are a far superior solution** that actually expand and set firmer than sand once wet and set. Weeds struggle to anchor to these fillers, moisture runs over them and pavers can still be removed and replaced as needed for future works or additions of pipes, wiring or fences. These powders work very well when installed correctly and maintained by topping up any joints that require it post heavy cleaning or modification works for example.

These powders simply sweep in and are vibrated deep into the joints using a carpet under a compactor or other means. Then a final neat sweep in (leaving no powder on the surface) and misting from above with water a few times over 30 minutes will set the fill powder to a gel or biscuit like firm joint. Not all joint grout powders perform well over time. The most popular and successful joint grout powder with our stone is listed below as an example.

**PAVE SET** by adbri (available at Freo Stone Paving and used successfully in all of our displays). **PAVE-LOK** is another.

**End Page 1 of 2 - See overpage for Sealing and Care**

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### SEALING IF REQUIRED

**Many sealers can actually damage stone. Seal only if required using Freo Stone Paving Approved Sealers.**

The stone itself is durable and sealing does not make it any more so. Sealing may simply make some mess easier to clean.

The sand, leaves, food or other items will still land on the surface and make it dirty, but a sealer may make it easier to remove. Sealing is about the environment the stone is in, not the stone itself. The same stone may be subjected to no mess at one site and many messy factors at another. Some choose to see what their stone is subjected too for a while first and then engage a cleaning and sealing professional if needed. Some are aware the area will be subject to mess and will seal from the start.

**No Sealer is better than the wrong sealer.** We can help with dirty paver solutions. We can't help damage from the wrong sealer. Below we offer a guide developed through years of experience and feedback with our stones. A guide we follow for our own sites and homes.

Paver Type	Standard Finish (Natural to light sheen)	Enhanced Finish (Darkened to wet look)
Coral Range	Bondall Paving & Concrete Sealer Matt Finish Available @ Freo Stone Paving	<b>NOT RECOMMENDED</b>
	Spirit Seal Natural Paving Sealant Available @ PC Coatings 0419 951 657	
	CCS Streetscape Available @ CPC&S 0404447299	
Quartz Range	Bondall Paving & Concrete Sealer Matt Finish Available @ Freo Stone Paving	CCS Hi-Build Available @ CPC&S 0404447299
	CCS Streetscape Available @ CPC&S 0404447299	CCS Stainblock Available @ PC Coatings 0419 951 657
	Q-Coat Water-Based Available @ PC Coatings 0419 951 657	
Ocean Bluestone	CCS Streetscape Available @ CPC&S 0404447299	CCS Stain Block Available @ CPC&S 0404447299
	Spirit Seal Natural Paving Sealant Available @ PC Coatings 0419 951 657	CCS Stainblock Available @ PC Coatings 0419 951 657
Travertine	<b>DO NOT SEAL</b>	
DesignoPave - StoneDek	<b>DO NOT SEAL</b>	

Further technical sealer information is available @ [www.bondall.com.au](http://www.bondall.com.au) and [www.concretecoloursystems.com.au](http://www.concretecoloursystems.com.au)

**We highly recommend any sealing required be undertaken by an experienced professional. Inexperience can ruin your valuable investment in many ways.**

Application of the wrong sealer (there are many) can actually damage your stone long term to an irreversible state. Use only what we have recommended, not "all purpose" sealers regardless of what packaging says they are for.

The wrong sealer or overapplication of any sealer can result in a very slippery surface.

Any invisible moisture or visible micro debris will be trapped under any sealer if the area is not prepared correctly. Paint preparation and application methods vary from stone to stone and project to project.

**Sealing really is not for the DIY list. Use an experienced professional to be safe.**

### GENERAL CARE

**Avoid scratching.** Like any stone, scratch it hard enough with something harder and it will mark. Keep this in mind when furnishing or moving objects.

**High Pressure Water.** Any cleaning is best completed dry first with a broom, then spot cleaning any stains. As tempting as high pressure cleaning may be, focus the spray (at a distance of 30cm on wide spray as a guide for most pressures) only at the stone face itself, not joins.

**Acid is not to be used** freely and may eat or etch your stone or joins in most instances, regardless of how diluted.

**Prevention focus.** If for any reason your projects edge restraints or joins show any signs of movement or cracking over time, ensure they are solidified or filled again immediately. If there is any room for stone to move, the surrounding stones may follow and spread creating weak points.