

# **IMPORTANT NOTICE INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING THE HANDLING & LAYING OF NATURAL STONE & SLATE PRODUCTS**

Natural slate and stone products have been quarried and used throughout the world for thousands of years.

Its durability, textures, and colours are unique and can never be replicated by manufactured products.

Rub marks, chips, hammer, saw and chisel marks further add to the natural appearance of the product and emphasize its beauty.

These features which occur during the quarrying/ cutting process are not faults or damage; they are to be used throughout the project. The worst are to be used for cuts or discarded.

Following guidelines and standard practices Australia wide, we do not swap stock or accept return of any natural products.

Having decided on the beauty and durability of natural stone/ slate, we offer you a few basic techniques that will help you or your contractor to achieve the best outcome.

They are as follows;

1. You must always allow 7% to 10% extra for selection cutting and wastage.
2. Always mix some of the rougher textured / chipped pieces in each row.
3. Use the roughest, twisted pieces for cuts. Some part of these or some full pieces may be discarded.
4. Some of our natural stone products are calibrated and it is important for ease of laying to grade out the extreme thinnest and thickest pieces.

## **STEP A**

Open all crates for inspection

## **STEP B**

Check the edge thickness of all pieces. Maybe 4-10 pieces per crate will vary from the mean or calibrated thickness. With a felt tip pen make a mark on the edge of the pieces, say XX for the thickest and say X for the thinnest.

## **STEP C**

Mix and lay the thickest pieces in the first row, then, mixing pieces from all crates continue laying the medium thickness pieces. Finally finish the job laying the thinnest of the pieces. (Remember to always lay some of the rougher textured pieces in each row).

## **CONCERNING PAVERS**

This procedure will ensure good colour, texture mix and an even joint (5-10mm finish). Note: Use standard or "pavelock" jointing sand plus vibrator plate to be used with carpet insulator. A minimum of 25mm of soft screeded bedding sand is recommended and of course road base or quarry rubble is compacted as a sub-base for drives.

## **SEALING**

For good appearance and easy maintenance all horizontal (flat) surfaces need to be sealed with either a penetrating sealer, two or three coats (no colour or surface change is visible), or a surface sealer with one or two coats - (Glossy finish and colour enhancing).