



## **London Stone**

Product Guide

Buying Sandstone Setts is a little bit different than buying man made products and London Stone would recommend all customers read the following;

Sandstone Setts will contain blemishes, veining, small chipping (to the corners and sides) and small holes, all of which are natural characteristics of stone. These are positive characteristics and will enhance the appearance of stone. Speak to a member of the sales team for more information.

Always order an additional 10% to allow for wastage, cuts and the occasional piece which you may not like the look of.

All natural stone will vary in colour, texture and natural markings. A small sample will not give an accurate reflection of how your finished patio will look. We strongly recommend a visit to our showroom and advise you to view as much stone as possible. We can also arrange visits to our depot to view current stocks by appointment. Additionally, we are able to provide full sized samples at an additional cost. Speak to a member of our team who will happily advise you.

London Stone will not give a refund or exchange stone on the basis of variation in colour, texture or natural characteristics.

Before applying any cleaning agents, acids, acid based cleaning products, sealants or any chemicals to natural stone ALWAYS seek professional guidance.

If you have any special circumstances in your property such as damp conditions, high traffic, pets or excess amounts of vegetation please speak with a member of the team to ensure the chosen product is suitable for the conditions.

Sandstone Setts are subject to dimensional tolerances of +/- 10mm.

Sandstone Setts cannot be butt jointed. We recommend a minimum gap of 15mm.













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Cleaning & Maintenance

Your natural stone, like any other part of your garden or home, requires some periodic maintenance to keep it in tip top condition, however this need not be time consuming or expensive. We have put together this guide to give you all the information you need to know.

PLEASE NOTE:- The following is a guide only. The iron and mineral content of natural stone can vary and therefore all chemicals must be tested on a small, inconspicuous area prior to full treatment. Always seek professional advice before applying any product to your natural stone.

Sealing is not generally required for Sandstone Setts, however in some circumstances it is recommended that Sandstone Setts are sealed prior to installation with DRY TREAT 'STAIN PROOF'. Examples of these circumstances are;

- Dark or shady gardens which are prone to algae growth.
- Areas surrounding a BBQ which are likely to come into contact with fat or oil.
- Areas underneath trees which are exposed to berries, leaves, bird droppings etc. falling onto the stone.
- Patios which will be exposed to pet droppings and urine.

For best results, sealing should always be carried out by a trained technician. If you would like information or a quotation for London Stone's pre-sealing service please let us know.

Brush the stone regularly with a stiff brush to remove any dried mud or dirt and prevent the accumulation of detritus in the joints. Occasionally leaves and other organic matter can leave a mark if allowed to decompose on the surface of the stone so it is important to ensure that any falling leaves are brushed away regularly.

Clean the stone as and when required (usually once or twice per year) with LITHOFIN 'OUTDOOR CLEANER'. This product is a general cleaning agent and will also help to remove algae, light cement stains, organic stains, light efflorescence or picture framing and many other stains and marks. Always test cleaning products on a small area prior to full application. Before cleaning, sweep the stone to remove any loose dirt or detritus which could act as an abrasive agent when moved around the surface of the stone by the water jet. Then, following the instructions on the bottle, spray the product onto the surface of the stone, leave for up to 4 hours and then rinse clean with a jet-wash. This process may need to be repeated for stubborn marks. When using the jet-wash, be sure to select a medium pressure and hold the nozzle at least 500mm away from the surface of the stone in order to prevent the water jet from etching it.

For stubborn cement residue, there is another product called LITHOFIN 'BUILDERS CLEAN' which can be used. As always, test the product on a small area prior to full application. Dilute the product as per the instructions on the bottle, apply evenly to the surface of the stone and scrub with a stiff deck brush, then rinse clean with a jet-wash. This process may need to be repeated for stubborn marks. When using the jet-wash, be sure to select a medium pressure and hold the nozzle at least 500mm away from the surface of the stone in order to prevent the water jet from etching it.

Please note:- It is important to take care during the installation process to clean any cement or mortar off the stone as you go. Cement can become lodged in the pores of the stone and, if allowed to go off, can be incredibly difficult to remove even with the use of cleaning products.











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## Important Information about Sealant (Dry Treat 'Stain Proof')

The following information relates to Dry Treat 'Stain Proof' sealant. If you are using another sealant product supplied by London Stone please ask a member of our team for further information. If you are using a sealant purchased elsewhere, please refer back to the supplier for advice.

- Sealing your stone will make general maintenance much easier and will help to prevent staining in most instances, however it will not make the stone 'self-cleaning'. Marks will still appear on the surface of the stone, the sealant will simply mean that they are easier to clean off in comparison to unsealed stone. The use of a sealant will not completely eradicate the possibility of staining and it definitely won't eradicate the need for a proper cleaning regime.
- Sealing stone prior to installation will help to protect against efflorescence (a white 'bloom'
  which appears on the surface of the stone after installation as a result of salts from the
  bedding layer travelling through the stone to the surface). Sealing prior to installation will not
  completely eradicate the possibility of efflorescence occurring, however it will reduce the
  risk significantly in comparison to unsealed stone.
- Dry Treat 'Stain Proof' coats the particles of the stone, helping to prevent spillages and dirt
  from causing a permanent stain. The pores of the stone and small cavities on the surface are
  still open and so dirt will still collect here, remaining in place until it is cleaned off. This means
  that, even if your stone is sealed, you may still require the use of a jet-wash and possibly
  cleaning agents to remove general dirt and grime from the stone as opposed to brushing
  alone.
- To remove marks from sealed stone will require a mechanical action (for example, a brush, jet-wash, emulsifying pad etc.) and/or a chemical action (cleaning agents). Which method you use will depend on the type of stone you have and the mark in question. Please refer to your Cleaning & Maintenance Guide for further information or feel free to contact our sales team.
- The paving should not be jet washed within 4 weeks of sealing as it could compromise the sealant or damage the stone.







