



Porcelain is a man-made product created from natural materials (feldspar, kaolin, quartz and clay). These materials are mixed with water and colour pigment, then pressed in moulds and baked in a kiln at temperatures up to 1240°C.

Porcelain is manufactured in batches and therefore the colour and texture may vary from batch to batch. This may mean that the Porcelain you receive when ordered may differ from the samples or showroom displays viewed before purchasing. This also applies to different sizes where each size is from a different batch, so it is not recommended to mix sizes. If you feel this may be a concern for you then please contact our sales team who will be happy to advise you accordingly.

London Stone recommend keeping a record of the 'batch colour code' of the delivered porcelain in case further stock is required. This can be found on the box that the porcelain are packaged in, and is usually a number followed by a letter, i.e. 200120.

Porcelain is the perfect choice where uniformity in colour and texture are desired.

Our Porcelain paving is also fully vitrified. This means that the tile is baked at such high temperatures that the individual grains and particles of the mineral ingredients melt and fuse together to form a single mass, making the tiles extremely hard with very low porosity (0.5%).

Due to its exceptionally low level of porosity, we strongly advise that the Porcelain is not sealed. The sealant is unable to penetrate into the tile and will instead create an oily film on the surface which is prone to collecting dirt.

Although the Porcelain tiles are uniform in size and thickness, we do not recommend butt jointing and advise that a joint of around 5mm should still be allowed for.

A porcelain blade will be required if you need to make cuts. London Stone has developed the Precision Diamond Blade specialist range which is specified to professional standards for cutting our high-quality Porcelain materials. Our Precision Blades for Porcelain are available in three sizes ideal for a range of equipment such as petrol saws or grinders and will give you thin cuts and smooth finishes.

### Steps and Copings

Some of the porcelain products have a 'natural' surface texture. The profiled edge on steps and copings on these products does not show as a straight line on the surface face of the product.

Please note that due to production techniques, profiled edges may differ in colour and texture to the surface face of the product. There will be a faint joint line in the middle of the 40mm bullnose treads and in the chamfer of the 40mm Downstand treads where the two pieces are joined together.

Different sizes of Porcelain are from different batches, so it is not recommended to mix step sizes.



*Your Porcelain paving, 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. All chemicals must be tested on a small, inconspicuous area prior to full treatment. Always seek professional advice before applying any product to your Porcelain paving.**

Porcelain paving should not be sealed under any circumstances. The Porcelain has very low levels of porosity (0.5%) and a sealant will be unable to penetrate into the tile. Instead, it will leave an oily film on the surface which will attract dirt and grime.

Clean the Porcelain as and when required (usually once or twice per year) with LITHOFIN 'OUTDOOR CLEANER'. This is a general cleaning agent and will also help to remove algae, light cement stains, organic stains, light efflorescence, picture framing and many other stains and marks. Always test cleaning products on a small area prior to full application. Before cleaning, sweep the Porcelain to remove any loose dirt or detritus which could act as an abrasive agent when moved around the surface of the Porcelain by the water jet. Then, following the instructions on the bottle, spray the product onto the tiles, 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 tiles in order to prevent the water jet from etching them.

For stubborn cement residue remaining after installation, a product called LITHOFIN 'BUILDERS CLEAN' 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 Porcelain 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 tiles in order to prevent the water jet from etching them.

*Please note:- Take care during the installation process to clean any cement or mortar off the tiles as you go. Especially on textured products, cement can become lodged in the surface of the Porcelain and, if allowed to go off, can be incredibly difficult to remove even with the use of cleaning products.*