MAINTENANCE GUIDE

Our products are designed to be essentially maintenance-free. In general, they are maintained in the same way as brick or natural stone.

CLEANING

To remove light surface dust and debris, brush the surface with a dry whisk broom. You can also use water and a soft bristle brush to remove heavier concentrations.

SEALING

Because our product is made of concrete, it will absorb water just like any other concrete surface. A sealer generally helps to close the pores in the concrete, thereby repelling water rather than allowing it to be absorbed.

Since manufactured stone is reserved for use in vertical (wall) applications, water and ice usually don't have the chance to sit on the surface long enough to cause a problem. Stone laid at ground level, however, may be at greater risk.

Is a sealer an absolute must? Our experience leads us to believe that it is not. Is it a good idea? In implementations where standing water could potentially cause a problem, it may be a good idea. However, our research indicates that certain impregnating, hydrophobic sealers may actually LEAD to damage from freeze/thaw cycles, so you must be very careful when reviewing your options.

If you elect to use a sealer, industry standards recommend that you always use a high-quality, breathable (i.e., non-filming) masonry sealer in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. And be sure to test your sealer on a small portion of our stone to ensure that the final appearance is what you're looking for.

EFFLORESCENCE

Efflorescence is a common occurrence in the masonry trade. It is basically salt that migrates out of the cement matrix to the surface when certain ambient conditions are present. We do not recommend "treating" it with any sort of chemical, sealer, or harsh cleaning process in an attempt to permanently eliminate it. Usually, the next good rain shower will wash away the surface salt. If it doesn't go away on its own, we recommend that you take action. If you see a persistent and/or particularly heavy build-up on your stone units, use water and/or a soft bristle brush to remove it.

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