

sandstone

Sandstone is a sedimentary rock. The grains in sandstone are most commonly quartz (silica) but may also contain feldspar or other minerals which are set in a matrix of silt or clay, or are cemented together by silica, iron oxides, hydroxide or calcite. It is a relatively common stone which is easy to work and was one of the first stones to be used in many Australian cities. It remains hugely popular for building facades, perimeter walling, sculpture and landscape.

CHEMICAL COMPATIBILITIES

Acids - Depending on the composition of the sandstone, its resistance to acid will vary. However, all sandstone is affected by acids to some degree. A Phosphoric acid type cleaner is suitable for use in restoration work and for grout smear removal but must be rinsed well and neutralized with an alkaline cleaner

Alaklis - Sandstone can safely be cleaned with alkaline cleaners.

CLEANING

Grout Smear

Newly laid sandstone should be left for 3 - 5 days to ensure that the glue and grout is totally cured. Grout smear can be effectively removed using T&G Restore with a scrubbing action. Rinse and neutralize the treated area thoroughly as acidic residues can mark the stone surface. (Also see pre-sealing notes)

General Grime and Oils

Soil build-ups, fats and stubborn oily spots are effectively removed with T&G Cleaner Pro. For industrial applications, T&G Power or T&G Degreaser will both produce quick and effective results.

Mould & Mildew

Mould & mildew on sandstone is effectively removed with Chlorosan. Many stains caused by food spills and plant matter can also be removed in the same way. Sealing sandstone with a penetrating sealer will dramatically reduce future mould and mildew growth.

Lime Scale & Mineral Deposits

Hard water, mineral and chlorine deposits are effectively removed using T&G Restore. Rinse and neutralise (using a dilute solution of an alkaline or neutral cleaner) the treated area to prevent acid burns on the surface of the stone.

Efflorescence

Remove as much build-up as possible using a stiff brush while dry. The remaining efflorescence can be removed using a T&G Restore solution remembering to neutralize the area when completed. Sealing sandstone with a good quality penetrating sealer will help to prevent recurrence of efflorescence.

PROTECTION

Sandstone is a highly porous material and needs to be sealed with a penetrating sealer.

Pre-seal sandstone prior to grouting with an Actichem penetrating sealer. This will simplify grout smear removal and will minimize the effect that any acid cleaners used in the clean-up process will have on the stone. It will also prevent the acid cleaners from soaking deep into the stone and having an adverse effect on the final sealer

MAINTENANCE

Commercial & Institutions

Use Proneutro for easy and effective results in the maintenance cleaning of tiled areas in homes, hospitals and care facilities, offices, institutions etc.

Heavy Duty Cleaning

Use T&G Cleaner Pro for cleaning areas subject to heavy use and soiling such as shopping malls, schools and outdoor areas.