



SOME USEFUL TIPS THAT WILL ENHANCE THE BEAUTY OF YOUR GARDEN.

1. **Garden Design.** Collect your ideas together and sketch them on paper before you start. Give yourself time to change your designs as your ideas progress.
2. **Measuring.** Accurate measurements help save time and money. Check your measurements twice before you buy your materials. Continue to check your measurements as your work progresses.
3. **Ordering.** Order all your materials to complete your project at one time. Some products may be available to order only so plan in advance what you will need. Do not begin until all the paving or walling for the area you are working on is on site. (See also points 4 and 5.)
4. **Checking Products.** Always check the products before use. Every precaution is taken to ensure consistency of shades but concrete is a natural product and minor shade variations are often unavoidable.
5. **Laying Paving.** Get the ground work right. All paving should be laid on firm foundations of sand or cement. When more than one pack is required on a project use materials from a minimum of three packs to blend in any shade variations. Remember, especially if your patio or path is against a building; always give a fall to the patio to allow water to run off, poor drainage can cause damage to concrete, recommendations are 25mm fall in 1500mm for areas with heavier loads (cars, caravans etc) a solid concrete base 150mm (6") thick needs to be laid using a mix of 6 parts coarse ballast to 1 part cement. The slabs must be laid directly on to this base when it is wet and well bedded to avoid air pockets.



6. **Building Walls.** Castacrete walling blocks are safe for the amateur to use on small projects like a planter or small feature but seek advice from a professional if you are contemplating a big walling project. Specialist knowledge may be needed for such projects as retaining walls and water features.
7. **Work Methodically.** Layout components and set out accurate string lines. As work progresses frequent checks should be made on vertical and horizontal levels.
8. **Mixing Mortar.** A good mortar mix suitable for most garden projects is one part cement to six parts soft builders sand.
9. **Cutting.** Whilst Stonecraft and Thamestone come in wide range of sizes it is sometimes necessary to make cuts to fit. This is best done by scoring all around the slab along the line you wish to cut down, then using a hammer and chisel to split off the part not required. Walling blocks can also be cut in this way.
10. **Pointing.** When pointing is required leave a gap of at least 1.5cm between each slab to allow a key for the pointing mix.

The above points are for guidance only, if you are in any doubt take expert advice.

IMPORTANT

Do not Brush dry mortar into joints for pointing as this can cause severe staining.

Do not Use any chemical cleaning agent on any of our products.

Do not Use any other artificial surface treatments.

Do not Use rock salt to de-ice paving



ABOUT OUR PRODUCTS

Castacrete Ltd. products are wet-cast concrete products made from high quality aggregates, cement and inorganic pigments and specifically designed for domestic use only.

The Alexandra Stone Company Ltd specialise in heavyside hydraulically pressed concrete products designed for commercial use.

BEFORE USE

- Please check suitability of product before laying.
- Order all materials to complete your project at one time.
- If using more than one pack please ensure that you lay the product at random from all packs to minimize any unavoidable shade variations.
- No claims can be entertained once the product is laid.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Store packs on level/even ground.
- Open packs at ground level.
- Stand to one side when removing wrapping and strapping.
- Support leaning slabs as necessary.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT OUR PRODUCTS AND THEIR REPRESENTATION

Colours and finish of products shown are as accurate as possible but we strongly recommend that you view the actual product before purchase.

All sizing is nominal (imperial sizes where quoted are approximate).

We are continually improving the quality and service we provide therefore information may be subject to change without notice.

Although we take every care that the information given on our web site is accurate and up to date no liability of any kind (including liability for negligence) will attach to the company or their representatives.

No responsibility is accepted for use of the product other than that intended by the manufacturer.

Although not affecting your statutory rights, please note that the company cannot accept liability in respect of costs such as uplifting and relaying defective product if, upon inspection, it transpires that the defect ought to have been evident before laying.

Castacrete Ltd. cannot accept any liability for the effects of temporary phenomenon of efflorescence which can often affect products with a high cement content and can be influenced by weather conditions during manufacture, curing or storage.

Castacrete wet-cast concrete paving products designed for domestic use only are unsuitable for use in areas of prolonged dampness or where temperatures are likely to fall below -15°C