



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS.

1. Q. My patio is brand new and all the colour has faded.

A. Your patio is almost certainly suffering from the temporary phenomenon of Efflorescence – see EFFLORESCENCE.

2. Q. I have dark patches in the centre of some of my paving.

A. Concrete paving suffers from all sorts of blemishes and apparent staining when first laid none of which are permanent and should weather out in time.

3. Q. I have found minute hairline cracks on the edges of some of my paving – what are they and will they cause a problem?

A. These are expansion cracks which sometimes appear in all wet cast paving products during periods of hot weather. The characteristic mark which looks like a hairline crack can easily be rubbed away with a thumb or finger and often appears during hot weather and disappears when the weather cools. These marks are not a sign of weakness or fault but a natural phenomenon in a natural building material. Once laid this mark will not be noticeable and the paving will give many years of use if cared for as suggested.

4. Q. How do I look after my new patio?

A. If laid carefully a concrete patio should only require a regular dry sweeping to remove dirt and leaves with the occasional wash down with water or a mild solution of washing up liquid. Harsher proprietary cleaners should only be necessary in extreme circumstances with the manufacturers recommended instructions for use being followed carefully.

5. Q. Should I use a pressure washer?

A. Pressure washers should only be necessary in extreme circumstances and a weak pressure being applied to avoid pointing being dislodged.

6. Q. I am having problems pointing my paving – the mix is not keying to the paving.

A. Refer to our GUIDELINES AND TIPS FOR POINTING THAMESTONE AND STONECRAFT PAVING.