

INDIANA LIMESTONE | Care & Installation Guidelines

Indiana Limestone is a popular material for building and landscaping projects because of its consistent quality, uniform buff colour and the natural patina that develops over time. As with any building material, it is important to handle and install Indiana Limestone properly to prevent damage and stains from occurring. The following simple guidelines will help preserve Indiana Limestone's natural beauty for years to come.

Handling & Storage

Indiana Limestone is a porous material and will absorb colouration from its surroundings. Soil, fertilizer, polymeric sand and other materials will cause surface staining. Stone should be kept on skids and protected from dirt, grease and construction traffic on the jobsite.

Installation

Use Federal White Type N masonry cement only. Installing Indiana Limestone using Type S masonry will lead to chemical staining that cannot be reversed. Mortar should be mixed with 2½ to 3 parts clean brick sand to one part Federal White Type N masonry cement, by volume, using clean, potable water. Sand colour will affect mortar colour.



Moisture can wick through the stone and deposit salts and other soluble minerals on the surface as stains. When Indiana Limestone is used at or below grade, all unexposed surfaces should be dampproofed to prevent water wicking. Use a waterproof material, such as Blueskin, 6 mm poly or rigid insulation, to separate the stone from adjoining base and backfill materials.

Ensure adequate slope and drainage to prevent water from standing on the stone. Always install a waterproof barrier between the stone and adjoining soil, and ensure runoff drains away from the stone.

Cleaning

Indiana Limestone can be cleaned using clean water, a fibre brush and, if necessary, a mild detergent (for example, a 50/50 solution of water and bleach). **Do not use muriatic acid.** Pressure washing should only be performed at less than 1200 psi, sprayed from a fan-shaped nozzle held no closer than 12" from the surface of the stone. Failure to do so can result in etching of the stone.

Repairs

Care should be taken when handling Indiana Limestone to prevent damage. If damage does occur, small chips and scratches can be removed with a light sanding. Larger chips can be repaired by gluing the chip back into place with a high-strength waterproof adhesive. Fill voids with an approved Indiana Limestone patch solution or make your own by mixing Type N mortar with Indiana Limestone dust. Sand smooth.