

Data Sheet - Cleaning, Protecting, & Repairwork

CSTB8

CLEANING

Cleaning is most frequently undertaken for aesthetic reasons. However, sometimes there are sound practical grounds for removing dirt when, for instance, decay is taking place around encrustations and cracks or open joints are being obscured. Before undertaking any cleaning of cast stone there are several important considerations to review.

- Cast stone behaves in a similar way to natural stone and the precautions required for cleaning the natural material should be adopted with cast stone.
- Any cleaning will expose the underlying cast stone and various elements of the structure may have weathered differently causing changes in colour. The effect after cleaning may be a patchy finish.
- Although cast stone elements may get dirty, this is usually unlikely to cause any particular problem unless the encrustation of dirt is causing decay to the surface, or staining the underlying stone, especially at street level. In these cases some remedial action may be appropriate.

PROTECTING

Cast Stone products should not be used to support unprotected scaffolding, planks or ladders. Installed products should be covered in polythene sheeting to prevent mortar, render or paint from dripping onto the products, causing staining. Remember to protect all exposed units at the end of the day to avoid staining and impact damage.

If the measures taken above are adhered to then the products should be installed without damage. Damage to units should be identified before installation and Marshalls will accept no responsibility for units which have been built in and subsequently prove unsatisfactory.

Protect the units at the end of each day with polythene sheeting to prevent contamination and use edge protectors to prevent impact damage to the arises. Allow an air space to let air circulate within the polythene sheeting, to prevent condensation forming.

REPAIRWORK

In many cases it is possible to repair chips etc., but the recommended techniques can vary between products so we recommend contacting us for specific advice. It should be noted that repair work is normally carried out with mixes very similar to those used in the original product and will therefore take time to weather to the colour of the item.