

## Data Sheet - Handling

CSTB5

### HANDLING

All Cast Stone products supplied by Marshalls are manufactured to the highest quality, and considerable care is taken to ensure the products are handled, stored and packaged correctly prior to delivery. This Technical Bulletin is provided to guide those using the Cast Stone product on site, and to help ensure the product remains in pristine condition throughout the installation process.

During the design stage, consideration should be given to the handling requirements of the product. In cases that involve large or heavy items, special reinforcing, and cast in lifting sockets may need to be provided. All of our cast stone units should be treated with care in order to prevent chipping, cracking or staining, especially those with finely detailed profiles. Long slender units should be handled in the plane they are designed to be installed, unless otherwise advised. A typical example of a product which may not be handled in the same plane as it is installed would be a 65mm thick cill.

Unless supplied in short lengths, this unit can suffer deflection cracks.

- A manual handling assessment should be carried out before the units or pallets are moved.
- Where units are supplied with lifting sockets or eyes these must be used. Avoid side loading to sockets by using a lifting beam where necessary.
- Always use suitable plant for moving the product around site and ensure wherever possible that units are delivered to the work area before any obstructions are put in the way.
- Units should be adequately supported to ensure ease of handling. Care must be exercised not to drop the product.
- Re-use interior packing to protect faces, arises etc. during site handling.
- Care should be taken not to slide the units across each other.
- Don't store pallets on sloping or uneven ground. Make sure storage area is flat, level and dry.
- Never stack pallets and large units on top of each other
- When unpacking products, do not burst open the wrapping either by hand or with site tools. It should be cut open with a knife, taking care not to damage the faces.
- When moving pallets of cast stone units, always re-use interior packing to prevent damage to faces, arises and profiles.
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- Never stack pallets and large units on top of each other.
- When unpacking products, do not burst open the wrapping either by hand or with site tools. It should be cut open with a knife, taking care not to damage the faces.
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### MAIN HAZARDS

- Skin hazards: dermatitis, abrasions and drying of the skin may occur from prolonged handling of precast concrete products
- Unit weights of individual products can be advised to specifiers and contractors at both the design and construction stages. Where they are of excessive weight or complexity, then lifting elements can be incorporated if required. Normal brick-sized units do not need these additions and can be handled normally but an early involvement by Marshalls staff can assist in the safe design of Cast Stone and Structural Precast items
- Handling: manual handling should only take place when the weight of the unit permits, otherwise excessive strain can lead to injury to muscles and tendons, particularly when bending and twisting. The risk of injury is likely to depend on the weight of the unit. The heavier or more complex the unit the greater the risk of injury. Units greater than 20kg should be handled mechanically or by two people, particularly if they have to be handled repetitively.