



# TAMALA LIMESTONE

## LAYING GUIDE - Pavers & Products

### Foundation

For an area to be successfully paved, the base or foundation preparation is very important.

The following is recommended:

**Pedestrian Traffic Only;** a. Compact crushed rock ( road base ) 75mm thick mixed with cement, b. Reinforced concrete 75mm thick,  
**Vehicle Traffic;** Reinforced concrete base 75mm thick minimum 25mpa.

**Expansion Joints :** Particular attention should be paid to expansion joints in both their location and installation. Expansion joints should be used at every change in coping direction, at intervals no greater than 3.5 metres, between paving and any walls, wherever there is existing cracking in the foundation or bedding material and wherever there are existing expansion joints being covered over. Expansion joints should also extend through any bedding material and into the foundation, care should be taken so that there is no mortar or glue squeezed up into the expansion joint which would render the joint ineffective. For the specific location and installation of expansion joints please refer to the latest version of Australian Standard AS 3958.1.

### Laying

The paving stone should be laid on a mortar bed of a 4:1 sand and grey cement mixture. This mixture should be made slightly wetter than a bricklayers mix. We recommend a bonding and waterproofing admixture be added. Whilst it is not our recommended laying method, Tamala Limestone can be laid on a sand bed although the pavers will be more susceptible to breakage, mould growth and movement over time. If laying using an adhesive, care should be taken to follow the appropriate Australian Standard for tiling and use a waterproof tile adhesive.

Prior to laying, ensure the rear of paver is clean. Lack of adhesion of the paver to the mortar bed, commonly known as the paver being drummy, does not mean that the paver has failed. If you wish to increase

adhering qualities we recommend applying a bonding agent to the underside of the stones before placing on mortar bed.

The mortar bed should be 15 to 20mm thick. The underside of the slabs should be wet before placing on the mortar bed. The paver should be bed in well, usually done by tapping with a white rubber mallet, ensuring that there are no air pockets left under slabs. There is a possibility the stones might be adversely affected if the mortar bed is uneven or if there are air pockets left between the pavers and the mortar bed.

Limestone pavers should be kept as clean as possible whilst laying. Mortar spills on the pavers and site dirt should be sponged off immediately to prevent staining. (please refer to our cleaning and sealing guide for more details). We recommend that after an area is laid it should be protected until sealed and not loaded for a period of time to enable the mortar bed to strengthen, Pedestrian traffic 2 days, Vehicle traffic 2-3 weeks.

As Limestone is a natural stone, the colour and properties will vary from piece to piece. We recommend the layer select pavers proportionately from each pallet during the laying process to achieve a mix of stone throughout the job.

## **Cleaning & Sealing**

Limestone is salt tolerant however being used in the vicinity of salt water, we still recommend that it be protected against salt attack. We also recommend sealing Limestone as it is extremely susceptible to discolouration through mould growth and staining. Please refer to our cleaning and sealing guide for more details.

## **Special Note:**

This laying guides' recommendations are a guide only. Conditions will vary from site to site ( eg. soil condition, pool surrounds, driveways etc ) and therefore the contractor should decide whether these applications are adequate or whether further adjustments are to be made. There are no express or implied guarantees or warranties given in the supply of this product. The manufacturer liability is limited to replacement of product only and does not include application or removal costs.

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