

RECOMMENDED CLEANING & LAYING GUIDE

Laying- Care should be taken to lay the bricks or blocks as cleanly as practical, the cleaner the wall the easier any cleaning will become. Mortar colour and the type of joint selected will impact on how clean the wall can be kept during laying. Clean periodically through the laying day using a sponge or brush (soft haired broom or nylon brush). Spot Clean the next laying day (if required) any remaining mortar stains with a brush and clean water.

NOTE: Always cover up any freshly laid brick or blockwork at the end of a laying day if it is susceptible to wet weather or during the winter months. Don't allow freshly laid brick or blockwork or core filled blocks to get wet. Cement based mortar and/or core filled concrete takes 28 days to cure. If the mortar and/or brick and/or block and/or concrete core filled wall gets wet during the (cement hydration) curing phase over 28 days, will be susceptible to staining such as efflorescence and calcium carbonate.

*** Cover any new work with corflute or plastic along the top of the wall, it's very simple but effective.**

*** Use TechDryad mortar additive for any core filled coloured block walls to ensure water repellent mortar.**

OPTIONAL CLEANING IF REQUIRED

High Pressure Clean

After the mortar is cured for at least 7 days, the bricks can be high-pressure water cleaned, use a 15-20 degree nozzle, never use a dirt blaster nozzle, work at an angle of 45 degrees down the wall to limit water blasting of mortar joints, the maximum water pressure is 3000 psi. Always do a test area before commencement. For Premium Range bricks manufactured with coloured glass aggregates, high pressure water cleaning will further highlight the glass aggregate (if required by the client).

GuardIT Green Acid Cleaning

If any form of chemical cleaning is required, Island Block & Paving stock & recommend GuardIT Green Acid Replacement. GuardIT Green Acid is an environmentally responsible alternative acid. Green Acid is a safe alternative to harsh acids, replacing Hydrochloric Acid in removing of cement residue.

Suggested Cleaning Method:

- Cleaning should be done approximately 7 days after laying
- Cleaning should be done in workable panels or sections of walls
- Wet wall down with hose or high-pressure water cleaner (15 degrees nozzle, max 3000 psi)
- Apply GuardIT Green Acid diluted with water to maximum of 10:1 using a garden pressure sprayer (or similar), spraying evenly over wall working down from top to bottom of wall
- After 1-2 minutes wash off with hose or high pressure cleaner working down from top to bottom of wall
- 15 Litres of GuardIT Green Acid will clean approximately 7,000 bricks / 140 m²

Chemical Cleaning (eg. Hydrochloric Acid)

- Be aware, acids when used incorrectly can potentially cause permanent damage to a brick surface i.e. cause blotchiness or discolouration. Strongly mixed acids and scrubbing walls should be avoided. Acids should be used only as a last resort. Hydrochloric acid SHOULD NOT be mixed any stronger than 20:1. Follow the acid cleaning techniques recommended by the CMAA see below.

Demonstrational video can be viewed at www.guarditsolutions.com.au
Concrete Masonry Association of Australia industry cleaning methods can be viewed at www.cmaa.com.au

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