

Installation Tips for Concretion Lightweight Concrete Pavers

• Once you have received your delivery, please take the time to check the product for any signs of damage or defects that may have happened during transit, any defects should be reported immediately. Ensure the surfaces are kept as clean as possible during the laying process, products should be thoroughly rinsed with water and brushed with a soft brush if spillages occur.

•Before installation, make sure you have identified the top and bottom of the paver (top of the product is a much smoother and refined surface than the bottom). Most of our step units (depending on the size) are shipped on edge. There will be sufficient room under each unit to get a lifting strap under each end. We recommend that the steps are moved around as much as possible in this position as it's the easiest and safest way to move them (for larger steps a dolly under each end makes it very easy to move on hard surfaces). For our larger format pavers, suction lifters can be used for final positioning - always ensure that the suction lifter is not larger than the surface of the paver - for our pavers of 80mm and thinner, do not use a suction lifter with power that exceeds 100kg or you may damage the top surface.

• Our products can easily be cut using standard concrete cutting tools. Always ensure sufficient water is used for dust suppression. The makeup of our product is somewhat different from a typical concrete slab. When cutting the outer surface will be hard, and the inner core much quicker and softer to cut, ensure this is done slowly and carefully. The cut edge will not be suitable to have on an exposed edge so make sure you take time to lay out and think about where to position cuts.

• With the nature of concrete, there will be slight variations in colour and texture, if covering a large area, we suggest taking pavers from different pallets to ensure an even mix of colour/variations. Efflorescence can occur with any concrete product - it will in time disappear and does not affect the quality of the product - it can be removed with a variety of off-the-shelf products if desired. A variety of sealants can be applied to concrete depending on the desired look - please contact us for the best sealant to use depending on your requirements.

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• As with any paving, a good well compacted sub-base is required to ensure the stability of the product. We recommend a minimum 100mm compacted T1 sub-base for terrace areas, and a minimum 200mm compacted T1 for driveway areas. Ensure that adequate falls are taken into consideration at this stage. For our larger format pavers, we recommend a 50mm coarse grit sand is laid on the compacted T1. A fall of 1:80 is advised to allow the water to quickly pass from the top surface. For our step units, we recommend a block system is used to create the supporting rise. To ensure a nice shadow line we recommend a 50mm overhang from one step to the next. Step units can be fixed to the block work with either a strong concrete mortar mix, CT1 or equivalent.

When laying the steps, we recommend that due care and attention is made to ensure the surface is ready to receive the step. If you are using blocks to create the rise, ensure it is set to the right height to allow the correct shadow line. We recommend a thin paste adhesive between 5-10mm max is used on top of the blocks to create a thin bonding layer, the step can then be lowered into position and given a small side to side movement to create a good bond. Using light taps of a rubber hammer can create the vibration needed to seat them, but due to the thickness we do not recommend repeatedly trying to hit them into position (these aren't like laying 20mm thick slabs - they don't respond in the same manner). If an error has been made with the bedding depth, or if the step needs to be lifted and re-laid for any reason, it should be lifted under the front edge and opened like the bonnet of a car (DO NOT try and lift either end of the slab as this can cause damage if it has bonded to the blockwork).Once you are happy that the level and fall has been achieved on the step, you can move onto the next one.

• A minimum 5mm cap should be left between pavers to allow for adequate expansion/contraction. We recommend a permeable jointing compound is used, please follow the manufacturer's guidelines for this process.

• If pavers are to be laid over a pond in a stepping stone manner, we recommend sealing the base of the paver prior to installation with a G4 or equivalent sealer to prevent the paver from remaining constantly damp.

• If our pavers are to be used in areas that will experience heavy vehicles - please contact us prior to ordering to ensure we advise on the best paver to be used.

If you require further advice on laying the steps, please WhatsApp / text 07729 199 077 with any pictures or questions and we will get back to you.

Please also note that our products are shipped at around 70% of their final strength (the remaining 30% can take several weeks/months to be achieved depending on the temperatures) - as with any product, please ensure that you handle and lift these with as much care as possible. Once they are in their final home they will continue to cure in time.