

norstone rock panel collection

Short & Long Term Maintenance Guidelines

STONE SPECIFICATION: Stone shall be *Norstone Natural Stone Rock Panel* as produced by Norstone Pty Ltd. of Sydney, Australia. For more information, please contact your local Norstone office in North America at 866.717.4548.

CLASSIFICATION: Quartzite-based sedimentary stone.

COLOR: Ochre Blend, Charcoal, White, Ivory, or Chalk

SIZE: 6" Tall by 24" Long, or 1 Square Foot in face coverage. Thickness varies between approx 3/4" to 1 3/4".

WEIGHT: approx 12lbs per panel, or square foot.

POST INSTALLATION STONE CLEANING: After completion of stonework, if adhesive has been exposed to the face of the stone, cleaning shall be accomplished with a stiff bristle brush and water using a mild detergent. **Acidic Cleaning Agents should not be used unless otherwise directed by the manufacturer.**

OXIDATION: Oxidization is a chemical reaction which occurs when iron deposits exposed to moisture and air produce rust (oxidization). This process can also occur when natural stone comes into contact with corrosive agents, such as acids, bleaches, chlorines, fertilizers, salts, and/or harsh cleaning agents, so please try to minimize exposure to these items wherever possible. Because natural stone is a product of nature, iron oxidation is commonly found in natural stone installations.

Because Norstone Rock Panels are a product of nature it is impossible to eliminate the existence of Iron in our products. We take no responsibility for oxidation events. If your project is experiencing oxidation, Norstone may outline the cleaning and maintenance process so you can restore your Norstone project to its natural beauty.

PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE/ NATURAL STONE PRESERVATION: One of the most important, but, often-overlooked steps in any stone project is the application (if suitable) of a high quality sealer after the work is completed.

The application of a good sealer will have the following benefits:

- Keeps walls easier to clean since the surface will be less absorbent to pollutants in the atmosphere.
- Reduces absorption of water, thus lowering humidity level within the wall interior.
- Minimize freeze/thaw fluctuations.

- Helps control efflorescence, or pigment leaching from cement or stone.
- Minimizes natural oxidation which can change the color of the stone.

Although water repellent sealers will protect the stone from absorbing water or oils, they are not meant to bridge gaps or cracks nor repair a poor installation.

A high quality, penetrating natural stone sealer is recommended; penetrating sealers are designed to penetrate deep into the pores of the stone, providing it with many years of protection before requiring another application. Enhancing the color or look of the stone finish can occur, so please test all sealers prior to application to ensure intended results.

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ROUTINE MAINTENANCE: Though natural stone will last many lifetimes, routine maintenance may be required from time to time. Depending on the application – as with any wall finish - various types of scaling or build-up may occur. Should you experience a need to clean your Rock Panels:

- Regular dusting for interior applications and hose washing for exterior applications is recommended.
- In the event that cleaning agents are needed, please select a natural detergent that is non-corrosive and non-acidic to remove build-up in problem areas. Test your detergent in an inconspicuous place to verify compatibility and results.
- In some cases, a low grade pressure wash may be used. However, the stone should never be exposed to a direct angle of attack from the nozzle. Note that up-close attack from a pressure washer may corrode the stone, so please stand a minimum of 5 feet away when pressure washing.

WARNING

Please DO NOT:

- Acid wash the stone unless otherwise directed by the manufacturer.
- High Pressure Wash the stone (directly or indirectly).
- Use any sharp object, such as a steel scraper, knife, or screwdriver, to remove stubborn deposits from the face of the stone. This can result in damage to the natural texture of the product.

We welcome your questions, so please visit us on the web at www.norstoneusa.com or call into one our branches at 866.717.4548.