



*Limestone*

*Washing and Sealing*

**Bruhn Limestone recommends that our limestone is washed and sealed after it is laid**



## **Summary**

- Washing and Sealing Bruhn Limestone is a very easy process but correct procedures need to be followed to ensure successful results are achieved
- Washing is simply done by using a high pressure compression fan spray to remove stone dust within the limestone
- After stone is touch dry Bruhn Rockseal can then be applied
- Bruhn Rockseal sealant is a silicane based product that protects natural limestone by converting it from a soft friable material to a hard wearing water repellent finish.
- Bruhn Rockseal helps prevent surface streaking from fungal growth whilst allowing the stone to age naturally
- This process ensures the treated surface will not crumble and highlights the colour of the stone.
- Bruhn Rockseal has a high resistance to airborne pollutants, improves the resistance to carbon dioxide and is unaffected by ultra violet light.
- The treatment will extend both the life of the limestone and its mortar joints

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### Washing

- Before washing ensure that mortar joints have had sufficient time to harden
- Ensure nozzle is projecting a fan spray and keep approx 300mm from the stone at all times
- Work the spray from side to side and avoid concentrating the spray on one specific area as this may lead to blowing small holes out of the stone
- Work from the top of the stone construction to the base
- Check stone work as you go for mortar splashes and stains as they may need a little more attention to remove
- Removal of dust is very apparent during this process and you will easily be able to track progress of areas you have covered
- As a courtesy to other trades people ensure all gutters and windows are cleaned last to leave an overall clean finish
- Always wear protective eye wear



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## Sealing



- Sealing can commence once the stone is dry to touch
- Open drum and stir contents thoroughly
- In and out valves are not supplied with drums but can be separately purchased from BRUHN
- Values should be screwed in hand tight only. Do not over fasten
- Ensure all fittings to the drum and air compressor are connected and sealed correctly
- Snap connect hoses from air compressor to both valves

Out valve that leads to application hose



In Valve from compressor



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## Sealing

### Using the Compressor

Please note compressed air can be dangerous if the PSI is too high, so exercise caution when preparing for sealing

It is recommended that 15 PSI should be an adequate PSI to create enough flow for rockseal to flood coat the application area

Always take care when releasing valves so pressure can escape in a controlled manner



**15 PSI**



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## Sealing

### Preparing for sealing

- Before applying sealant ensure all window frames, doors and other non stone surfaces are protected.
- It is recommended to mask these areas before applying the sealant
- If sealant is applied to these areas inadvertently, immediately clean with soapy water or if application has dried remove with XYLENE solvent available at all good hardware stores.



# Sealing



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- After cleaning of the stone, allow to dry for 2 hours - at 25oC (allow longer if temperature is cooler) to provide a dry enough surface for the sealer to penetrate when applied
- The preferred method of applying through compression is to create a 'low slow flow' and flood coat the surface area
- Start at the top of the wall and work left to right and then down - allowing the sealer to run ahead of you.
- One single flood coat is all that is necessary to seal the stone properly however a 2<sup>nd</sup> coat can be applied to areas likely to receive full weather conditions but should be done no more than 2 hours after application of the 1<sup>st</sup> coat
- Do not apply if temperature is below 10oC or if rain or if rain is expected within 48 hours. Approx application is 1.5 litres per m2 for plainface and 2 litres per m2 for rockface
- Allow 24 hours to dry and two months for product to cure
- Clean all equipment in clean water after use



## Occupational Health and Safety



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### **Storage**

It is recommended that Sealant is stored under 25 degrees in a well ventilated area, well away from heat and ignition sources

### **Safety equipment**

Protective eye wear and gloves should be worn when applying sealant

### **Precautions**

Avoid sealant contact with eyes and skin. Take all necessary precautions to familiarise yourself with the equipment being used and the safety requirements of the sealant

If swallowed contact your local poisons information centre