



# CAPESTONE

— MANUFACTURERS OF SIMULATED STONE PRODUCTS —

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[www.capestone.co.za](http://www.capestone.co.za)



T. 028 312 2331  
T. 028 312 2390  
F. 086 755 9262



[jolene@capestone.co.za](mailto:jolene@capestone.co.za)



## PAVING INSTALLATION GUIDE

## STORAGE & HANDLING

All Paving must be handled with care to avoid damaging edges and surface of the product. All Paving is delivered to site on pallets and/or wrapped to prevent damage. On delivery, it is important that pallets are placed on level and stable ground. Once goods have been offloaded on site it is very important that cobbles/pavers are taken randomly from various pallets to ensure good colour distribution between the various batches. Products must always be handled with care to avoid breakages and chipping, prior to laying. Pavers are heavy and bulky and caution should be taken when handling.

## GROUND PREPARATION

Before starting, the existing ground must be evaluated and the relevant subbase chosen. Every job will have different requirements and therefore the contractor must decide what is required in each situation. The following must be considered – existing ground conditions, finished paved surface levels and drainage of paved area.

## COBBLE & PAVER – GROUTED

- ◆ Before bringing in the topping, remove approx. 100 mm lower than the required finished level of the paving – commercial use.
- ◆ Make sure that the bedding sand is free of roots and clay, etc. prior to compaction.
- ◆ A 20 mm-50 mm topping of clean building sand is then compacted with a compactor and prepared for the screed. (thickness to be decided by installer/contractor).
- ◆ For high traffic, steep or inclined driveways or roadways we recommend that the topping and screed be a mix of 10:1 sand and cement to give added stability to the base.
- ◆ The screed – a layer of slightly damp sand 20 mm-40 mm thick (total of topping and screed not to exceed 50 mm-60 mm unless cement stabilized) – string lines and a straight edge tool are needed to level and get the correct falls and finished heights.
- ◆ The area is now ready to be paved.
- ◆ Starting at the bottom, if sloped or from a right angle or straight edge, place the cobble/paver, making sure that the top finished level is about 5 mm above the final required level, to allow for compaction.
- ◆ Continue laying in the chosen pattern ensuring that cobbles/pavers are taken off pallets randomly to ensure even colour distribution throughout paved area



## COBBLE & PAVER – GROUTED (CONTINUED)

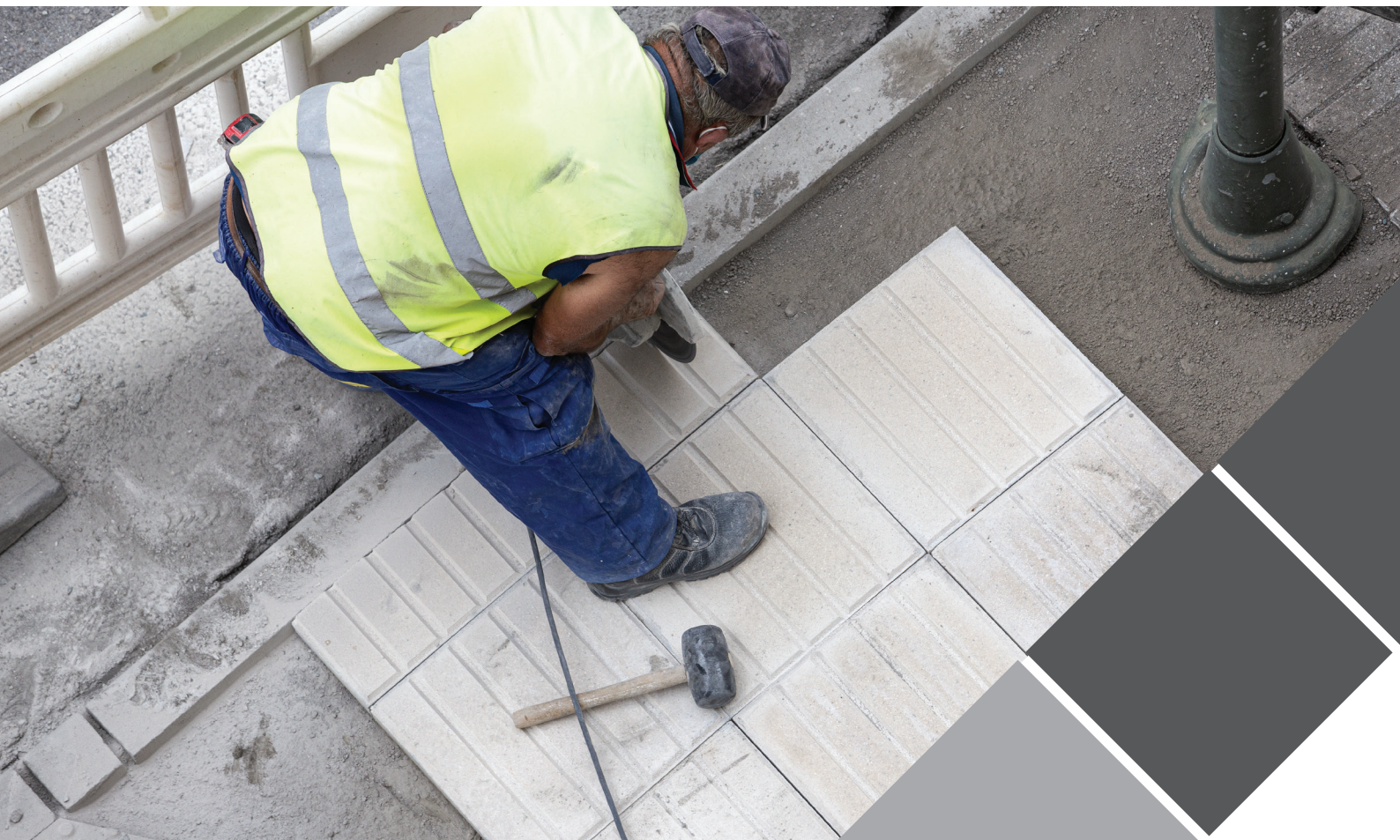
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- ◆ Use an angle grinder with all the necessary safety equipment, to cut the cobbles wherever gaps are – a diamond blade is essential.
- ◆ Edging – make sure that all edging cobbles are bedded on a concrete footing (4: sand/2: stone / 1: cement) to ensure that edge restraints remain intact and hold paving securely in place.
- ◆ Now that all cobbles are laid and cuttings completed, sweep cobble surface clean of all debris.
- ◆ Before you grout the cobbles, it is important to do the necessary adjustments for height and size, this may require lifting and swapping of cobbles/Pavers to achieve a regular gap and straight lines.
- ◆ The paved area can then be compacted using a mechanical roller compactor attachment . Only for cobbles.
- ◆ The area will require at least 5 passes over it to ensure it is thoroughly compacted and relatively level.
- ◆ As the product is simulated to replicate real stone cobbles these variations are essential, in order to create the natural stone appearance – no perfect straight lines, etc!!

## COBBLE & PAVER – GROUTED (CONTINUED)

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- ◆ Paved area may now be grouted.
- ◆ Standard grout mixture for cobble paving – is a 6:1 – clean sand to cement. In builder's terms – 1 bag of cement to 3 standard wheel barrows. Make a wet mix slurry.
- ◆ This mix is then dumped onto paving hosed and swept into joints to just below surface of the cobble.
- ◆ Avoid over filling the joints as this leads to excessive short term cracking of the top of grout and unsightly paving.
- ◆ A final round of compacting might be needed to ensure that the grout mix fills the entire gaps between the paving.
- ◆ It is vital to clean the cobbles off after grouting. This will determine the final look and outcome of your paved area.
- ◆ Once paving is completed, wet area regularly for 2-3days afterwards, especially during hot weather as this will allow area to cure at a normal rate and reduce joints drying too quickly (cement process needs water to cure). Allow no traffic over it for four days to settle and cure prior to use.





## **CLEANING OF COBBLESTONE AND PAVING**

- ◆ It is vital to keep the cobblestone clean using water whilst laying and especially when grouting.
- ◆ Should the product be badly soiled or stained use acidic cleaners sparingly to remove grout and cement stains.
- ◆ This is however done at your risk and must be supervised by the contractor or installer responsible.
- ◆ A mix of water and pool acid – 10:1 doing small areas of less than 1 m<sup>2</sup> at a time with a medium to soft plastic bristle brush, rinsing off heavily with water/ soap solution to dilute so as not to damage the cobble surface.
- ◆ An alternative like Sugar Soap is also recommended.
- ◆ Alternatively paving cleaner can be bought at our office.
- ◆ This will clean off most adhering cement, grouting and efflorescence marks appearing on the newly laid product.
- ◆ As it is a cement product it requires time after being laid to dry out to its original colour, etc. Often the cobblestone has a wet patch in the middle after being laid; this is because it dries from the outside in. This will disappear depending on how much moisture, etc. has been trapped under the cobble and how long this takes to move out through natural osmosis.

**Please note:** *The specification above is not suitable for heavy commercial conditions: extra consideration must be given in terms of the sub base, strength of the topping screed and grouting, correct thickness of product, condition of existing ground, long term usage, expansion joints, drainage and expected loads which the cobbles will be expected to carry.*

