

ECS

ECS Manufacturing Inc.

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Home page <http://www.eurocaststone.com>

DESCRIPTION

Products:

Euro Cast Stone manufactures a vast array of different stone look alike products.

Tile, slabs, moldings, deco-tiles, borders, liners, fireplace surrounds, mantels, pier caps, wall caps, window & door treatments.

The product regardless of its shape or color is made of white cement, white aggregate and pigment oxide. Most of the floor tiles and slabs are honed with 120 grit. The finish product resembles natural stone.

The color is throughout the stone, which allow the customer to fabricate their trims as needed. (Bullnoze, radius, etc.)

Some veining or marbleizing can be created at the time of casting.

Slabs & Tiles

Maximum size for slabs is 30" x 60". All slabs are 1 ½" thick.

There are 5 edges available:

Eased edge, Bullnoze, French Ogee, English ogee and a special Euro-edge.

The Euro edge is molded and is reversible but no radius is available.

Slabs should be fitted in place before final installation. Epoxy or PL 400 is commonly used for gluing them in place. A matching color siliconized grout is best for the grout joints.

We manufacture tiles in many different sizes & shapes.

Current sizes are 4" x 4", 6" x 6" and 12" x 12" in 1/2 inch thick,
8" x 8", 8" x 16", 16" x 16" in 3/4 inch thick which can be used for a Versailles pattern.

The castle stone is 1" thick and 6x6-6x12-12x12-12x18-18x18 and 18x24. (Very rustic)

Special sizes available upon request.

Each of the decorative Deco tiles, Borders and moldings shown on the brochure are in stock in one color only, color #4 which resemble a light colored limestone.

From this color, Euro Cast Stone offers two different coloring alternatives seen on page 13 of the brochure.

Staining, Glazing & Antiquing

Glazing:

We have developed 3 different standard cement glazes, SIENNA, DESERT ROSE and OCHRE.

They can be used inside or outside but not for flooring. Their advantage is a constant color in the production. These glazes are formulated in batches and do not vary in color.

Staining:

Euro Cast Stone has selected a Chemical Stain made by Scofield.

There are seven stains: Black, Padre Brown, Avocado, and Dark Walnut Antique Amber and Faded Terra-cotta Weathered Bronze.

They can be used either on floor tile or vertical deco, etc.

The result of staining will vary and creates different colors on the stone.

It is a topical application of an acid that reacts to the cement.

Bullnozes and trims will have to be treated with the stain after fabrication.

Euro Cast Stone can provide some of the stain for this purpose.

PRODUCT INSTALLATION AND CARE SHEET

FLOOR TILE INSTALLATION

Euro Cast Stone tiles should not be bonded directly to wood for floor application.

Euro Cast Stone recommend the use of "Wonder board" 7/16th thick or similar backer board or the use of wire mesh with dry pack or wet mortar bed. It is important that the setting surface is sound and has no movement.

Euro Cast Stone tiles should only be installed with the thin set method and we recommend the use of an acrylic mortar admix. For Structural items the use of an epoxy can apply.

Countertops:

To attach to cabinetry, it is recommended to use "PL400" construction adhesive. An option would be the original red label "Liquid Nail". Once all slabs are dry fitted on counters, use little dabs 1" tall and 2" in diameter every 8". Your joints should not be more than 1/8" wide and treated with siliconized sanded grout (caulking), in the best matching color.

Things to remember

1. Use an acrylic admix in the thin set and grout.
2. Use 1/8" grout joint or wider.
3. **Back of the stone should be free of dust or loose dirt.**
4. Set the tile firmly into the setting bed to provide 100 % contact.
5. 1/2 " notched trowel is recommended.
6. For larger sizes 12" or larger, it is necessary to back butter the tile.
7. Do not spread too much thin set, if skimming occurs, a bond failure will result.
8. Keep your installation clean of thin set and debris.

GROUTING

All Euro Cast Stone products need to be sealed 24 hours prior grouting. This will ease the grouting procedure and the sealer will act as a grout release.

Euro Cast Stone recommends the use of a premixed cement grout to which you could add an acrylic admix. Euro Stone does not recommend the use of epoxy grout.

Mix your grout with 50% add mix, 50% water. Use a grout trowel to press the grout in the joints. After a few minutes, even-out the joints with a sponge and sponge clean the tile surface. Avoid excess of water; it will create discoloration in the grout. Make sure to remove any film, haze, or grout on tile. Once the grout is fairly dry, use a clean rag to fine-tune the grout edges.

SEALANT:

It is necessary to apply one or two coats of sealer after installation. The sealer will protect and enhance the tile and grout and give you a good protection against staining, discoloration, and premature wear.

For countertops, especially in food preparing areas, it is necessary to apply 3/4 coats of sealer.

We have had good results using for the first coat a water base penetrating sealer followed by 2/3 coats of a solvent-based sealer.

ECS prefers "Miracle Sealant Company". www.miraclesealants.com

Their Sealer "511 Porous Plus" as proven to be one of the best premium sealers on the market.

Prior sealing the installation, it is important:

1. To READ the label and do a test on some scrap left over material.
2. That all moisture has evaporated and the installation is dry.
3. Tile is COMPLETELY CLEAN.
4. Maintain adequate ventilation.
5. Apply the sealer with a soft sponge or a brush in even coats.
6. Let stand for 3-4 minutes especially for counter tops and remove excess.
7. Allow minimum of 24 hours between coats.
8. Do not leave puddles, too much sealer will gum and produce a reverse effect.
9. Tiles should not be walked on after final coat for at least 24 hours.

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EXTRA CARE

Even with the best sealers, accidents can happen and create etch marks or stains. Remember that is true with all stones containing lime (limestone, travertine, marble and cement) you need to be careful with acids and oils. Most of the foods and liquids we ingest are acidic to a certain degree.

We found that there are 3 categories of staining problems in the stone industry.

1. Etch marks.
2. Color discoloration from oil.
3. Color discoloration from non-oily products.

Our solutions for these problems on ECS products:

Etch marks from acids can be removed by using an 80 grit abrasive paper. Simply sand down the surface until you have an even result.

Color discoloration from oil: First use a strong detergent. If the stain persists, you will need to use a product called "Poultice". Repeat the process following their instructions until the stain has been lifted. Miracle sealants carry a complete line of sealer, stripper & cleaning products that are designed to work with each other.

Usually non-oily stains happen because the sealer barrier has been broken with an acid. To solve this problem, you will need to perform both processes above.

If your countertops have aged, you will need to treat the whole surface to even-out the patina. For stain-finish-countertops, make absolutely sure that oil stains have been removed completely before reapplying some chemical stain. The chemical stain will not react evenly if the cement is impregnated with oil. Control the color prior sealer.

After the stain, etch marks and patina have been restored apply several coats of sealer. For lasting protection remember that there is no such thing as over sealing your countertops.

For more information and technical support contact Euro Cast Stone at (530) 878-6665
Or check our Web site at www.eurocaststone.com to download a full color brochure in PDF format (Adobe Acrobat Reader). For a free download of this program, click on the link below.
<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>



PHYSICAL TEST DATA

Euro Cast Stone has been tested for the following performance standards:

Abrasion tests: ASTM C501
 Coefficient of friction: ASTM C1028-89
 Water absorption: ASTM C642
 Compressive strength ASTM C39 / C172 / C143 / C31.

All tests were performed according to appropriate CTI and/or ASTM test methods
 By Twining Laboratory and Capitol Engineering Laboratories Inc.

	EURO STONE	CTI STANDARDS
Abrasion tests	76	Natural clay type paver: 50 Porcelain type paver: 100
Coefficient of Friction	.92 / dry .71 /wet	Known industry & ADA C. of F. requirement is >.60 on any condition.
Water absorption **	7.4 %	4 % Minimum 18 % Maximum
Compressive strength	6400 PSI	No requirement

Euro Stone products should be installed according to ANSI A108.1 and A118.1.
 (See the Handbook for Ceramic tile Installation)

** Absorption test made prior to sealing

Copy of actual test reports available upon request.

Last edited 01/18/2001