



10 Points for Review and Discussion before selecting Stone Paving Materials

Here is a brief list of issues to consider for designers and their clients before selecting natural stone and Porphyry pavers. These considerations will make selection and specifying easier and communicating with suppliers more efficient.

- ✓ **Pedestrian, vehicular or shared surface.**
Review the use of the surfaces which will allow the appropriateness of material and thicknesses to be selected.
- ✓ **Base and sub-base considerations for the paving.**
Soil tests by a soils engineer is the best place to start to understand what you are have and the critical layers and depths, of base and sub-base material required. The excavation requirements will be revealed.
- ✓ **Storm water mitigation and drainage.**
Jointing material and depth of sub-base can be used to create pervious areas in the overall land plan; this will affect joint width in the material thickness and will be a consideration in material selection. Flexible installation is required to create pervious areas.
- ✓ **Thickness constraints**
Are there areas where minimal thickness is required due to doorway openings or other transition areas?
- ✓ **Planned life**
Determine the minimum life of the materials and installation you are considering.
- ✓ **Sources of Stains and Grease**
Review nearby or inherent sources of staining from food or vehicles that will have to be dealt with.
- ✓ **Potential use of heavy maintenance vehicles, delivery trucks**
The project should be looked at for the regular or occasional use of heavy vehicles (garbage trucks, delivery trucks, maintenance rigs) that will impact the design and require thicker stone and deeper-sub base in certain areas.

✓ **Freeze/thaw requirements**

In parts of North America, the biggest enemy of pavers is the number of freeze/thaw cycles annually. If this is a concern, request the ASTM data on the material.

✓ **Skid/Slip resistance**

The tactile nature of the surface of the material can affect the slip/skid resistance. This quality should be lasting and not only in the early years of the installation.

✓ **ADA Compliance**

The compliance with public accommodation should be a consideration.

Porphyry meets all of the technical requirements on the list above and exceeds the qualities of most other stone paver possibilities. Once these design and specifying discussions are complete, an understanding of what colorways, sizes and shapes the quarry produces, and a good understanding of quantities required will let the Porphyry supplier provide detailed estimates of pricing, including freight, and lead time.

- 1. Colorway/Colorway combinations desired/available**
- 2. Available sizes and shapes that the quarry can provide**
- 3. Project start date, procurement schedule**
- 4. Thicknesses required**
- 5. Quantities**

Porphyry's composition determines its high compression strength, resistance to stains, slip resistance, and high freeze/thaw ratings. The stone is the most popular paver in Europe, and is favored for its flexibility in design, beauty, durability and low maintenance requirements. The stone is by far one of the most durable pavers in the world.

Milestone Imports' sources of Porphyry from China, Patagonia and Mexico are the most price effective materials for the North American Marketplace. Contact us for quotes and further information.

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