

CONCRETE & CLAY ROOF TILE

Health & Safety Datasheet

PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS:

- Concrete - Compacted, moulded mixture of cement, aggregate, water and pigment colours as required.
- Clay - Compacted, moulded mixture of clay marl, aggregate and water

KNOWN HAZARDS:

- All concrete and clay products, when machined mechanically will release dust, which may contain quartz particles.
- Inhalation of high concentrations of dust may irritate the airways.
- Dust may also cause irritation of the eyes and/or skin. Inhalation of dust containing quartz, in particular the fine (respirable size) dust fraction in high concentrations or over prolonged periods of time can lead to lung disease (silicosis) and an increased risk of lung cancer.
- Constant handling of concrete masonry units without adequate skin protection and proper hygiene can cause skin irritation.

PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:

- Constant handling of concrete/clay tiles/slates without adequate protection and proper hygiene can cause skin irritation.
- Avoid dust inhalation and contact with the eyes and skin by wearing the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) e.g. safety goggles, protective clothing and an approved P3 respirator.

STORAGE AND HANDLING:

- Concrete/clay tiles/slates should be off-loaded onto a firm level surface.
- Care should be taken in the general handling and stacking, particularly with regard to the weight and stability of individual units or packs of units.
- Due consideration should be given to the disposal of banding wires and outer plastic wrappings

WORKMANSHIP

- Products should be laid in accordance with BS 5534:2003, BS 8000 Part 6:1990 as well as

Forticrete's fixing instructions.

- Site practice must comply with relevant Health & Safety recommendations, detailed in the 'Health & Safety in Roofing' publication HSG33 and document INDG284

LEGISLATION

The Manual Handling Operations Regulations places duties on employers to carry out a risk assessment on all manual handling tasks.

The CDM Regulations places duties in the form of a mandatory Health & Safety system on contractors.

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ADDITIONAL SITE INFORMATION

CLEANING PROCEDURES:

The following procedures should be applied after completion of the masonry construction, for the purpose of general cleaning down.

For the removal of general dirt and grime mild detergent such as 'Sugar Soap' may be used. This can be obtained from most builders' merchants.

In the event of staining which cannot be removed by general cleaning techniques, the use of certain proprietary products such as CM1 mortar cleaner by Hydron* may be used subject to clarification from the Forticrete Technical Department.

This method should not be attempted until all other less aggressive options have been considered. Under no circumstances should acid or non-approved cleaners containing acid be applied to Forticrete Specification Masonry, Cast Stone, Precast or Astra-Glaze products.

Remedial cleaning procedures may affect the final appearance of facing masonry. Therefore it is advisable to carry out an initial test cleaning on an affected area that will not be seen.

*Hydron Protective Coatings Ltd.,
Phoenix Works, Marlborough Estate, Cockshutts Lane,
Wolverhampton WV2 3NP. Telephone: 01902 450950

ARCHITECTURAL MASONRY & CAST STONE

The effects of marks and stains can be reduced with the use of a stiff bristle brush (not wire). For the removal of general dirt and grime a mild detergent such as 'Sugar Soap' may be used. This can be obtained from most builders' merchants.

The use of 'brick acid' is not recommended for the cleaning of Forticrete Masonry, as it can seriously attack the cement and aggregate matrix of the blockwork.

Power wash treatments in excess of 100psi are not recommended as they could 'blast out' the fines of the blockwork or damage the mortar joints at high pressures. However, a standard hose may be utilised when washing down.

Please note that mortar which does encroach on to the face of the masonry should be cleaned off as work proceeds. It should not be allowed to 'go off'.

POLISHED MASONRY PRODUCTS

Any mortars, plasters or materials sticking to the block should be removed with a plastic or wooden scraper prior to the contaminant 'going off'.

Care should be taken to ensure that this process does not scratch the surface of the block. The area must then be cleaned down using a mild detergent such as 'Sugar Soap', washed thoroughly and allowed to dry.

A proprietary marble cleaner can be used to restore the product's sheen if the polished face is damaged during cleaning. A lamb's wool buffer with a bee's wax polish can further enhance the product's sheen. Vegetable-based waxes should not be used as they can attack the cement content of the concrete blocks.

Please note that mortar which does encroach onto the face of the masonry should be cleaned off as work proceeds. It should not be allowed to 'go off'.

ASTRA-GLAZE

Any grouts, mortars, plasters or materials sticking to the block should be removed carefully with a plastic scraper prior to the contaminant 'going off'.

When grout is being used to point Astra-Glaze it must be gun applied and immediately wiped off the face of the block if it encroaches upon it.

For any further advice or information please contact the Forticrete Technical Department on 0800 262136

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