

Sculptured Sands

Version 1 / October 2020



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Construction and Cleaning Recommendations



The Sculptured Sands Range

1



Natural



Opaque



Austral Bricks Sculptured Sands

We celebrate early techniques for forming and baking natural clay in our expanded range of Sandstocks. Each brick has individual character and varied shapes, resulting from nature’s artistry. We’ve sourced new raw materials, carefully selected sands and perfected firing techniques to provide our Natural and Opaque ranges, each offering a contemporary update to an ancient method of brick making.

Natural Collection



Beach

GP



Dolomite

EXP



Granite

GP



Ochre

EXP



Siltstone

EXP

Opaque Collection



Quartz

GP



Calcite

EXP



Olivine

EXP



Arenite

GP

SIZE: 230L x 110W x 76H

Construction Recommendations

2



Brick Construction

These recommendations are to provide a best practice guide for the Sculptured Sands bricks during the construction and cleaning processes, which, when followed will reduce common problems.

1. Storage

Ensure bricks are stored appropriately (either on pallets or on plastic sheeting), to prevent bricks absorbing ground salts and excessive water, which causes issues when laid.

Bricks should always be protected from rain with plastic or similar waterproof material.

2. Blending

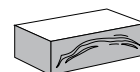
Bricks are to be blended from three packs, in a vertical manner.

There are four usable faces – two headers and two stretchers. To achieve the full blended look, a relatively even mix of all four sides is to be used.

Bricks can be laid with either the frog up or down. Frog up will make the bricks “smile”, frog down will make the bricks “frown”.



Frog UP –
Smiling



Frog DOWN –
Frowning

To achieve the blended look for the Sculptured Sands Opaque series, it is recommended to use approximately **80% of the light** coloured face and approximately **20% of the dark** coloured face.

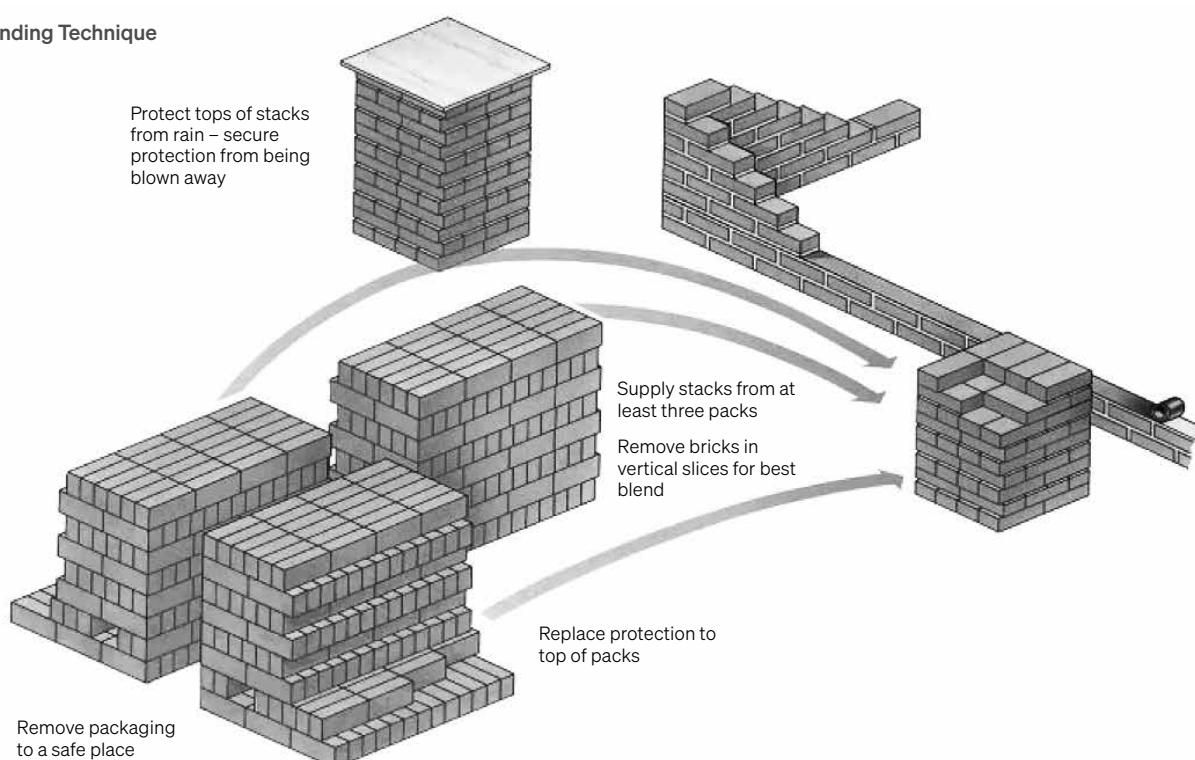


Light coloured face



Dark coloured face

Correct Blending Technique



3. Bricklaying

Care should be taken to help keep the wall free of mortar dags and smears. During the laying process, these should be cut off with a trowel. The cleaner the bricklayer leaves the wall, the easier the cleaning task will be.

- Mortar dags and smears on the work face must be removed by dry brushing within 1-2 days
- Do not sponge the joints of the brickwork, otherwise it may create permanent stains.

4. Moisture

Cover the brickwork at the end of each day, especially when rain is expected. Additionally, ensure all bricks stored on-site are not exposed to rain. Failure to prevent moisture from entering the brickwork during construction may result in efflorescence and other leaching issues.

5. Copings, Sills & Weathering

Storm water should be shed so as to clear the masonry immediately below. Copings and sills should project at least 10mm beyond the wall face at the underside of the sill or coping. Where downpipes have not been installed, water from the guttering should be diverted away from the brickwork.

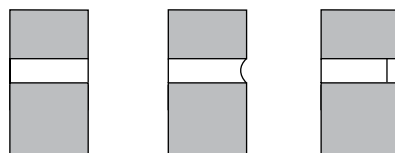
6. Mortar Joint

A mortar joint of 8-12mm is recommended. This variance will compensate for the irregular edges of the bricks.

A flushed joint will aid in filling in any spaces created from the irregular brick edges. The mortar can also be lightly smeared over the edges of the brick to enhance the rustic look.

An ironed or raked joint will emphasise the irregular shape of the brick.

In exposure environments, an ironed joint should be used.



Flush

Ironed

Raked

7. Cutting

Clean water is to be used for all brick cutting. If the water is recycled, it will be absorbed into the brick and cause it to discolour.

Cleaning Recommendations

3

1. Safety Precautions

The use of the correct cleaning methods will prevent further problems arising.

The manufacturer's instructions and safety precautions should always be followed when using acids and other proprietary cleaning chemicals.

2. Cleaning Procedure

Cleaning as you go is the best method for ensuring good brickwork. Mortar dag and smears are best cleaned when fresh (within 1-2 days).

Opaque series:

To maintain the white finish on the Opaque series, **no cleaning** other than brushing off excess mortar is required and it is recommended that **no acid and no high pressure water are applied.**

Natural Series:

- Wet wall from bottom to top with hose
- Combine 1 part hydrochloric acid to 20 parts water
- Apply the acid solution with a low pressure spray (less than 100psi) and scrub lightly with a bristle brush. Never use a wire brush as this could ruin the surface of the brickwork. Ensure to work on a small area at a time. Work always from the top side to the bottom of the wall. Allow 3 to 6 minutes for the acid to react

- Thoroughly wash the wall down with a hose
- Do this uniformly to avoid marks / stains when the wall is dry
- Mix 15 grams of Sodium Bicarbonate (Bicarbonate Soda/ Baking Soda) per litre of water and apply the solution with a brush or a low pressure spray (less than 100psi) to neutralise the wall. Do not wash off.



Visit. australbricks.com.au

Call. 13 Brick

Design Studios

Sydney

2 Barrack Street,
Sydney
NSW 2000
02 9611 4200
sydneydesignstudio
@brickworks.com.au

Melbourne

Ground Floor
367 Collins Street,
Melbourne
VIC 3000
03 8621 7777
melbournedesignstudio
@brickworks.com.au

Brisbane

27 James Street,
Fortitude Valley
QLD 4006
07 3634 5604
brisbanedesignstudio
@brickworks.com.au

Adelaide

Ground Floor,
70 Hindmarsh Square,
Adelaide
SA 5000
08 8443 2222
adelaidedesignstudio
@brickworks.com.au

Perth

67 King Street,
Perth
WA 6000
08 6332 5800
perthdesignstudio
@brickworks.com.au

Hobart

7-9 Franklin Wharf
Hobart
TAS 7000
03 6212 9120
hobartdesignstudio
@brickworks.com.au

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