

Brick Care Instructions

Important Handling Instructions

If your bricks arrive on a pallet, **remove the plastic wrap as soon as possible** to prevent moisture buildup, which can cause **efflorescence** (a white, powdery deposit on the surface).

Installation Guidelines

We strongly recommend hiring a **local professional** for installation.

To maintain your brick warranty, proper installation and maintenance are essential. Always use **ASTM C144 sand**, the standard for joint sand as per the **Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute (ICPI)**.

Important Notes:

- Do **not** put sand between the bricks due to drainage concerns.
- Ensure no sand remains in the engraving or on the bricks after installation.

Sealing Guidelines

Concrete Pavers vs. Clay Pavers

	<u>Concrete Pavers</u>	<u>Clay Pavers</u>
When to Seal	A few months after installation	Immediately after installation (bricks must be dry)
How Often	Every few years, as needed	Every 2-6 years, depending on your region
Recommended Sealer	Acrylic-based	Water-based

Before sealing, consult a **local contractor** for advice based on your region's weather. Always test the sealer on a few bricks before applying it to the entire surface.

Brick Cleaning & Maintenance

- **Regular Cleaning:** Sweep bricks frequently with a soft broom to remove debris. Leaves and dirt left on the surface can cause stains.
- **Washing:** Use a mild detergent mixed with water. For heavy dirt, apply detergent directly and rinse thoroughly with a hose.
- **Stain Removal:** Use an **organic stain remover** or a similar cleaner free of harsh acids, caustics, or solvents.

Common Brick Issues & Solutions

Efflorescence (Chalky White Haze)

Efflorescence is a white, powdery deposit caused by water-soluble salts. It can be removed with a vinegar-water solution or a cleaner recommended by your contractor.

Chatter Marks (White Spots)

These marks occur when bricks rub against each other. Over time, they fade naturally with exposure to the elements. Light cleaning can also help reduce their appearance.

What to Avoid


- **Do NOT** use high-pressure water or steel brushes for cleaning.
- **Do NOT** use acid-based cleaners.
- **Avoid** using salt or metal shovels for snow removal—opt for sand or biodegradable cat litter for traction.

By following these simple guidelines, your **bricks** will remain beautiful for years to come!

Contact Information

Polar Engraving

6166 Taylor Rd. Suite #105, Naples, FL 34109

 **1-800-546-7993**

 Info@polarengraving.com

 PolarEngraving.com