

Installation Guide

**Sawn Yorkstone
for external use**



YORKSTONE

SUPPLIES

Contents

1. Introduction to natural Yorkstone
2. Chipping & Marks
3. Installing Yorkstone paving
 - 3.1 Drainage
 - 3.2 Preparation
 - 3.3 Measurements
 - 3.4 Starting your installation
 - 3.5 Building a mortar bed
 - 3.6 Laying patterns
4. Installing Yorkstone steps
 - 4.1 Preparing the step base
 - 4.2 Laying out the mortar bed
 - 4.3 Installing the first step
 - 4.4 Installing the first riser
 - 4.5 Installing the rest
5. Installing Yorkstone coping stones
 - 5.1 Preparing the wall
 - 5.2 Laying out the mortar bed
 - 5.3 Installing the first coping stone
 - 5.4 Installing the rest
6. Sealing & Aftercare



Introduction to natural Yorkstone

Yorkstone is a natural stone product quarried in Yorkshire, UK. Famous around the world for its exceptional building properties, there are lots of benefits to using a natural locally-quarried stone - from its durability and grip to the way it looks even better over time.

The variations that occur in Yorkstone's appearance and texture are what make it special. Veining and other idiosyncracies are common in natural products, but they are not for everyone. So it's a good idea to research different kinds of stone and their unique variations first, to make sure you're definitely getting a look you'll love for years to come.

We also strongly recommend that you commission an experienced professional to install your stone. Different sites present their own unique challenges - such as clay-rich or sandy soils - so it's always better to leave it to someone who is familiar with those conditions. We partner with a number of trusted landscapers and can recommend someone local to you for a competitive quote. We also recommend you get multiple quotes from different suppliers before making a decision.

Here are some of the colour variations you'll find in our sawn range:



1



2



3



4



5



6



Chipping & Marks

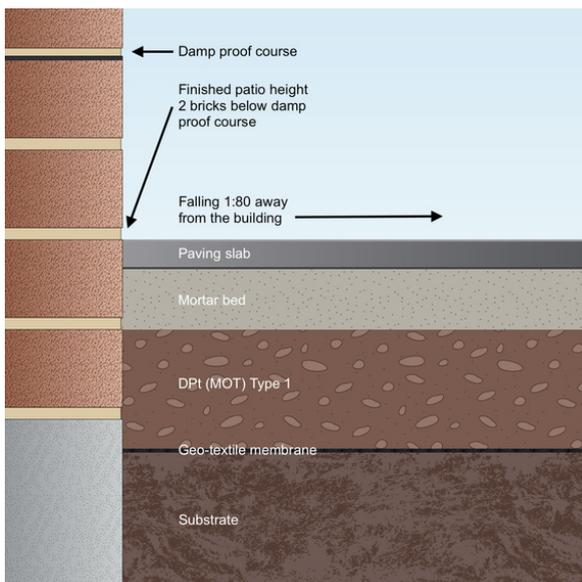
Yorkstone Steps and Risers are a very popular choice for creating striking entrances that are built to last. Yorkstone's unbeatable durability and slip resistance in the wet make them perfect for thoroughfares, especially when you complement them with our Yorkstone Paving. However, because our products are made from natural stone you may find some slight chipping or marks. Rest assured this will just add to the character they acquire as they see more and more footfall over the years.



Installing Yorkstone Paving

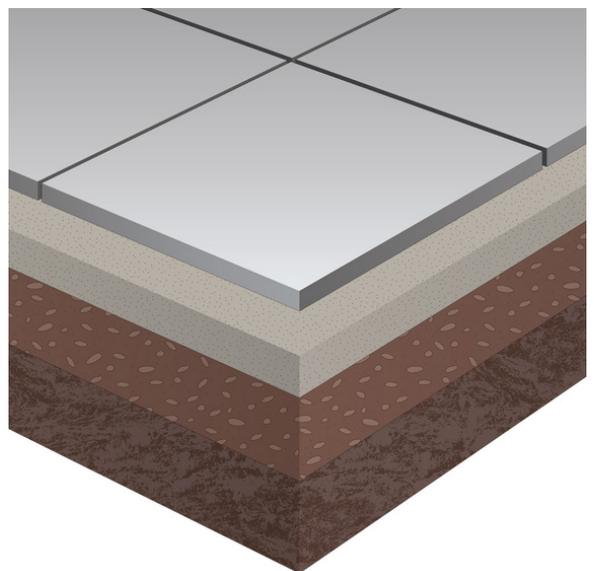
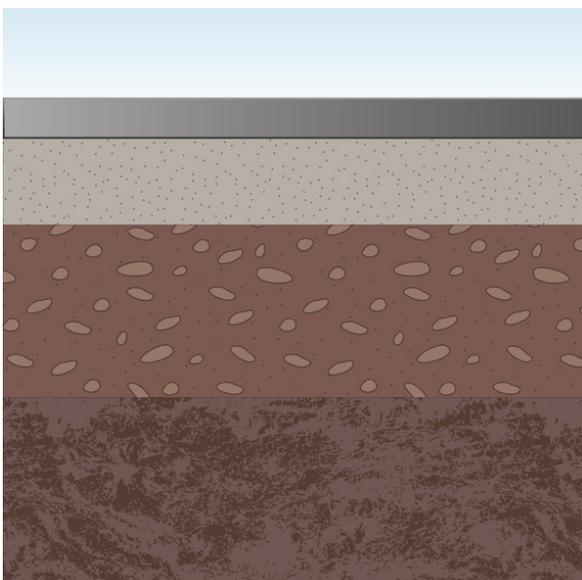
Drainage

It's very important to consider drainage before laying any kind of paving. It's a good idea to drain away from the house, if possible, and make sure the finished height is at least 150mm (or two courses) below the damp proof course. Laying your paving with a fall of 1:80 will help ensure natural run off. Just remember this fall needs to be applied to the excavation and the sub-base so all construction layers are equal.



Preparation

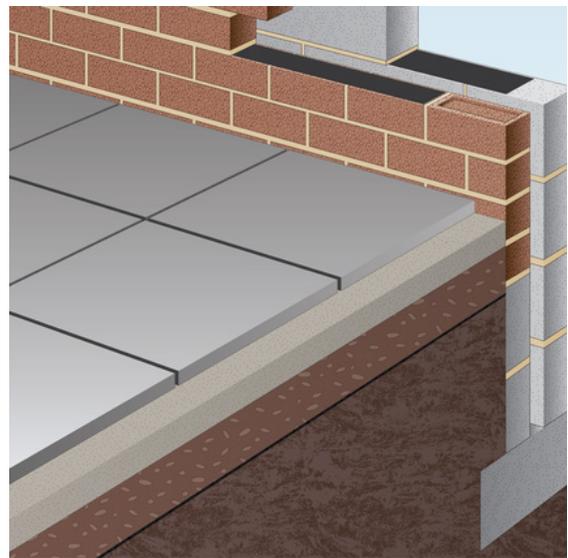
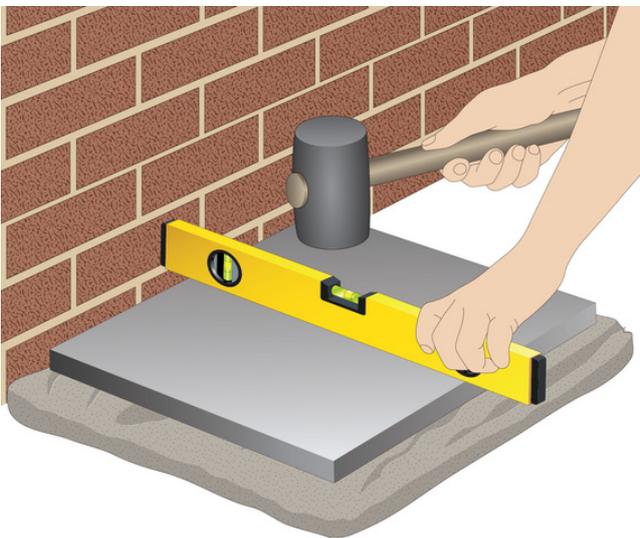
The thickness of your paving will depend on the exact stone you choose, so you'll need to adjust your mortar bed to suit as required. We recommend that you excavate the area to the required depth then install Geo-Textile (non-woven) membrane..



Installing Yorkstone paving

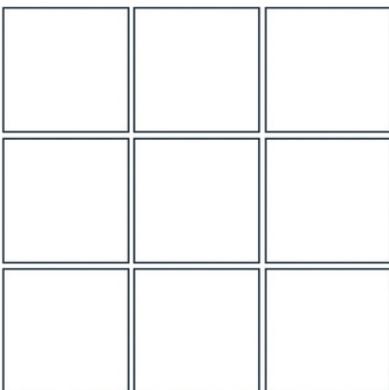
Building a mortar bed

Once you've completed your measurements you'll need to create a suitable mortar bed. Start by spreading semi-wet mortar out across an area slightly larger than the first stone paver you plan to lay. Using a trowel, create peaks and troughs in the mortar, then place the paver on top. Your paver should be sitting slightly higher than the string lines. Tap it down with a rubber mallet until it aligns with the strings. The paver should now be level along one plane and sloping on the other - double check this is right with a spirit level before moving on. If you are using a light coloured stone, a white mallet will help make sure you don't leave any marks.

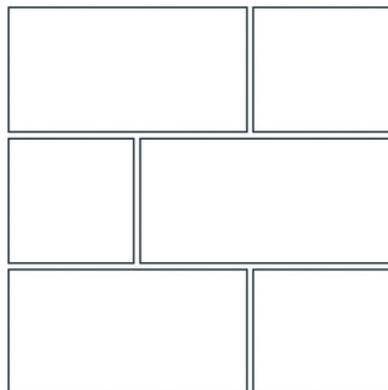


Laying patterns

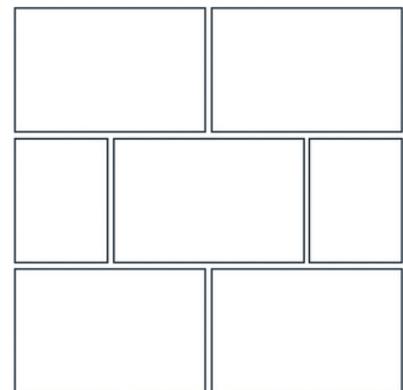
Here are some lay patterns you may find useful, depending on the exact type of stone and dimensions of your project.



Square x square



600mm x random



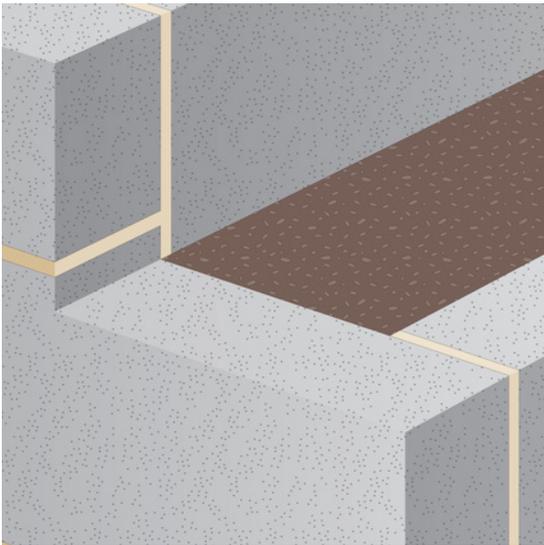
Set width x set length



Installing Yorkstone steps

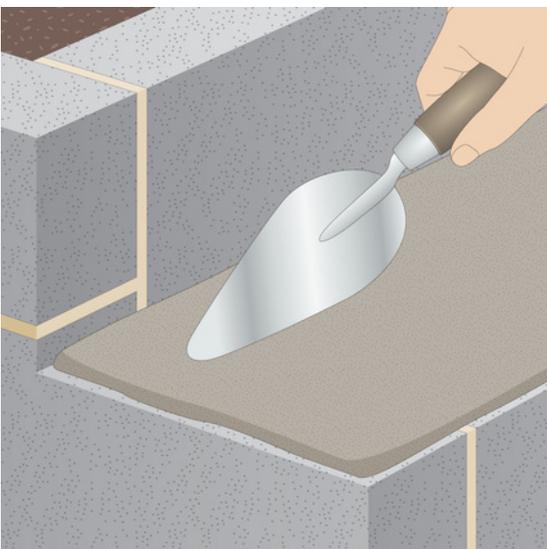
Preparing the step base

The key to successfully installing any bespoke stone steps is good preparation. If you get your step base right, everything else should be straightforward. We recommend that you construct your step base using concrete blocks on top of strong concrete foundations. It should also be flat and smooth, with no mortar protruding anywhere. It's also a good idea to try and design the step base with dimensions that lead to minimal cutting of the Yorkstone itself. If you have any gaps or cavities, just fill them neatly with concrete or compacted DPT (MOT) Type 1.



Laying out the mortar bed

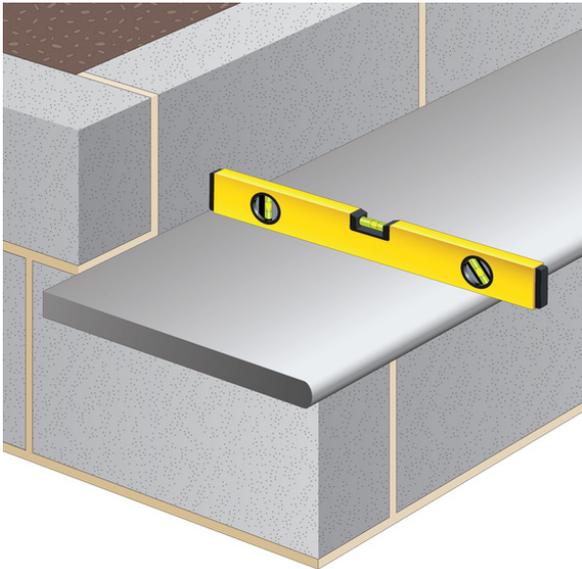
Next, spread a layer of mortar across the base, starting with the strip where your first step tread is going to be fixed. You'll want this mortar bed to be around 20-25mm thick. Using a trowel, make little peaks and troughs in the mortar to help with adhesion. To give it even more grip, paint the back of your coping stones with a slurry of SBR and cement.



Installing Yorkstone steps

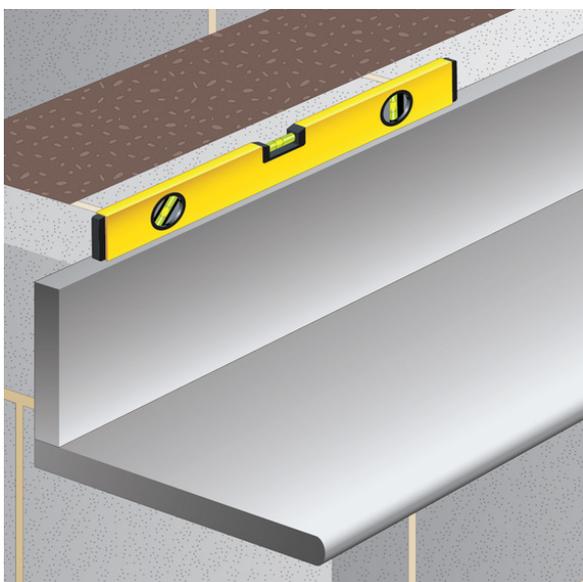
Installing the first step

Lay your first step tread into place on the mortar bed. Then, use a rubber mallet to tap it level. You'll want it to be perfectly level left to right, but with a slight fall from back to front to allow rainwater to run off. Check everything with a spirit level as you go to make sure it's all spot on.



Installing the first riser

The riser should sit neatly on top of the step tread, as shown below, i.e. perfectly flush with no gaps at all. Spread the same mortar mix you used to lay the step tread on the back of the rise, then press it firmly into place. Before moving on, just double check that it's level with a small spirit level, and use a tape measure to check the riser is square to the step tread.



Installation Yorkstone steps

Installing the rest

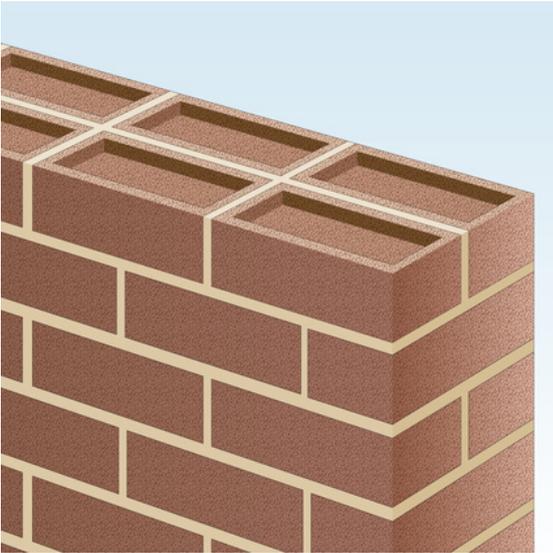
Now just repeat these techniques until all your step treads and risers are in place, checking that everything is nice and level as you go. It's likely that you'll have a mortar spill at some point so make sure you've got a sponge and a bucket of clean water handy just in case. Any spills should be wiped up as soon as they happen - the longer you wait the harder they will be to clean.



Installing Yorkstone coping stones

Preparing the wall

Like steps, the right preparation is essential if you want your coping stones to look beautiful and last a long time. Build your wall from concrete blocks using concrete foundations, ensuring a nice smooth finish. You don't want any mortar protruding anywhere. It also helps if you can design your wall to dimensions that will minimise the number of cuts required to your coping stones. If you spot any cavities, just fill them with either concrete or compacted DPt (MOT) Type 1.



Laying out the mortar bed

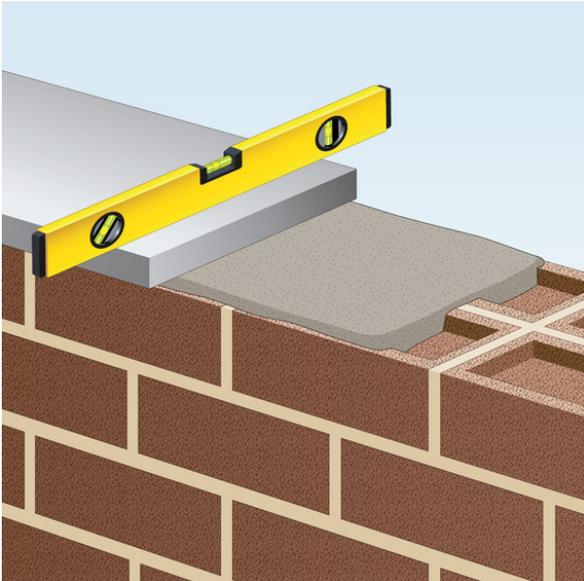
Start by spreading a layer of mortar approximately 10-20mm thick across the base where your first coping stone is going to sit. Next, create peaks and troughs in the mortar bed using a trowel. For even more powerful adhesion, paint the back of each coping stone with a slurry of SBR and cement before you place it.



Installing Yorkstone coping stones

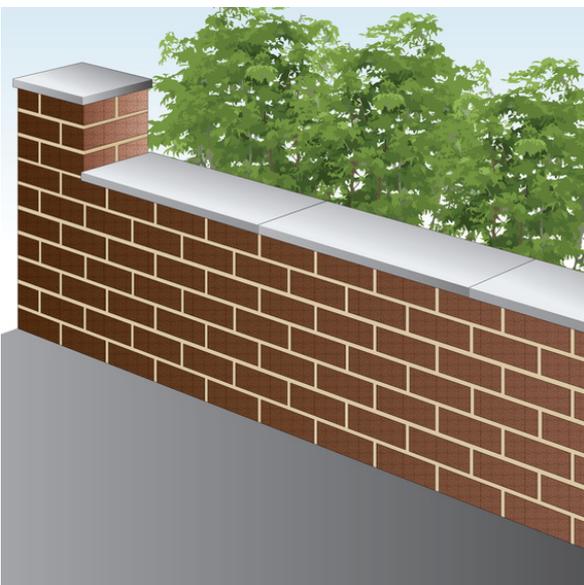
Installing the first coping stone

Now you can place the first coping stone onto the mortar bed you've just created. Once in place, use a rubber mallet to tap it level. We recommend keeping it level horizontally, with a small fall incorporated back to front for run-off. (This isn't required if you're installing weathered coping stones). Use a spirit level to check it's right, and a tape measure to ensure that the coping stone is square to the wall.



Installing the remaining coping stones

Now keep going using the same approach until all the coping stones are in place. It's a good idea to keep checking the levels are correct as you go with a spirit level. Keep a sponge and a bucket of clean water to hand in case of mortar spills, and don't forget to clean them promptly before they start to harden.



Sealing & Aftercare

Sealing

Sealing is extremely important if you want your hard work to last, in fact we recommend sealing everything before you start the installation, since this can help you avoid problematic weather. Lifothin is our sealant of choice, but there are plenty more available. If you are sealing after installation, leave it at least 5 weeks before doing this, and please check what you are planning to do with a professional first - especially which products you plan to use on your Yorkstone.



Aftercare

Your Yorkstone should now look fantastic, and you'll want to keep it looking that way over time. Just don't over do it - 1-2 times a year should be plenty, and if you are using a jet washer make sure it is on a low-medium setting. Take extra care when washing around the mortar and cemented areas, as it's very easy to erode your handiwork prematurely.



Other things to consider

- Natural stone tends to have a very natural character, and features such as veining, blemishes, small chips and holes are all quite common. We love this character, and so do our customers, but if you prefer a uniform appearance then maybe take a look at a manmade stone product instead.
- We recommend that you allow at least 10% wastage for cutting when placing your order. To make this easier, we've added it as an option on our product pages, so you just need to select it when putting it into the basket.

Manufacturing standards

All our Yorkstone products meet the required European Standards (BS EN 1341/1342).

Where to lay your products

Yorkstone Sawn Paving is ideal for patios, steps and paths, just make sure you double check the thickness option is correct for your project before you order. The one application that is probably best avoided is using Sawn Paving on a driveway. The light colour of the stone means it will pick up a lot of marks from tyres.

A complementary range

As Yorkstone specialists, most of our products will look great alongside your Sawn paving - from setts and steps to coping stones and all kinds of bespoke pieces made to order. If you would like to know more, just get in touch with our team.

Sustainability

We're proud to say our Yorkstone is a highly sustainable alternative to many other stone options. Because it is 100% natural stone, it is 100% recyclable. And it's all quarried here in the UK, which means it has nothing like the carbon emissions of cheap, lower quality alternatives from overseas.

Maintenance & cleaning

As mentioned, we recommend that you seal your stone before you install it with our recommended sealant Lifothin. If you are sealing after installation, make sure you wait at least 5 weeks before starting. If you are using alternative products on your Yorkstone, check with a professional first, and keep all jetwashing to a minimum, especially around mortar / cement areas.

Any questions?

If there's anything else that you want to know about your Yorkstone, just get in touch with our expert team on 01483 930104.



What next?

Get a taste for free

All our Yorkstone products are available to purchase online, but if you're not sure which is right, just order one of our complimentary samples. Seeing and feeling the stone in your hands is a key part of having confidence that you're making the right choice. Just click the button on the product page and we'll send you one out free of charge.

Visit our showroom

Alternatively, you can get an even closer look by visiting our showroom in Cranleigh, Surrey. Please give our team a call before your visit to make sure we definitely have what you are looking for in stock.

Trade discount

If you're in the trade, we offer a range of great discounts and benefits through our trade accounts. Get in touch today to find out more about opening one for your business.

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