



Sandstone and Pre-Cast Concrete

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## SEALING SANDSTONE PRODUCT

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To protect your valuable investment in Benzini products, we highly recommend sealing our product. Sealing will assist in keeping your paving or ornamental pieces looking their best for a long time.

Sealing will both assist in reducing mould/algae build up and also make cleaning easier.

### WHAT SEALER SHOULD I CHOOSE?

There are several types of sealer to choose from:

- Penetrating
- Colour enhancing
- Satin / Gloss finish

Benzini would recommend a good quality penetrating sealer for most of our products including ornamental and paving. Sometimes the use of a colour enhancing sealer is chosen to deepen the colours. Satin or gloss sealers are not recommended for our sandstone products as they create a surface coating that does not allow the sandstone to breathe.

***Benzini sells a range of sealing products to suit different applications and budgets.***

### HOW OFTEN SHOULD I RE-SEAL?

We are often asked how often sealer should be applied. This is easy to test. If you sprinkle water onto your sandstone product and it penetrates straight into the product then it is probably time to re-seal. If the water balls on the surface then the sandstone is still being protected by sealer.

### POOL COPING

For sandstone paving or pool coping that is installed around pools it is very important to maintain sealer. If not sealed and maintained several problems may occur.

### Salt Attack

This is caused by repeated wetting of the sandstone pavers with salt that is found in most pools. The salt penetrates into the stone and then dries and then is re-wet causing the expanding and growth of the salt crystals. This causes an 'exploding' effect and exposes the aggregate of the pavers. Salt water can also rise by absorption or capillary action.

Benzini Atlantic Range are produced using low levels of water thus creating a denser cement paste and reducing the risk of salt attack.

### Efflorescence

Is a whitish build up of soluble salts rising to the surface of the cement based product. This is always caused by water/rain. This type of efflorescence can be easily removed if seen to as soon as it occurs by brushing or by a weak mix of water with phosphoric acid. There are products available at your local hardware store such as a *Klem* product "Anti-Eff" or *Crommelin's* "Efflorescence Remover". Small amounts of efflorescence will wear away with time without being treated. Prevention of efflorescence is achieved by minimising water entry into the sandstone product.

PLEASE CONTACT BENZINI TO DISCUSS ANY OF YOUR SEALING CONCERNS.....

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