

Architectural Stone Dressings

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Pointing & Repair of Cast Stone

Before the pointing takes place, remove all loose and flaky material. In the case of a hair line crack, the pointing area should be appropriately 'V' to give a greater key. Lightly brush off all dust particles.

Whilst the material is graded at the works, it is advisable to pass the pointing mix through a fine sieve to eliminate any large granules.

It is advisable to mask around the area of pointing, to avoid spillage onto existing good surfaces, it will also give sharper and cleaner finishes to the pointing. Masking around the area will take time, but care with this part of the exercise will ensure a less conspicous pointing.

By volume, mix three parts of sieved pointing mix to one part of **White** or **Grey** cement. (Broad Stone to advise on cement colour).

Add water sparingly to the mix until a stiff doughy consistency has been achieved. The most practical way of ensuring the pointing mix is of the right consistency and stiffness is to squeeze a sample in the hand. The mix should bind together and not exude through the fingers. (use a small hand held garden spray to add water)

Damp the area and then carefully dab the pointing area with neat PVA before applying the pointing mix to the damaged area. Using a small trowel and where applicable use a straight plastic edge to obtain sharp arise finishes. (on deep vertical areas, pointing mix should be left to dry overnight and finished the next day)

Once the pointing mix has been trowelled and smoothed in, remove the masking tape. If the pointing area is slightly proud, using a small sharp trowel, carefully shave the excess off to leave an equal plain. Do not let the pointing mix dry out too quickly, lightly water spray regularly.

Leave the pointing or repaired area to cure for 2/3 days and if required, dampen area with water and lightly rub down with a grade grit 240 wet/dry paper to blend pointing finish with existing. (When finishing with the wet/dry paper, take care not to rub too much on the good areas surrounding the pointing).

If necessary pointings and surrouding areas can be cleaned with a weak hydrochloric solution such as a diluted acid wash or a prprietary concrete cleaner available from any Builders Merchants.

Note - Due to the use of a bonding agent the pointing will show a slightly lighter colour against the existing/surrounding cast stone. This will in time "Weather in".