Damage and Defects

Here are several basic problems that can occur to cast stone after it is installed. Some can be eliminated with basic maintenance procedures, such as cleaning and sealing, and some are the result of improper handling or manufacturing defects.

The most common problems are the results of simple weathering and dirt deposited on the stone and are easily cleaned

Crazing is thin, spider web like cracks on the surface of cast stone. It is the result of surface shrinkage that occurs during the curing process. These cracks are only a few thousandths of an inch deep, and in no way affect the durability of the stone. The best way to remove crazing is to clean the stone (as per cleaning instructions in our catalog or on our website at http://www.stonelegends.com/howTo_clean_castStone.asp, found under Technical/Stone Care. After cleaning seal the stone with a professional stone sealer, (details also found on our website) to prevent dirt from being redeposited into the micro cracks.

Efflorescence is a light colored crystalline deposit most often found on new masonry products. It is the result of moisture, which causes salt to come to the surface of the stone. Efflorescence is completely harmless to the stone, but may cause paint on the stone to peel off. It can be cleaned with masory cleaning solutions or even a dilute Muratic Acid wash. See our website for further instructions.

Small chips can be repaired with a mixture of sand and adhesive. The best color match would be to use a pulverized scrap piece of the same stone for the sand. Again our website has further instructions and recommendations for tone repair

Sealing is not necessary to maintain your cast stone, but it can prevent stains and other problems such as those mentioned above. Cast Stone should not be sealed for six months to a year after installation, ask your mason what he recomments.

You can call us anytime with questions about stone care, cleaning, or any surface preparation like sealing painting or staining. We will help you get the look you want, and help you keep it.