

Recommendations on the purchase, use and maintenance of Schellevis products

You've chosen a unique Schellevis concrete product with a natural and inspiring character, a result of the distinctive broken basalt finish.

Please read our suggestions and recommendations for the purchase, use and maintenance of the Schellevis products. By following these suggestions and recommendations you will achieve the best result with these distinctive Schellevis products.

Distinctive features of Schellevis products:

Schellevis concrete products are produced with natural raw materials, a result of which small variations in size and slight differences in structure and colour can occur and are actually part of its distinctive character.

The broken basalt finish structure gives our products their distinctive and unique look and is always the top side of the product. Because our products are slightly tapered they should not be used upside down.

Important points for ordering and supplying:

- Do calculate accurately how many m² or number of items of our products are needed. Take something extra into account (10-15%) for the cutting of products for an exact fit.
- When products are re-ordered there is always a chance that they were produced in another batch. Therefore, and because natural raw materials are being used, there might be slight differences in structure and colour.
- With repeat orders there will be renewed costs for transport or delivery.
- Make sure that the pallets or crates can be placed on a level surface when delivered.
- Always check your purchase for the correct type of product, colour and amount when delivered.
- Leave the products wrapped and packed until the actual moment of use in order to prevent damage, discolouring or the blooming of a lime scale formation.

Preparation, usage and finishing:

Base surface:

A suitable surface and sub-strata is the basis for the successful use of our concrete slabs. Depending on the stability of the soil or underlay, the size and thickness of the slabs used, the intended use of the tiles, the type of traffic on them and other project-specific factors it is very important to make the right, substantiated choice before ordering and starting. Preferably use a skilled and experienced paving installer to help you with this.

Laying the slabs:

- Preferably leave the laying of slabs to an experienced paving installer.
- The slabs should be laid with a small open joint of 4-5 mm minimum. This because of the slight variations in size that are part of the slabs' natural characteristics.
- Prevent any shoving or sliding of the slabs on top of each other in order to prevent possible scratches or damage.

Schellevis wishes you many years of joy with our products!

- Create a laying course of compacted sand, dry mix or mortar depending upon site conditions and customer preference, with a gradient of 1-2%.
- Depending upon the site's individual sub-strata we advise that thickness of the laying course should be:
 - With a stable sub-strata: 10-15cm.
 - With a loose sub-strata: 20 cm minimum.
- The laying course, if sand, should be mechanically compacted.
- Use of a vibrating plate compacter on the slabs, once laid, is not recommended. Only a rubber hammer should be used manually for tapping the slabs in place.
- Slabs of 80x80 cm and larger can be placed by using a vacuum lifting unit due to their weight and size. The size of the vacuum nozzle and the lifting capacity of the vacuum lifting unit is to be adapted to the size of the individual paving unit. The maximum vacuum capacity should never be more than two times the weight of the concrete unit. This is in order to prevent damage by a too large a vacuum capacity.
- While laying or placing the products of one type and colour, an equal use of the different pallets or crates should be used to ensure a homogenous mixture of colours and products.
- After cleaning the pavement, the joints can be filled with a clean and pure fine lime-free gravel or kiln dried sand. Two-part proprietary jointing media can also be used, as can a mastic sealant, upon customer preference. **Any surplus of jointing media must to be removed instantly.** No filling material is to be used that is not guaranteed clean and free of cement, lime and dirt.
- **Cutting of the slabs should not take place on the actual pavement but at a sufficient distance to prevent any scaling of cement. Cut pieces should to be rinsed clean before used.**
- All cutting should to be done wet, using water along the cutting blade. Dry cutting will produce too much lime dust which will cling to the pavement.

Cleaning and maintenance

- All stains that occur naturally, will also disappear again. This golden rule can be applied on all organic stains, such as stains caused by leaves. Regular cleaning and the influence of rain will make these stains disappear.
- It is recommended you keep your pavement clean on a regular basis by sweeping or using a blower. When necessary you can clean the pavement with water. The use of synthetic or chemical detergents like chlorine is strongly advised against. If necessary one can use a soft organic soap. We strongly advise against the use of jet washers.
- The use of high-pressure cleaners is advised against, because these cleaners roughen the surface of the slabs which will therefore become more vulnerable to future pollution by stains.
- Never leave any soil, peat, dirty sand or cement on the slabs. Remove directly and clean with clean water and a soft brush;
- The appearance of algae and moss is a natural process and is caused by a combination of less sunlight, a higher humidity and a lower temperature. This is true for all paving materials, both concrete and natural stone. This is quite easily removed, without scrubbing, by using a biological anti-moss or anti-algae agent.
- The blooming of a lime scale formation is a natural process that sometimes occurs and is caused by a chemical reaction of the cement inside the concrete with (rain)water and results in a so-called lime scale formation (efflorescence) on the surface of the product. This will normally soon disappear again and therefore is temporary.

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