

Reactive Chemical Stains - for Winterstone Sculpture

Composed of water, hydrochloric acid and water soluble metallic salts. The chemical stain solutions penetrate the substrate and react with the cementitious components in the cured WINTERSTONE. This reaction produces insoluble colour deposits in the pores. As the colours of the chemical stains vary, so does the complex chemical composition of the stain. No resins or pigments are included. The reaction etches the WINTERSTONE slightly, removes laitance and promotes a more effective chemical reaction and deeper colour penetration.

The colour produced depends on the particular chemical formulation. The colour produced will vary from surface to surface. These colour differences are dependent upon the chemical composition, porosity, age, texture and colour of the surface, preparation of the surface, application techniques and number of coatings. Mottling and colour variations will occur. Patched areas can vary significantly as to colour from adjacent areas. This is not a paint or coating i.e. does not "cover up", but rather works in conjunction with the colour tones of the substrate.

There are eight standard stains available, which may be diluted or applied over one another to expand the palette.

Castings may not "wet out" uniformly - generally due to the mold release and/or type of mold material used. This may be resolved by a light Scotch Brite rub or weak acid brushing to get rid of the surface "laitance" and open up the pores. Stain should be applied in 2 or more applications. After the final coat has dried (or at least after 4 hours) remove the salty residue by rinsing or sponging off with water.

The stain colours become part of the surface. The surfaces will be fade resistant and will not chip, crack or peel. The application of a sealer, either solvent base or water base, is recommended to protect the surface in an outdoor environment from extreme atmospheric pollutants and weathering.