

THIS INFORMATION IS FROM ADA (AMERICAN DISABILITY ACT) AND ICPI (INTERLOCKING CONCRETE PAVING INSTITUTE) AND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING TRAVERTINE AND MARBLE PAVERS.

1. Q. WHY IS TRAVERTINE AND MARBLE SO POPULAR AND INEXPENSIVE?

A. 10 YEARS AGO 90% OF ALL TRAVERTINE AND MARBLE WAS IMPORTED FROM ITALY AFTER THE 9/11/2001 ATTACK. PRESIDENT BUSH DROPPED THE EMBARGO WITH TURKEY, GAVE TURKEY 20 BILLION DOLLARS AND LOWERED TARIFFS (TO HAVE MILITARY BASED IN TURKEY). NOW VIRTUALLY ALL TRAVERTINE AND MARBLE IS IMPORTED FROM TURKEY.

2. Q. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRAVERTINE AND MARBLE?

A. THEY ARE BOTH NATURAL LIME STONES. TRAVERTINE HAS DIMPLES AND CAVITIES WITH EXCELLENT FRICTION (NON SLIP). MARBLE HAS A SMOOTH FINISH WITHOUT CAVITIES. FOR OUTDOOR USE SHOULD BE TREATED WITH A NON-SKID ADDITIVE.

3. Q. WHICH SUPPLIER DO YOU RECOMMEND?

A. WE DEAL WITH ALL SUPPLIERS BECAUSE DIFFERENT SUPPLIERS HAVE CLAIMS ON DIFFERENT QUARRIES.

4. Q. WHY DOES TRAVERTINE AND MARBLE VARY IN PRICE?

A. FREIGHT COST. SOME QUARRIES MAY BE 50 MILES FROM THE SEA PORT, OTHERS CAN BE 500 MILES OR MORE. ALSO, THE LARGER THE FORMAT SIZE OF THE PRODUCT WILL INCREASE THE COST. EXAMPLE, THE LEAST EXPENSIVE SHAPE IS 6" X 12" TWO PIECES EQUAL 1 SQ.FT. 24" X 24" EQUALS 4 SQ.FT. CAN COST ABOUT \$1.50 EXTRA PER SQ.FT. THE FRENCH PATTERN HAS 4 DIFFERENT SIZED PIECES COST ABOUT AN EXTRA \$.75 PER SQ.FT.

5. Q. WHY IS TRAVERTINE TUMBLED? AND WHY IS IT HONED AND CHISELED?

A. AESTHETICS (PERSONAL PREFERENCE). TUMBLED HAS SOFT ROUNDED SMOOTH EDGES (WHICH IS IDEAL FOR SWIMMING POOL COPINGS) WITH AN ANTIQUE APPEARANCE. CHISELED HAS SQUARE EDGES AND A POLISHED LOOK AND THE CALIBRATION MAY ALLOW THE PAVER TO FIT MORE UNIFORM.

6. Q. ARE TRAVERTINE PAVERS SLIP RESISTANT?

A. YES, ADA (AMERICAN DISABILITY ACT – SECTION A4.5) IS A FEDERAL CODE THAT REQUIRES A STATIC COEFFICIENT OF FRICTION OF 0.5. TRAVERTINE VARIES FROM 0.6 - 0.7. CONCRETE PAVERS VALUE IS GENERALLY .07. TRAVERTINE IS SUITABLE FOR POOL DECKS (IF TRAVERTINE IS SEALED, ONLY ONE COATING IS RECOMMENDED).

7. Q. DOES TRAVERTINE COME IN ANY SIZE?

A. CUSTOM ORDERS CAN BE VIRTUALLY ANY SIZE. HOWEVER, THE LARGEST STOCK SIZE IS USUALLY 24" X 24".

8. Q. CAN I USE ANY SIZE FOR MY DRIVEWAY?

A. NO, TRAVERTINE GENERALLY HAS A PSI (POUNDS PER SQUARE INCH) OF 6,000. CONCRETE PAVERS USUALLY 7,000. GENERALLY THE LARGEST SIZE OF A CONCRETE PAVER IS 12" X 12". IF LARGER IS USED THIS BECOMES A TENSILE STRENGTH PROBLEM. OTHER THAN VEHICULAR TRAFFIC AREAS, ANY SIZE CAN BE USED.

9. Q. WILL THE HOLES IN THE TRAVERTINE GET MOLD AND DIRT?

A. 95% OF WATER DRAINS OFF THE STONE, AND DUE TO THE HIGH DENSITY THEY DRY VERY QUICKLY IN SUNLIGHT.

10. Q. DO YOU HAVE TO SEAL TRAVERTINE PAVERS?

A. NO, ANY STAINS (INCLUDING ENGINE OIL) CAN BE REMOVED USUALLY WITH BLEACH. SEVERE STAINS USE MURIATIC ACID. HOWEVER, THIS CAN ETCH THE PAVER BUT DOES NOT DAMAGE THE MATERIAL.

11. Q. WHAT IS THE BEST VALUE FOR MONEY? TRAVERTINE OR CONCRETE PAVERS? AND SHOULD THEY BE SEALED?

A. TRAVERTINE INITIALLY WILL COST MORE THAN CONCRETE PAVERS. CONCRETE PAVERS FADE IN COLOR EVEN IF YOU SEAL EVERY TWO YEARS. TRAVERTINE, SEALED OR NOT WILL RETAIN ITS NATURAL COLOR INDEFINITELY. SEALING TRAVERTINE OR COLORED CONCRETE PAVERS ENHANCES THE COLOR. HOWEVER, TRAVERTINE HAVING A HIGH DENSITY NEEDS TO BE SEALED LESS FREQUENTLY. THEREFORE, IN THE LONG TERM, TRAVERTINE IS THE BEST VALUE FOR MONEY.