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Concrete Masonry Cleaning Instructions (except groundface units)

Masonry Product:

CONCRETE BLOCK as manufactured by Daron Northeast
36 Hazleton St Ashley, PA 18706 or 530 Electric St Scranton, PA 18509

Cleaning Materials:

Integrally colored block

Use SURE KLEAN CUSTOM MASONRY CLEANER as manufactured by PROSOCO.

Unpainted gray block

Use SURE KLEAN CUSTOM MASONRY CLEANER as manufactured by PROSOCO.

During Construction:

Minimize cleaning problems by exercising care during masonry installation. Tidy workmanship during construction will reduce the subsequent cleanup effort.

Care must be taken to keep concrete block dry prior to installation. This will minimize the likelihood of efflorescence.

Keep the wall well brushed down during construction to prevent mortar lumps from hardening into the wall.

Turn over scaffold planks at night so that rain will not splash mortar from dirty planks onto the wall.

Keep block walls covered when not being worked on to prevent construction dirt, rain splash and contaminated water run-off from staining. All excess water, whether clean or contaminated, should be kept off the wall during construction.

Cleaning of masonry during the course of construction may be necessary for certain products and job conditions. However, it is best to wait until the mortar is thoroughly set before cleaning.

Before washing, remove any large particles of mortar with a putty knife or chisel. Large mortar particles cannot be removed by water or cleaning solutions alone.

When Cleaning:

Test the entire cleaning and sealing process (steps 2-10 below) in an inconspicuous location.

Mix the cleaning solution according to the manufacturer's instructions in a non-metallic container. Always pour the cleaning compound into the water – no water into the compound.

Thoroughly wet wall prior to cleaning.

Apply the cleaning solution to a small area using a long handled fibre brush, cleaning from the bottom up. Do not apply the cleaning solution using high pressure.

Allow the solution to remain on the surface 3 to 5 minutes. Do not allow the solution to dry into the surface.

Scrub and scrape off excess mortar deposits with a wooden scraper. Do not use metal tools. Scrub entire surface uniformly and thoroughly rinse the wall from top to bottom.

Pressure rinsing is appropriate using 800-1200 psi.

Keep the surfaces below the area being cleaned thoroughly soaked with water. Do the cleaning very methodically and uniformly so that all areas are cleaned evenly because it is very difficult to see if the wall has been cleaned adequately until the surface has dried. Reapply the cleaning solution if required and repeat steps 5, 6 & 7.

When cleaning solution becomes dirty, throw it away and mix a fresh batch. Frequently rinse the brush in clean water.

If an acid based solution has been used for washing, it is advisable to follow the cleaning with a neutral rinse such as TSP or non-sudsy ammonia and water.

Specifications:

Clean integrally colored concrete block with SURE KLEAN CUSTOM MASONRY CLEANER . Gray block to be left natural with SURE KLEAN CUSTOM MASONRY CLEANER as manufactured by PROSOCO. Apply the cleaner as per Daron Northeast's CONCRTE BLOCK CLEANING RECOMMENDATIONS.