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Understanding Terracotta

The majority of our Terracotta's and Saltillo's are "Hand Made". Therefore they have special properties and traits which we all need to be aware of., part of the charm and character of handmade terracotta is learning to live with both the good and the sometimes frustrating points of the material.

Colour: As our terracotta is made from naturally occurring clay deposits, not artificially coloured with oxides; you will find that there are colour variations batch to batch as well as piece to piece. This is an inherent quality of the character of terracotta. Even within a single tile there will be variations. This is a benefit!

Selection of colour: The samples that you may receive can only be an indication of the general colour that occurs within the terracotta of that type. If you are looking for a specific colour way for a job, it is recommended that you, or your customer, come to our warehouse to select and mark crates that suit your particular job requirement.

Finish Characteristics: All our handmade Terracotta and Semi Handmade Terracotta's will have certain flaws that are a part of the product. We are unable to deliver perfect Terracotta, nor would we wish to. In your delivery you will undoubtedly receive pieces that have chips, some will have cracks and some will be broken. This is normal, and must be considered so. The chips and cracks will normally be at the edges of the tile and can be used for cuts. You must allow that there will be approximately 5% of breakages in your calculations.

In Short:

- They can have paper backs (this is caused by dumping the wet clay on old newspapers)
- They have chipped edges
- They have lime pops (little craters)
- They are not all exactly the same size
- They are not all the same thickness
- They are not all flat
- They are not all completely square
- They even throw in the odd broken one

- They have occasional animal prints (You have to be lucky to get one of these!)
- They are not all the same colour (they vary in shading on the same tile and from tile to tile. This is what gives Saltillos their unique look)
- They are prone to alkali in the clay. To minimize this, they must be sealed (it's not difficult!)

These are NOT defects. This is what makes our Saltillo's and Terracotta's so attractive. Raw Terracotta is very crude looking. After they are installed, grouted & sealed they are very attractive. When properly sealed they are easy to maintain and will literally last forever. We love Terracotta's and our customers buy hundreds of them every week. We hope you enjoy them as much as we do.

DISCLAIMER

The technical details, recommendations and other information contained in this data sheet are given in good faith and represent the best of our knowledge and experience at the time of printing. It is your responsibility to ensure that our products are used and handled correctly and in accordance with any applicable Australian Standard, our instructions and recommendations and only for the uses they are intended. We also reserve the right to update information without prior notice to you to reflect our ongoing research and development program.

Country specific recommendations, depending on local standards, codes of practice, building regulations or industry guidelines, may effect specific installation recommendations.

The supply of our products & services is also subject to certain terms, warranties and exclusions, which may have already been disclosed to you in prior dealings or are otherwise available to you on request. You should make yourself familiar with them.