

Selborne Hand Finished Clay Facing Bricks



Selborne Bricks are made using traditional methods from locally quarried gault clay. Each brick is handled at least 5 times during its manufacture, which allows minor variations in shape and size that, in turn, means that each brick is slightly different. This non-uniformity makes a wall made from Selborne bricks far softer on the eye than one made from mass produced, homogenous bricks.

Bricks have been made on the site since Roman times. The key to our bricks properties lies in the gault clay which is quarried locally and is some 60 million years old. The fine particles in the clay contribute to the strength and frost resistance.

Our workforce an average of 15 years experience of brick making. The more senior ones have worked at Selborne for over 25 years.

The colour in our bricks comes from iron and other oxides which are created during the firing process at temperatures of up to 1050°C. Precise temperature varies slightly within the kilns as does the detailed composition of the clay in the brick. The result is that we produce bricks of varying shades, which again contributes to the beauty of the wall.

Our brick can survive being laid with the joints raked out to an exceptional depth. This creates shadows in the wall, again contributing to its beauty.

We add no colourings to our clay. Our bricks therefore have no problems being laid with lime mortars. Due to the natural variation, we do not mix blends, although it is of course possible to mix the types.

When the firing is complete and the kiln is emptied the bricks are sorted by hand for quality and colour, under the direction of our two most senior craftsmen. The predominant colours of our first quality facing bricks are:

Hampshire Reds

A mid red brick and our most popular colour. They are a relatively common sight throughout Wessex and a close match to many of the closed brickworks.

Tudor Reds

A more orange coloured brick, fired at a fractionally lower temperature. Tudor Reds match well with very old bricks. They also compliment flint or stone.

Multi Reds

These multi coloured bricks are made by changing the packing in the kiln, resulting in reds with blue and brown patches, giving a less uniform appearance to the brickwork.

Please note that the colour varies slightly from brick to brick within the range of colours shown in the sample panel. This is caused by minor variations in the kiln temperature and the iron oxides in the brick.

Technical Data

The performance of our bricks was tested to BS EN 772 in February 2008 by CERAM. The results are summarised below and the full test report is available on request or can be downloaded from our website.

Compressive Strength: 36.5 N/mm²
Water Absorption: 8%
Initial Rate of Water Absorption: 1.4 Kg/(m².min)
Soluble Salts:S2
Frost Resistance: F2 [Severe Frost]

Prices

Due to the current spiralling price of gas we reserve the right to adjust prices at short notice. The price quoted below was correct on 1st May 2009. Please telephone for up to date information or check on our website.

£550.00 per thousand, ex-works, ex-VAT

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