

# Slate Guide — Quorn Stone

## **What is slate?**

Slate is a fine-grained metamorphic rock formed over many years, intense geological forces result in the minerals within the original mudstone being metamorphosed. The quartz minerals give the slate strength and durability, whilst the platy minerals form cleavage planes, which allow the rock to be split into much thinner slabs.

## **Where is our slate sourced from?**

Our slate is sourced from Brazil. Brazil is now the worlds second biggest producer, with 95% of slate extracted from the Minas Gerais region. Brazil is renowned for its high-quality and superior rock.

## **What colours does slate come in?**

Brazillian slate comes in a wide variety of colours. Our range is currently made up of the two bestselling colours – Black & Grey. The black colour has a deep blue tinge, whilst the grey can have some green tones.

## **Is our slate calibrated?**

Our Brazillian slate is calibrated – this means the tiles have a uniform thickness of 10mm or 20mm. Due to slate being a natural material, there is a tolerance of +/- 2mm.

## **What finish is our slate?**

Our slate is available in a riven finish. Our finish is finely riven which means you can expect a slight texture to the surface of the tile but it will have a degree of smoothness and will be comfortable under foot.

## **What sizes does our slate come in?**

Our slate is available in 600 x 400, 600 x 600 and 900 x 600 – all 10mm. In addition, we also stock the 900 x 600 in a 20mm for external areas.

## **Delamination**

Although less common in Brazilian slate, a certain amount of delamination can be expected from slate tiles during and following installation. During installation any loose flakes should be broken off. Where delamination occurs after installation, the affected area should be re-sealed. This is clean slate underneath. Slate tiles should not be installed in areas subject to direct and intense heat, as this may cause extensive delamination.

## **Delivery & Unpacking**

It is important to note that slate is susceptible to scratching. It is likely on arrival that there will be scratched pieces – this is a characteristic of the stone. The sealant will cover faint scratches once applied.

To prevent further scratches, it is important to be careful whilst unpacking the tiles. We recommend that two people should lift each tile free of the pallet, taking care not to brush the tile against the other tiles, or any wood/nails etc that may be protruding from the pallet.

## **Installation & Aftercare**

To achieve the best results, and to make sure the tiles are laid without issue, it is necessary to follow our usual instructions for [laying natural stone tiles](#).

## **Sealing**

Slate can arrive with a build-up of dust on the surface of the tile from manufacturing. Prior to sealing, this must be cleaned off using a 1-5 dilution of natural stone cleaner, such as Lithofin Power Clean, with a mop or scrubbing brush. Ensure to refresh the solution regularly to avoid using dirty water to clean the tile. To dry the tiles, use a clean towel or microfibre cloth, washing them out frequently. Finally wipe over with a dry cloth or towel so to remove all streaks. As per our normal guidelines, we recommend waiting until the tiles are fully dry before sealing.



Straight from the pallet, uncleaned



After cleaning



Sealed with Lithofin MN Stain Stop

### **Colour Intensifier**

This is optional and can be applied to the slate before the first coat of sealant, following the manufacturer's instructions, enhancing the natural slate colours and patterns present in the stone.

### **Everyday Use**

To prevent scratching, we recommend using furniture floor protectors on chair legs or other furniture that will be moved around regularly. Footfall from shoes (high heels or grit in the soles) and pet claws may cause minor marks or scratches in the slate, the appearance of which should be reduced the next time sealant or colour intensifier is applied. This is a normal occurrence as slate ages over time.

For day to day and more occasional cleaning, our usual recommendations can be followed using our [natural stone aftercare guide](#).

### **Bathrooms & Wet Rooms**

Extended exposure to water such as in showers or wet rooms can cause salting on the surface of the stone. This can be removed with Lithofin Power Clean in a 1-10 dilution and a scrubbing brush. Alternatively, wiping or squeegeeing the tiles after use should prevent salts from building up.