

# Honister Slate Mine, Memorial & Headstone First Steps...

## When can I install a headstone on a grave?

In the UK, most cemeteries will request that you wait a minimum of six months after the burial before installing a headstone on the grave. Some will even request a year or even longer.

Check with your burial ground to ensure you wait the correct amount of time.

## Headstone rules in cemeteries

The etiquette related to what you can put on a headstone mostly comes down to the rules and restrictions that are in place at your cemetery.

Some cemeteries do have their own rules in place with regards to the actual headstone memorial type you can choose, or the stone colours that you're allowed, including maximum and minimum sizes and decoration that can be added on or around the grave.

## Headstone rules in churchyards

Things can often be a little stricter in churchyards.

What is permitted will be at the discretion of each individual parish priest at the church as they are bound by the diocese churchyard regulations. You will find that many dioceses even have their own specific guidance outlining what wording is acceptable to use, along with shape, edging and maximum and minimum sizes and decoration.

An example would be the Diocese of Oxfordshire, which suggests that:

"Inscriptions must be simple, reverent and theologically acceptable; they may include appropriate quotations from the Scriptures or literary sources."

## What wording to choose?

When it comes to wording for a gravestone, you need to consider font as well as inscription. Different fonts can add character to a gravestone. The most popular option is a Roman font or one very similar. Highly stylised fonts such as elaborate 'script' like fonts may look good on paper but are often very unsuitable when cutting into stone.

More simple italic style fonts are often used for verses, bible passages, poetry, and quotes.

The inscription is one of the most important parts of a gravestone. It's the message that will represent the life of your loved one and should be timeless and dignified. It can contain anything from bible passages to quotes to poems, and should summarise the dead person's life, beliefs, and accomplishments. This can be very difficult since it's hard to summarise somebody in just a few words. Common phrases include 'Rest in Peace', 'In loving memory of...', 'Forever in our thoughts', etc.

Any personal phrases need to be checked to make sure they comply with the rules and regulations belonging to your cemetery.

The ultimate last goodbye for someone special.

02031612499 | [Lauren@Honister.com](mailto:Lauren@Honister.com)



# Honister Slate Mine, Memorial & Headstone First Steps...

## How to order a Headstone or memorial from Honister Slate Mine?

Once you have received guidance from your chosen burial ground on permissions and sought out an approved stonemason for installation, we can begin the process of quotation & lettering design, we are able to supply lettered stones or blank stones for hand carvers to letter.

We would require height, width and depth measurements including any shaping or edging required.

Usual thickness is 3-inch, 4-inch, or 5-inch.

To your left you will see an array of polished headstone tops, these are all available with our honed finish stones which is a smooth matt finish to the stone.

We also produce natural monolith memorial stones which are a more rustic finish with natural edging on, these stones replicate mountain shapes and require their faces polished for lettering.

Being a small family run business we understand the emotional ties in these sensitive order and can assure you that we will be with you personally every step of the way through the process offering guidance, experience and support.

We are open 7 days a week to show you around our site and workshop so not only can you see where your stone will be handmade but so you can visit us to talk through all options for a lasting memorial for your loved ones.

If visiting is not an option, we are always a phone call away.



The ultimate last goodbye for someone special.

02031612499 | [Lauren@Honister.com](mailto:Lauren@Honister.com)

