

INSTALLATION

Laying Masonry Walls

All PRAIRIE stone units shall include W.R. Grace DRY-BLOCK® water-repellent mortar additive added to each batch in the appropriate dosage rates for mortar type N or O (Type S mortar is too strong and will create hairline shrinkage cracks) per the manufacturer's instructions. W.R. Grace DRY-BLOCK increases bond strength and completes the water repellent wall system.

Use 4" horizontal joint reinforcing wire installed every 16" O.C. When using 12" or 16" high PRAIRIE stone units, install every course. This will significantly reduce or eliminate the shrinkage or movement of hairline cracks.

Control Joints: Control joints should be no more than 20' apart. It does not have to continue through the block.

Control joints should be located 4' to 6' from corners. Control joints must be included at all inside corners, especially at wall piers, as well as at the corner or side of any large opening or window. Northfield Block Company will review PRAIRIE stone project specifics for placement recommendations.

Rake and Caulk: Rake and caulk all windowsill head joints and coping units.

CLEANING

General

Keep PRAIRIE stone units clean during the laying process. Clean the walls as soon as possible in order to prevent the need for harsh cleaning methods. Use approved cleaning agents include Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner by PROSOCO (diluted 1:4), Custom Masonry Block Cleaner by PROSOCO (diluted 1:6) and Vana Trol® by PROSOCO (diluted 1:6), carefully following manufacturer's instructions.

Test a minimum 4' x 4' area on each type and color of PRAIRIE stone. Carefully follow the manufacturer's application instructions. Let the test area dry for 3 to 7 days prior to inspection. Keep test panels for comparison throughout the cleaning project.

Protect adjacent masonry and other non-masonry surfaces by saturating those areas with water and flushing away cleaning solution before it dries.

Application

Before applying, read "Protect" and "Precautionary Measures" sections in the manufacturer's Product Data Sheet for Custom Masonry Cleaner. Dilute Custom Masonry Cleaner with 6-8 parts water for use on PRAIRIE stone.

Procedure

1. Always pre-wet surface with clean water to avoid streaks.
2. Apply the pre-diluted cleaning solution to the surface using a masonry brush or low-pressure spray.
3. Let cleaner dwell for 2-3 minutes.
4. Re-apply cleaner. Scrub or scrape areas of heavy soiling using wood blocks or non-metallic scrapers.
5. Rinse thoroughly with fresh water. If pressure-rinsing equipment is not available, brush the surface while rinsing.

Note: Multiple applications may etch sensitive surfaces. **DO NOT USE HIGH-PRESSURE SPRAYERS.** This will etch the surface.