

stone terms

Arris Line- the angle, corner or edge produced by the meeting of two perpendicular stone surfaces.

Ashlar- A horizontal stone pattern generally made from squared and rectangular shapes having sawed or dressed beds of joints.

- **Coursed Ashlar-** Ashlar set to form continuous horizontal joints with one rise.

- **Stacked Ashlar-** Ashlar set to form continuous vertical joints.

- **Random Ashlar-** Ashlar set with stones of varying length and height so that neither vertical nor horizontal joints are continuous.

Band Course- A continuous horizontal course with one gauged or reasonably consistent rise.

Bed Face- Installing a stone in a vertical wall with the natural bed exposed.

Bed Joint- A horizontal joint between stones, usually filled with mortar, leased or caulk sealant.

Belt Course- A continuous horizontal course, making a division in the wall plane.

Block Quarry- A quarry that contains a sound, natural deposit of natural stone where nature allows the harvest of stone blocks.

Bush Hammer- Finish applied to cut stone by a bush hammer tool to create a decorative dimpled appearance.

Chinking- The method of filling large mortar joints in stone veneer with small chips or slivers of stone.

Chisel- A steel tool used to “dress” or “trim” stone, available in steel or carbide tipped.

Course- A continuous horizontal band of consistent height.

Cut Stone- Dimensionally cut stone, cut to size and shape, finished and ready to set in place.

Depth- Measurement of particular piece of stone from front to back.

Dimensioned Stone- Stone precut and shaped to specified sizes (“cut stone”).

Dressed- The trimming and shaping of rough pieces of stone, done by hand chiseling to create a square, rectangular, or finished desired shape.

Dry stack- Horizontal pattern of stone installed “tight” to allow a very narrow bed joint. Joints are raked back deeply into stone work as to be undetectable.

Hand Tracer- Steel chisel tool with two beveled edges to make a sharp bladed end used for hand dressing, available in steel and carbide tipped.

Hand Chipper- Steel chisel tool with one beveled face and flat back to form a sharp bladed end used to produce a rock face finish, available in steel and carbide.

Hand Ripper- Steel chisel tool with saw toothed end for tooling and dressing stone faces.

Hand Set- Steel chisel tool with two beveled edges to form a 1/4" flat head bladed end, used for intense hand dressing.

Joint- the space between stone units usually filled with mortar, sealant, or epoxy.

Ledge Bed Quarry- A quarry that by nature allows the harvesting of natural stone by peeling off the natural random layers.

Length- Measurement of a particular piece of the stone from left end to right end.

Natural Bed- The horizontal stratification of stone as it was formed in the natural stone deposit.

Hand Pitch- The technique used by striking a smooth edge of stone with appropriate tools to create a rough, convex appearance.

Quarry Pit- The location of a stone quarrying operation where a natural deposit of stone is removed from the ground, as it lies.

Quarry Run- The condition of stone that is not sorted but instead naturally and randomly selected to a natural range of size, color, and shape.

Rise- Measurement of a particular piece of stone from the top to the bottom.

Rockface- Similar to a split face edge finish, except this face is "pitched" to a given aris line, producing a bold, convex appearance.

Rubble Stone- A blend of stone that is naturally or mechanically broken or split, to make up a particular random pattern, but holding a reasonably consistent joint.

Rustic- See "Weathered Edge"

Seam Face- A stone that exposes a surface that is taken from a vertical quarry seam.

Soldier Course- A horizontal course of series of vertically laid stone.

Splitter- Hydraulic machine/equipment used to split natural stone.

Tapestry Finish- A finish applied to stone by a sandblasting wand at a consistent PSI.

Thin Veneer- Veneer stone that is saw cut to a 1 1/2" wall depth from front to back, leaving a sawn back side and an intended finished face. Installed on a vertical wall without a support ledge.

Tumbled Stone- Stone that is mechanically tumbled to create a worn and distressed finish.

Veneer- A layer of natural building stone facing material used to cover a cavity wall.

Weathered Edge- A stone surface that is naturally created by the combination of extreme natural pressure and mineral staining, offering a beautifully unique color and texture.



Natural Stone

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