

VITRIPIAZZA®

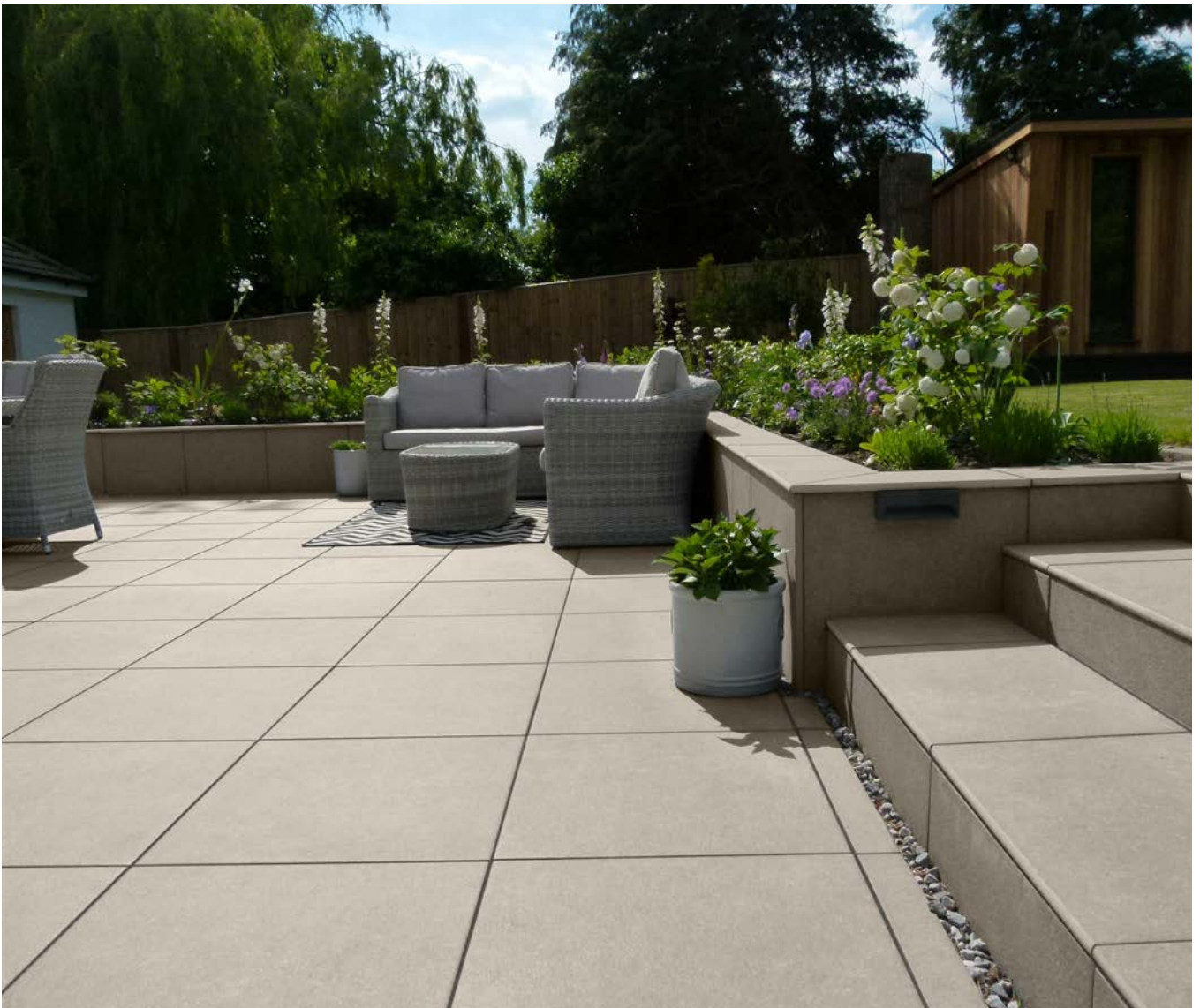
Vitrified Porcelain Paving



Guide to Understanding
Vitripiazza

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Welcome

This guide has been produced to outline the properties and characteristics of our Vitripiazza products. We hope this will help our retailers, installers and homeowners, to better understand, use and enjoy our Vitrified Porcelain paving and cladding products.

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What is Vitrified Paving & Cladding?

Talasey's Vitripiazza porcelain paving ranges are produced through the vitrification of its component materials, i.e., clays, feldspar and siliceous sands. These materials are sintered through firing in kilns in excess of 1200°C, compacting the elements which closes the pores and giving the porcelain its excellent technical properties that enable it to be the perfect paving and cladding choice for many domestic and commercial projects.

Over recent years, it has become the pre-eminent choice for many garden designers and specifiers. The main source for Vitrified paving has traditionally been Italy, for not only style and choice but an assurance for quality. In more recent years, Turkey has begun to become a developing player in the market; with an emerging industry also in Asian countries such as India. With ever expanding choices and aesthetics, whilst the majority of our ranges come from Italy, Talasey work with partners world-wide to deliver to you the very latest selections to suit all budgets and aesthetics, with a guarantee of only supplying quality specifications.



Benefits of Vitripiazza

All our Vitripiazza ranges are vitrified porcelain so, not only do homeowners and designers have a huge choice of looks and style for an imaginative and bespoke project, but you can sit back and enjoy a lovely new space with the assurance that you have Vitripiazza products will last for many years to come. All with the added benefit of having chosen a material type that is the easiest to keep clean.

- **Hard wearing** – Very low water absorption and excellent resistance to everything the weather, the environment and people can throw at it. High resistance to UV, frost, salt and acid.
- **Low maintenance** – It's probably the easiest paving type to keep it looking 'as new'. Its fantastic technical properties mean it doesn't weather as quickly as other paving types and when it does need a general clean, it's so much less effort.
- **High stain resistance** – Vitripiazza has very low porosity meaning that spills and soiling will not stain nearly as easily as other paving products, so don't immediately panic if a glass of red wine gets spilled or a barbecue sausage is dropped.
- **Exceptional strength** – All our ranges are very strong. They are all suitable for use for pedestal installations. We even have choices assured for driveway use.
- **Good slip resistance** – Every range is categorised as low potential for slip, whether wet or dry.
- **Choice & natural beauty** – despite being man-made, even a trained eye might struggle to spot it. A huge selection of looks; from beautiful replications of difficult-to-get-hold-of natural stone, additionally natural timber effects, through to sleek contemporary urban styles and with numerous pattern connotations across each range, you won't sit there spotting repeats.
- **Bring the outside in** – In addition to our ranges designed for external use, some of our ranges have a complementing 10mm thick specification, textured specifically for internal use. This enables a continuity of floor design from home to garden.
- **Cladding design options** – We have several wall cladding options, suitable for internal or external use, that will add that extra finesse to your project. There are classy options to either complement or contrast with your paving choice.
- **Variety of application and design for every budget** – Our considerable choice of specification allows great design choice that caters for every budget. Use Vitripiazza for patios, driveways, pathways, internally and much more, whether it be a domestic or commercial project.

Choosing Vitripiazza Quality

All our Vitripiazza paving ranges meet the requirements of BS EN 14411 Annex G - Group Bla. The required testing covers aspects including water absorption, dimensional accuracy, strength and abrasion resistance.

We have Product Specifications available, with specific design guidance to further assist with your decision making. Request via your merchant.

All our ranges are CE and UKCA marked in line with UK Government guidelines and industry standards. Declarations of Performance (DoP) are available on request.

Specification

We have a variety of specifications for you to choose from to suit your specific project and budget. The specification type, of each range, is denoted on our product pages of our Landscaping Portfolio and our website, www.vitripiazza.co.uk.

Full-Bodied

The premium choice. The body of the tile is colour consistent to the tile surface print, using a greater number of high-quality materials to achieve a more accurate match. The user can expect the highest quality aesthetics and excellent colour stability, supported with outstanding long-term technical properties and performance.

Minor accidental damage causing chipped edges during cutting, handling and install, will not usually draw the eye.

Design Guidance:

- These ranges are often used as wall copings as well as paving; but Full-Bodied are also suitable for bespoke edgings, for that little extra panache. For more details, see our Made to Order Services on our website and in our Landscaping Portfolio.
- Our Full-Bodied ranges generally cut neater than other specifications.
- These ranges are appropriate for use on driveways when part of an appropriate construction.

Colour-Bodied

For those where both style and budget are a consideration, our ranges of Colour-Bodied porcelain still go through the same vitrification process, assuring the user of very low water absorbency, high stain resistance and long-term durability. However, the body of the tile is only similar to the surface print, though once laid as paving this is immaterial.

Accidental damage causing chipped edges during cutting, handling and install, may draw the eye.

Design Guidance:

- Though they can be used, Colour-Bodied ranges are not ideal for wall copings and they are not suitable for bespoke edgings.
- Cutting is more of a challenge to create as-neat-a-cut as easily, when compared with Full-Bodied. Therefore, if your design requires intricates cuts or lots of cuts you should discuss this aspect with your installer as wastage may be higher.
- We only recommend these ranges for areas of foot traffic.

Rectified

Our Rectified ranges are accurately machine cut to their nominal size. Our Rectified ranges are manufactured to industry standard plan size tolerances as a minimum, some ranges are tighter at +/-1mm.

With Rectified, the nominal size will be the same for each batch and each individual project, if you are a regular user.

Design Guidance:

- Our Rectified ranges being square cut edges, allow for tighter joints if desired, with less variation than when compared with Non-Rectified. We'd recommend joint widths of between 3mm to 15mm.

Non-Rectified

The edges of our Non-Rectified ranges are as fired and moulded; they are sorted into work sizes batches as they come out of the kiln. Each individual work size batch has industry standard tolerances of +/-2mm.

To explain further; there are up to ten potential work sizes that your batch could come in. Your batch will be identified as either, work size 1, through to perhaps work size 10. For example, your nominal size may be 600mm x 600mm, but you may receive a batch sorted into work size 1 giving tiles measured nominally at 594mm x 594mm. Your supplier should give you your entire order from the same production batch so it actually makes no difference as you install.

Always check for batch match across packs prior to unpacking.

Design Guidance:


- Whilst the edges are not machined, the edges are still straight due to the high-quality moulds used on the press. We'd recommend joint widths of minimum 5mm up to 15mm.



A photograph of an outdoor patio area. In the foreground, there are two dark-colored wicker lounge chairs with light-colored cushions. A small potted plant with green leaves is placed between the chairs. The background shows a paved area and some greenery.

Helping you make the most of your Vitripiazza products

Should you decide to go with Talasey's Vitripiazza porcelain paving & cladding, this next section highlights considerations to make when placing your order, through to enjoying your new space and all the elements to think about in-between.

A close-up photograph of the Vitripiazza porcelain paving. The tiles are large, rectangular, and have a light beige or cream color with a subtle, natural stone-like texture. The grout lines are thin and dark, creating a grid pattern across the surface.

Things to consider when ordering

We have a large network of stockists from whom you can purchase our Vitripiazza products from. To find your nearest stockist, please visit our website at www.vitripiazza.co.uk.

There are a few things to consider when placing your order for Vitripiazza:

- Porcelain products are a little like wallpaper, in that, the production batches are important. Each production batch will have its own shade reference and if you are ordering a non-rectified range, two different batches may have two different work sizes too.
- If you have the opportunity, it is recommended that you visit a local stockist of Vitripiazza to see the tiles laid out, where possible. Only selecting from photos, catalogues, or websites is not ideal.
- If you have received a sample piece, please be aware that this is only a small representation of the patterns that you can expect in your consignment. Each range will have a significant number of different pattern connotations to enhance that natural look once laid. Remember, where applicable to the range, the prints are replications of actual pieces of natural stone or wood, so variation is designed in. As discussed above, there will be some shade variation from batch to batch too.
- Consider what the area is going to be used for and who will be using it. For example, all our paving is tested to assure good slip resistance, and categorised as low potential for slip, but some are even better than others.
- Plan your project carefully, firstly, ensure you have enough product to finish the job to avoid potential batch availability issues if you decide to extend the area after receipt of your delivery. We recommend that an extra 10% is ordered as provision for accidental damage, cuts, or even any last minute additions.
- Consider what is involved in installation, for full advice, refer to our Vitripiazza Planning & Laying Guide. Consider who is going to do the work and what equipment is required.
- Consider if you have a design in mind that will require lots of cuts. Read the Design Guidance discussed in our earlier Choosing Vitripiazza section.
- For certain installations, you may wish to install on pedestals. Not only are all our products suitable for this type of use but we also sell a full range of Pavetuf Adjustable Risers.
- We have product specifications, with specific design guidance, available on request to help you further with your choice.
- Finally, products being delivered direct to site/homeowners will be delivered kerbside. It is important the driver has easy access and manoeuvrability at the delivery site. Please note that the drivers cannot off-load very far from the vehicle so you may need to consider how the products will be moved to the project area.

Speak to our Customer Experience Team for further advice. We are here to help.

Call: **0330 333 8030** | Email: customerexperience@talasey.co.uk

Or visit the knowledge hub on www.vitripiazza.co.uk

Receiving your Vitripiazza

A few things to remember once you receive your order at the site of installation:

- Before you unpack, ensure you have been delivered matching batches by your supplier. It's important that your shade references match, and if your range is Non-Rectified, that your work sizes match too. Loading errors and mistakes in the supply chain are very rare but can very occasionally happen; but it's easy to put right whilst the product is still packed.
- Take care when removing the packaging and banding. Ensure you open the packaging on level ground.
- The product is quite heavy, and some larger pieces can weigh over 25kg. Consider this when arranging the delivery, as you may need appropriate lifting equipment, or an extra pair of hands.
- Take care of edges if stacking the product after unpacking. Do not stack directly onto hard ground.
- If you're a homeowner going away whilst the product is installed, we'd recommend that you check the product is to your satisfaction before you go, or ensure your installer clearly understands your expectations.
- Once you receive your shipment of Vitripiazza, inspect all the product. If you have any issues with the delivery, report them straight away to your merchant and do not install the product. Talasey Ltd will not accept any liability for product, deemed unsatisfactory, that is laid.
- Even when your packs are batch-matched, we recommend mixing from all packs during install to ensure that a completely natural blend is achieved.
- After you have unpacked the delivery, consider the environment and recycle the packaging products. There could be wooden crates, plastic ties and plastic wrapping on the delivery, which should all be recycled, if possible.

Please note that all product sizes, weights and thicknesses stated are nominal.

Health & Safety

HEALTH AND SAFETY MUST BE ADHERED TO. A number of items within our Vitripiazza product range are heavy or awkward in shape to lift. We recommend that when moving pieces over 25kg, more than one person helps in completing the lift. With the larger plan sizes in some of our ranges, its simply not possible for installation to be carried out by one person and in addition, we'd recommend you look into hiring or purchasing appropriate vacuum lifting equipment.

Furthermore, we would also recommend that gloves, safety boots with steel toe caps and oil resistant soles, ear defenders and protective clothing should be worn. When cutting our products, it is essential that suitable eye and ear protection is also worn. Always ensure that suitable respiratory protection is worn to avoid the inhalation of dust particles produced by high-speed cutting devices. Training may be needed to operate certain equipment; it is your responsibility to ensure this takes place where necessary.

For further information on Health & Safety, please visit the knowledge hub on www.vitripiazza.co.uk.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you comply with all applicable health and safety legislation and guidelines.



Face Protection



Protective Gloves



Eye Protection



Hearing Protection



www.vitripiazza.co.uk

For further information or technical advice call
0330 333 8030

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Ready To Go

Our next few pages guide you through some basic installation tips and where to find more detailed advice. Just as importantly, we have some tips on what-not-to-do followed by some General Information on certain potential characteristics and specification advice. Finally, we have our aftercare advice.

Don't forget you can always call our Customer Experience Team if you require more help.

Once Delivered

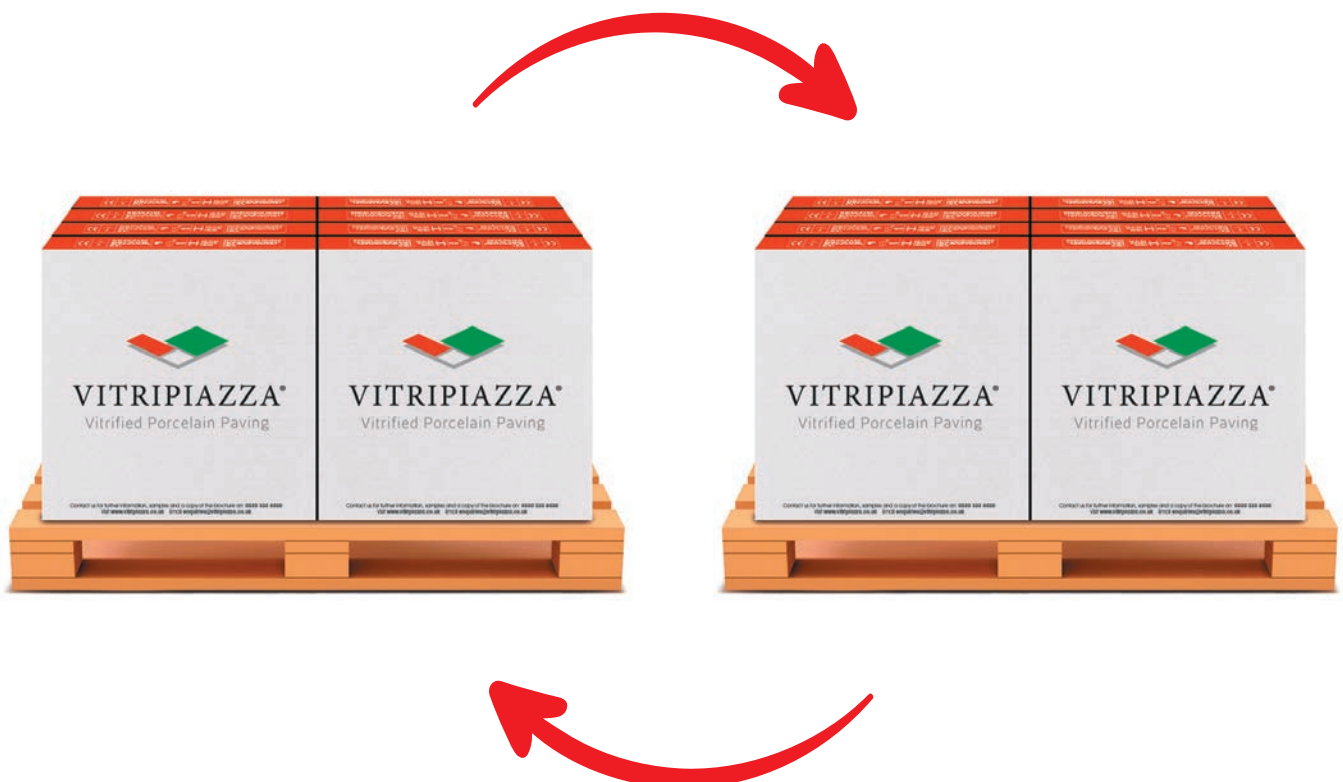
Batch match - You should have been supplied with matching batches, resulting in matching shade references and work sizes. On rare occasions, mistakes can happen so we recommend you check before unpacking, so Talasey and your merchant can work together to urgently fix.

Inspect your products - Report any issues to your merchant before you begin installation so we can work with them to resolve the situation as quickly as possible. Do not lay product you are not satisfied with; we will not accept any liability or costs once laid. Don't start your job until all required products are on site.

Going Away? - If you are not going to be around during installation, we strongly recommend you inspect the product before you go, or ensure your installer is clear on your expectations.

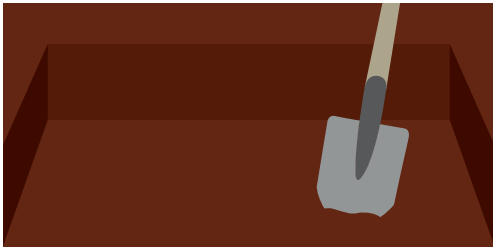
Ready to Start

Mix from pallets - To avoid colour banding, remember to mix from as many crates as possible as you go. Predominant shades may vary from pallet to pallet.



Installation

The Five Main Steps To Getting Your Patio Laid



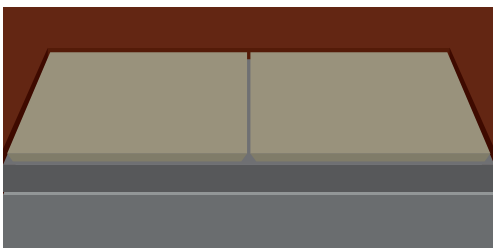
Dig out the ground to required depth.



Compact your sub-base.



Always prime the back of tiles with our Pavetuf Priming Slurry



Always lay on a full mortar bed



Fill joints using one of our great Pavetuf Jointing products.
Never butt joint!

For our full detailed Vitripiazza Planning & Installation Guide, please visit the Knowledge Hub on www.vitripiazza.co.uk.

General Information



Jointing/Pointing

For technical specifications and installation guides of the products detailed below, please visit the Knowledge Hub on www.pavetuf.com.

Pavetuf Jointing Grout – Specifically designed for use with porcelain products and is the ideal choice for professionals and DIY'ers. Suitable for joint widths of 3mm to 15mm, at full depth of the tile. Suitable for driveway and pedestrian use. Internal or external use. Smooth finish.



Pavetuf Jointing Mortar – Can be used for any type of paving. Suitable for joint widths of 5mm to 50mm, with minimum 20mm depth required. Suitable for driveway and pedestrian use. External use only. Granular finish.



Pavetuf Jointing Compound – Not suitable for porcelain constructions laid on concrete sub bases, its essential the product installation guide is followed when considered for use. Suitable for joint widths of 5mm to 20mm, with minimum 20mm depth required, joints must be struck off to ensure good compaction when installed with porcelain paving. Suitable for pedestrian use only. External use only. Granular finish.



Colour Banding

When installing any type of paving, it is important to mix paving from a number of pallets as it is laid.

Even with batch matched porcelain, it is possible that there may be some very slight shade variation from pallet to pallet. This may only be perceptible in certain conditions and when the install is finished. Mixing as you go creates a blend that is natural to the eye.

We'd recommend not starting installation until you have all the required pallets delivered.

Driveways

Guidare is specifically designed for driveways and there are different constructions that you can employ. See table below for specification recommendations:

Type Of Use		Other Design Considerations	Laying Course	Other Advice
Domestic drive - cars only	&	Limited need for power assisted turning	40mm sand screed*	Always use Guidare spacers. Purchase required, not supplied as standard. Do not use a vibrator plate on paving, level off with a Pavers Maul.
Domestic drive - 4x4's, Light vans	OR	Heavy power assisted turning areas	50mm mortar bed	Always use Pavetuf Jointing Mortar or Pavetuf Jointing Grout in joints, strength suitable for vehicles.
Commercial use driveways		N/A		Not appropriate for use for commercial weight vehicles.

*For installing on a sand screed, follow our Natural Stone Block Paving section on page 10 of the Natural Paving Planning & Installing Guide at www.naturalpaving.co.uk.

Our Full-Bodied ranges can be used for driveway products for trafficking with domestic cars or light vans but they will require installing on an adequate concrete base (minimum 100mm) and supporting sub-base and construction. The paving should then be bonded to the concrete base using a high-performance cementitious tile adhesive appropriate for this type of traffic. Talasey are unable to give specific adhesive recommendations so seek guidance from the adhesive manufacturer for specific advice.

The Colour-Bodied ranges are not recommended for driveway use.



Swimming Pools

All our Vitripiazza ranges are suitable for use around a swimming pool.



Counter Tops

None of our ranges are suitable for counter-top surfaces.

Indoor Use

Check our Portfolio for which ranges are available for order in thinner specifications, designed and textured specifically as indoor tiles.



Dimensions & Specification

As common to our industry, all dimensions stated on our literature, packaging and website are nominal and subject to manufacturing tolerances. Be assured, all are in compliance with BS 14411 Annex G - Group Bla. For full dimensional specification and specific design guidance, please request a Product Specification or contact our Customer Experience Team.

Cleaning

As you know by now, one of the main advantages of Vitripiazza is its low maintenance properties and high stain resistance. However, to keep it looking 'as new' some looking after may still be required. Don't forget your joints/pointing are often what will show the weathering first and take away from that shiny new appearance!

We recommend you brush your paved area regularly as well as cleaning it from time to time. Ensure you use a normal bristled brush when sweeping your paved area, as wire brushes could damage your pointing and even possibly, scratch the tiles.

Try and keep the area clear of leaves and debris. Be aware, certain leaves and other plant life can stain paving and joints. Some leaves and plant life will leach tannins when they lay on the ground that can discolour paving and standing water. Luckily, with the high stain resistance of the paving, the tannins will usually clean off relatively easily but maintaining the area minimises the job and it will stain the joints.

Algae growth is possible on almost any surface, given the right environmental conditions. Again, luckily, its relatively no effort to clean it off. Even less effort if you spray it with Pavetuf Green Off Cleaner, simply spray and leave to work. Green-Off also works on other paved areas, walls and fence panels too, metal signs, basically any man-made surface where algae bloom grows.

Any general soiling associated with an external area will usually wash off by brushing with soapy water or a pressure washer. With pressure washers, take care to look after your joints by trying a small area first and then only spraying with a fan setting to the nozzle, at approx. 30cm-45cm away for the surface. The best, and safest, results with pressure washers maybe gained using one of the rotary patio cleaner heads, if you have one.

For unusual stubborn stains, when all the above has failed, use Pavetuf Porcelain Cleaner or Pavetuf Deep Cleaner. Both of these products are suitable for internal or external use.





Stains that each cleaner removes													Size options		
Algae, moss, mildew, fungi	Black & white spot lichens	Heavy soiling	Light soiling	Grease & oil**	Leaf & plant staining	Bird droppings	Efflorescence/salts	Rust/iron ore	Solvent sealers paints/varnish	Mud	Atmospheric pollution	BBQ grease, oily food stains**	1 litre	5 litre	25 litre***
		✓	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
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Deep Cleaner*: A deep penetrating cleaner for the easy removal of heavy soiling from all hard landscaping areas.

Resin Bound Cleaner: A powerful heavy duty cleaner for resin bound aggregate surfaces.

Green Off Cleaner: For the removal of algae, moss, leaf staining and organic growths from all hard landscaping areas.

Wood Deck Cleaner: Effective for the removal of organic growths and staining from wooden decking.

UPVC & Fascia Cleaner: An effective UPVC cleaner for the removal of organic growths and staining.

Wall & Render Cleaner: A non-corrosive cleaner for the removal of organic growths and staining for brick and rendered walls.

Composite Cleaner: A concentrated acid free cleaner for use on composite decking, fencing and doors.

General Cleaner*: A general cleaner for regular maintenance on all hard landscaping areas.

Rust Remover: An effective, non-corrosive rust stain remover for hard landscaping products.

Salt Eraser: For the removal of efflorescence/salt from the surfaces of paths, drives and patios.

Porcelain Cleaner*: A concentrated porcelain and ceramic cleaner for internal and external use.

Sealer Remover: Easy to use sealer remover for use on solvent and polymer based sealers, paints and varnishes.

*Can be used internally as well as externally

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