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General Information



Paving slabs need to be supported continuously throughout their area to prevent rocking and cracking. The sub-base material supporting them should be easy to place and after placement develop sufficient strength to hold the slabs securely in place.

Factory produced lime:sand mortar for paving

Fine aggregate (historically called sand) on its own may flow easily but when in place does not produce sufficient strength to support heavy traffic. Portland cement added to the sand may give too rigid a sub-base and may crack with continuous trafficking. It also tends to adhere to the undersurface of the paving slabs making re-use difficult.

Factory produced lime:sand for paving as supplied by members of MPA Mortar will give all the required properties for paving mortars. The plasticity of the lime will make placing the paving slabs easy and after laying, the carbon dioxide in the air, or rain water, tends

to react slowly with the free lime to produce calcium carbonate to add to the strength. The mortar can be easily cleaned from the undersurface of the paving slabs making re-use easy.

Bricks make excellent pavings. They should be of a special quality and should be properly laid to falls. They should be bedded on lime:sand mortar as for paving slabs. The joints, however, may be filled with a cement:lime:sand mortar. Coloured mortar joints add considerably to the appearance of the paving.

References	
BS EN 13139	Aggregates for mortar
BS EN 459-1	Building lime. Definitions, specifications and conformity criteria
BS EN 772-1	Methods of test for masonry units. Determination of compressive strength
BS 7533-9	Pavements constructed with clay, natural stone or concrete pavers. Part 9: Code of practice for the construction of rigid pavements of clay pavers
BS EN 1338	Concrete paving blocks - Requirements and test methods
BS EN 1341	Slabs of Natural stone for external paving. Requirements and test
PD 6682-3	Aggregates for mortar - Guidance on the use of BS EN 13139

For a full list of British and European Standards see the MPA Mortar data sheet of technical references.



MPA Mortar is part of the Mineral Products Association, the trade association for the aggregates, asphalt, cement, concrete, dimension stone, lime, mortar and industrial sand industries.

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Factory produced mortar products will contain either cement or lime, both of which have properties which are hazardous to health. Please refer to the manufacturers or suppliers Material Safety Data Sheet for the specific product/grade to find more information on the nature of the hazardous properties, the risks and health effects of exposure and the recommended safe use and handling procedures.