



## STONE PAVES WAY ADD A TOUCH OF CLASS TO YOUR HOME

### OUR TIPS

- Stones have slight variance in colour and texture, which is part of its natural beauty
- Expect some varying colouration in stone pavers, particularly bluestone and granite
- When seeking a supplier for your paving project, look for one who has leading landscape contractors and award-winning designers
- Go by word-of-mouth recommendations from family and friends
- Do some background checks before you hire. Find out if they are registered builders, if they are insured and if they are affiliated with leading industry bodies
- Works more than \$5000 have to be undertaken by a registered builder
- Even if the work is under \$5000, check if permits are required
- Ask for references or examples of past jobs that you can view

Edgar D'Souza

STONE paving is growing in popularity, says Stone Hub director Mark Navakas.

He said stone was not only versatile, but added a classy look at a surprisingly affordable price.

"In outdoor landscaping, stone is not only affordable, but versus other forms of paving it is colour-fast, more durable and harder wearing," Mr Navakas said. "It has higher stain resistance and is more functional. In many cases, sizes, finishes and profiles can be tailor-made to suit an individual project."

While bluestone and granite are popular in landscaping, bluestone is a favourite in Melbourne, as it is a traditional Victorian product.

Bluestone has impressive slip and scratch resistance. Mr Navakas said the

clean, neutral look of stone worked well in both modern home landscapes, as well as more traditional properties.

"However, bluestone and granite have the disadvantage of holding heat during hot, summer days. Sandstone has the advantage of staying cooler underfoot, but requires special sealing treatment, especially around salt-chlorinated pools, because of their softness and porosity," he said.

"In the end, the decision boils down to one of aesthetics and personal preferences."

Think about what you want. Decide the colour tones, surface finishes, aesthetics, then get advice from reputable suppliers as well as experienced landscape contractors and designers.

Mr Navakas said a good supplier should have a comprehensive range of



Stone paving can add a touch of class to your outdoor landscaping projects.

products and longevity in the industry. It would also provide professional, unbiased advice, with staff who could offer solutions

for your landscape project, not just sell stone.

Details: 1300 668 394 or go to [stonehub.com.au](http://stonehub.com.au)

## THE TYPES OF PAVERS

**Bluestone pavers**  
A natural stone, also referred to as basalt, that is common throughout the Australian landscape. Slip- and scratch-resistant, bluestone tiles and pavers are ideal for residential and commercial use.

**Granite pavers**  
Made from an igneous stone with a distinctive grain and extreme hardness. They have a visibly crystalline texture composed of feldspar, mica and quartz. Their uniform appearance, strength and high abrasive resistance make them ideal for contemporary paving.

**Sandstone**  
Formed from sedimentary rock at the bottom of oceans, beaches and riverbeds, the cementing material of this product determines the colours of natural sandstone that are very rich in texture.

**Travertine pavers**  
A type of 'morphed' limestone where the lime content has been deposited by water. It is known to strengthen with age, and the colours don't fade over time.

### INDEX

TRADES	
Air Conditioning/Cooling	23
Alarms & Security	23
Asphalt	23
Bathrooms	23
Blinds & curtains	24
Brick Layers/Brick Work	23
Builders	23, 24
Building plans/drafting/permits	24
Building Materials & Supplies	24
Cabinet Makers	24
Carpenters	24
Carpet/Inge cleaning & protection	24
Carpet Services	24
Cleaners	24
Cleaning Services	24
Concrete	24
Doors	24
Drainage	24
Duct Cleaning	24, 25
Electrical Contractors	25
Excavations	25
Fencing	25
Floor Coverings/Services	25, 26
Furniture Removalists	26
Garage Doors/Roller Shutters	26
Gardening/Gardeners	26
Glass	26
Guttering & Repairs	26
Handymen	26
Heating and Fireplaces	26
Home Maintenance/Renov	26
Kitchen	26
Landscaping	26, 27
Locksmiths	27
Painters & Decorators	27
Paving	27
Pest Control	27
Plasterers	27
Plumbers	27, 28
Pools & Spas	28
Refrigeration Repairs	28
Rendering	28
Restumping, reblocking & underpinning	28
Roofing & Repairs	28
Rubbish Removals	28, 29
Security Doors/Roller Shutters	29
Shower Screens	29
Skylights	29
Tilers	29
Tree Care Services	29
Tree Lopping & Stump Removal	29
TV Antennas	29
TV, Videos & Stereo Services	29
Upholstery	30
Wardrobes	30
Wash Machine & Dryer Repairs	30
Window Cleaners	30
Windows	30
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	
Accountants	30
Bookkeeping & Accounting	30
Taxation	30
BUSINESS & COMPUTER GUIDE	
Computer Services & Repairs	30
LIFESTYLE	
Clairvoyance/Astrology	30
Dressmaking	30
Education & Tutoring	30
Health Alternatives	30
Massage Therapist	30
Music Teachers	30
Pet Care	30
SPLENDID OCCASIONS	
Celebrants	30
Cakes	30
Catering	30
GENERAL	
Refer Index on page	30
CAREERONE	
Refer Index on page	31

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