



YARRABEE & CASTLEMAINE STONE

# CASTLEMAINE STONE SPECIFICATION

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2021



*Yarrabee & Castlemaine Stone*

## WHEN EXPERIENCE MATTERS

“Yarrabee Slate”, open as a family owned and operated business in 1978. At that time, indoor slate floors were very popular. Slate was sourced from India and Africa and accounted for more than 95% of our business.

As the Melbourne landscape industry developed and flourished, products better suited to outdoor applications were added. This began with Sandstone and now incorporates a vast range of beautiful natural stone from Italy, Greece, China, Spain, India, Egypt, Cambodia and Oman.

In 1953, a vein of a very beautiful and unique stone was found in the hills not far from Castlemaine, and the Castlemaine Slate and Stone Quarry was created.

In 2005, Yarrabee Slate acquired the quarry and Yarrabee & Castlemaine Stone Solutions was born. Today it is one of Australia’s most iconic natural stone products.

At Yarrabee, we are dedicated to ensuring our customers and partners are successful through a strong focus on our 5 “etched in stone” principals:

- Provide the best purchasing experience possible
- Delivering the best possible project outcome
- Supplying only quality products
- Always provide accurate and truthful information
- Provide an outstanding level of service and care

# CASTLEMAINE QUARRY

This iconic quarry was first mined in 1953 by Ray & Aileen Maltby. Crazy paving and dry-stone walling were the main products produced during these years and it wasn't long before this unique granitic sandstone quickly became an icon of the Victorian stone industry.

In those early years, the equipment comprised a pick and shovel, a bolster and mash hammer and an old frontend loader. Over the quarry's first 40 odd years, an excavator and large tipper were added but it was still very much manual labour producing the stone.

The "vein" is a narrow strip only about 15m wide which falls deeper into the earth as it buries into the mountain making extraction a constant challenge.

There is one narrow strip within the vein which is "pink" in colour. The rest of the vein is a consistent "Castlemaine Slate" colour of beige, browns, rusts and ochres. The pink vein is very rarely exposed, and that material is kept separate from the standard Castlemaine stone.

To this day, the stone is still hand split and sorted into thickness variations of up to 10mm, meaning that the random paving is supplied in 10-20mm, 20-30mm 30-40mm thickness lots etc. The thickness selected is based on the application.

Despite the additional equipment, production of Castlemaine Slate & Stone products remains a very "hands on" process. And you'd be amazed how quickly new "splitters" learn not to hit their fingers on a cold Castlemaine morning!!



# RANDOM

First extracted from a small vein of stone in the hills in Central Victoria, Castlemaine random paving remains one of the most sought after paving products in the market today.

Continually specified for major projects such as the RACV Resort Cape Schanck, a number of major Melbourne Golf Clubs, Rail Crossing Removal projects etc, Castlemaine Random paving has demonstrated its durability for over 70 years.

The stone is hand split down the natural laminates which form in this granitic sandstone, and the split pieces are sorted by thickness to produce lots in 10mm thickness variations as detailed below.

The "split" of Castlemaine is relatively clean with aggressive surface texture variations being infrequent. It is not available as a sawn edged tile.

It is perfectly suited to any outdoor paving application where strength and longevity are paramount and when real natural stone "character" is sought. And it looks amazing. Whether domestic pedestrian paving, driveway paving or major infrastructure projects, this one ticks all the boxes.



# PAVING

Profile	Thickness	Finish
Random Paving	10-20 mm	Split
Random Paving	20-30 mm	Split
Random Paving	30-40 mm	Split
Random Paving	40-50 mm	Split
Random Paving	50-70 mm	Split

**Slip Rating:** P5

**Salt Suitable:** Yes

## COPING

To produce pool coping, larger selected piece of reasonably consistent pieces are cut through the middle producing two straight edges with raining edges random in shape.

The straight edges are then profiled are required i.e. bullnosed, pencil rounded or arrissed



# STEPPERS &

We hand select pieces after the stone is split which have a suitable organic shape to form stepping stones such as could be used as steppers through a garden or lawn.

Standard Steppers are in the 0.25m<sup>2</sup> size range i.e. 600x400 or 500x500mm approximate sizing.

Larger Steppers are selected to order. In many situations stone does not naturally present in large pieces very often and must be found as part of the standard quarrying process.

Landscape Rocks are available up to around 1000 x 400-500 x 400-600 approximate sizing.

We occasionally produce larger pieces and invite enquiry for same at any time.

At your request, you can schedule a tour of the quarry to personally select suitable steppers and landscape rocks for your project.



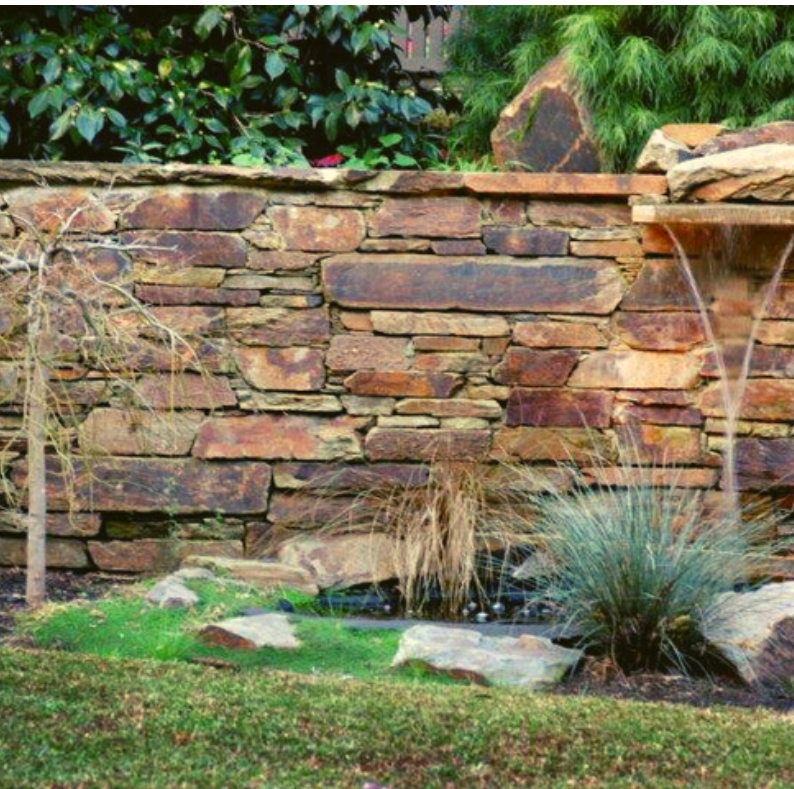
# LANDSCAPE ROCKS



# SPALLS

Spalls are our hand selected premium dry stone walling material.

We select pieces with relatively flat top and bottom and a reasonable vertical face. This is a relatively large format stone with pieces anywhere from up to 700mm long x 250mm high and up to 350mm deep.





# COUNTRY BLEND

Country Blend is a blend of Spalls and Builders Wallers at an approximate rate of 1m<sup>3</sup> of Spalls to 6m<sup>3</sup> of Builders Wallers

Spalls are selected by the stonemason to either mix in the through wall or use on corners to provide a little more structure.



# BUILDER WALLERS

Builders Wallers is similar in size to the Spalls but without the flat top, bottom and vertical face. Often laid with a mortar joint due to the less regular shape although a skilled stonemason can lay these dry stacked.



# STRATA

this is the little brother of the Spalls. Hand picked stone pieces with a flat top and bottom and a reasonably vertical face. The pieces are selected at no more than 130mm in depth and because we simply don't get many pieces at that maximum depth, the back of the stone is sawn off to the 130mm in the majority of cases.

All dimensions are substantially smaller than the Spalls. Strata averages 100-400mm long x up to 100mm thick x 130mm deep.

Strata is often used around a BBQ or on an internal fireplace/chimney where the deeper Spalls would intrude too far into the available space. Usually laid as dry stone.



# VENEER

Castlemaine Random Veneer is simply using the thinnest selected random paving, 10-20mm thick, and laying it on the vertical plain. We can supply this in normal sizing or in small selected stone if preferred.



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& CASTLEMAINE

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