



Instructions for use and installation of CJ Blok® products /paving blocks and road components/

CJ BLOK® products undergo advanced control processes during production and storage. All our products are manufactured in accordance with European standards adopted by the Polish Committee for Standardisation and marked as PN-EN.

Checking the delivered material before installation

Before commencing work, check that the material delivered conforms to the order or to the details on the DN delivery note. Furthermore, the material must be immediately inspected for transport damage or other visible defects. Any doubts concerning the products must be reported to CJ BLOK® representatives before installation.

Surface grouting

The joints should be 3 to 5 mm wide and accurately filled with washed sand of grain size 0-2 or 1-3 mm. This is the only way to avoid uneven sliding of the paving blocks and consequent chipping of their upper edges, especially of blocks without chamfer. In addition, by adjusting the width of the grout, you can keep your patterns straight. Unwashed sand, containing clay, which remains on the pavement for a long time causes discolouration which is difficult to remove without the use of specialised agents. Mechanical paving requires special surface preparation. Besides, the paving blocks themselves should have the appropriate parameters and the manufacturer should be informed of this before delivery.

NOTE!: The spacers on the blocks do not guarantee the required joint width.

Grouting of curbs and edging

For curbs and edging, the joint widths must also be respected - joints not less than 3 - 5 mm. The manufacturer does not recommend grouting the joints of these elements. If grouting is required, it is recommended that this be done with flexible masses. Beds for curbs and edging should be made according to the design. Failure to do so may damage the adjacent edges.

Product installation

Concrete paving blocks, etc. may vary in colour due to unavoidable variations in the properties of the raw materials (sand, gravel, cement). These components have a natural variability of colour. In order to reduce natural colour differences, the surfaces should be laid out from several pallets at the same time, collecting the blocks from the top to the bottom of the pallet (minimum 3 pallets).

Mixing the paving blocks during construction results in a uniform and natural surface. Laying individual pallets, layer by layer, creates clear differences in the shade of the paved surface.

Use and maintenance

Concrete paving blocks, etc. are a material that perfectly transfers loads related to pedestrian or vehicular traffic. However, it is not a material that is resistant to external stains (soil, oil, coffee, wine, etc.). Therefore, care should be taken to keep the paving surfaces clean and free from the contamination described above.

It is possible to use impregnating agents which improve the conditions for keeping the surface clean, but an impregnator will never fully protect a concrete surface.

A surface laid with paving blocks etc. should not be treated with any heavy objects with sharp edges as it may cause permanent mechanical damage. Do not use de-icing agents during the first winter period after paving. It is permissible to use de-icing agents in winter, but their intensive use may contribute to changes in the colour of the concrete (may cause peeling of the top layer). Pressure washers and commercially available cleaning agents can be used to clean paving block surfaces.

The following phenomena or product features are acceptable and do not constitute product defects:

- **the limescale deposits** (efflorescence) which develop on the surface of paving blocks as a result of the complex physico-chemical processes occurring during the curing of the concrete. The use value of the paving blocks is not impaired and the light lime stains disappear after a maximum of three years of use. There are products on the market to remove efflorescence from already laid pavement. **Caution!:** Do not impregnate pavement on which lime efflorescence has occurred, as this may stop the natural decay process.
- **roughened facing surface** that increases traction, reducing the risk of slipping on wet and icy surfaces.
- **differences in shades of paving blocks** (minor) which do not depend on the manufacturer and are caused by the following factors: quality of dyes, colour of cement, colour of aggregates, temperature, conditions of use of the paving blocks laid.
- **hairline micro-cracks**, imperceptible on dry products but visible when the paving blocks are drying out; this phenomenon is caused by natural shrinkage that occurs during the cement setting process.
- **excess material**, there may be so called excess material on the upper edge of the products, which is the result of the normal use of the mould and the punches. They splinter already during the laying and compaction of the blocks and completely after a short period of use.
- **pores**, small indentations determined by the production process.
- **mechanical damage**; during transport, unloading and laying of the paving blocks there may occur cracks, chips, scratches, surface abrasion, damage resulting from installation.

All the above-mentioned characteristics do not affect the properties as well as the understatement of the technical and operational parameters of the products.