

STONE TERMINOLOGY

Our goal is to assist you every step of the way in your research. We've included this section of stone terminology to help educate during the process. If you have any questions, we're here to help.

Arris Line: the angle, corner or edge produced by the meeting of two perpendicular stone surfaces.

Ashlar: A horizontal stone pattern generally made from squared and rectangular shapes having sawed or dressed beds of joints.

- Coursed Ashlar: Ashlar set to form continuous horizontal joints with one rise.

- Stacked Ashlar: Ashlar set to form continuous vertical joints.

- Random Ashlar: Ashlar set with stones of varying length and height so that neither vertical nor horizontal joints are continuous.

Band Course: A continuous horizontal course with one gauged or reasonably consistent rise.

Bed Face: Installing a stone in a vertical wall with the natural bed exposed.

Bed Joint: A horizontal joint between stones, usually filled with mortar, leased or caulk sealant.

Belt Course: A continuous horizontal course, making a division in the wall plane.

Block Quarry: A quarry that contains a sound, natural deposit of natural stone where nature allows the harvest of stone blocks.

Bush Hammer: Finish applied to cut stone by a bush hammer tool to create a decorative dimpled appearance.

Chinking: The method of filling large mortar joints in stone veneer with small chips or slivers of stone.

Chisel: A steel tool used to "dress" or "trim" stone, available in steel or carbide tipped.

Course: A continuous horizontal band of consistent height.

Cut Stone: Dimensionally cut stone, cut to size and shape, finished and ready to set in place.

Depth: Measurement of particular piece of stone from front to back.

Dimensioned Stone: Stone precut and shaped to specified sizes ("cut stone").

Dressed: The trimming and shaping of rough pieces of stone, done by hand chiseling to create a square, rectangular, or finished desired shape.

Dry Stack: Horizontal pattern of stone installed "tight" to allow a very narrow bed joint. Joints are raked back deeply into stone work as to be undetectable.

Hand Tracer: Steel chisel tool with two beveled edges to make a sharp bladed end used for hand dressing, available in steel and carbide tipped.

Hand Chipper: Steel chisel tool with one beveled face and flat back to form a sharp bladed end used to produce a rock face finish, available in steel and carbide.

Hand Ripper: Steel chisel tool with saw toothed end for tooling and dressing stone faces.

Hand Set: Steel chisel tool with two beveled edges to form a 1/4" flat head bladed end, used for intense hand dressing.

Joint: the space between stone units usually filled with mortar, sealant, or epoxy.

Ledge Bed Quarry: A quarry that by nature allows the harvesting of natural stone by peeling off the natural random layers.

Length: Measurement of a particular piece of the stone from left end to right end.

Natural Bed: The horizontal stratification of stone as it was formed in the natural stone deposit.

Hand Pitch: The technique used by striking a smooth edge of stone with appropriate tools to create a rough, convex appearance.

Quarry Pit: The location of a stone quarrying operation where a natural deposit of stone is removed from the ground, as it lies.

Quarry Run: The condition of stone that is not sorted but instead naturally and randomly selected to a natural range of size, color, and shape.

Rise: Measurement of a particular piece of stone from the top to the bottom.

Rockface: Similar to a split face edge finish, except this face is "pitched" to a given arris line, producing a

bold, convex appearance.

Rubble Stone: A blend of stone that is naturally or mechanically broken or split, to make up a particular random pattern, but holding a reasonably consistent joint.

Rustic: See "Weathered Edge"

Seam Face: A stone that exposes a surface that is taken from a vertical quarry seam.

Soldier Course: A horizontal course of series of vertically laid stone.

Splitter: Hydraulic machine/equipment used to split natural stone.

Tapestry Finish: A finish applied to stone by a sandblasting wand at a consistent PSI.

Thin Veneer: Veneer stone that is saw cut to a 1 1/2" wall depth from front to back, leaving a sawn back side and an intended finished face. Installed on a vertical wall without a support ledge.

Tumbled Stone: Stone that is mechanically tumbled to create a worn and distressed finish.

Veneer: A layer of natural building stone facing material used to cover a cavity wall.

Weathered Edge: A stone surface that is naturally created by the combination of extreme natural pressure and mineral staining, offering a beautifully unique color and texture.