

A Guide to Fitting Limestone & Marble Fireplaces

Thank you for purchasing one of our Aegean limestone fireplaces.

We recommend getting your fireplace professionally installed as they are not as simple to install as it may seem. This will ensure that you get the most from your fireplace and quality, professional installation. If you decide to install it yourself, we cannot accept any responsibility for any consequential damage or problems you may encounter due to an incorrect installation.

Please ensure that you read these instructions fully before opening the packaging.

Note: Stone and Marble fireplace components are very heavy and great care should be taken during lifting, handling and fixing.

The limestone fireplaces must be mechanically fixed to the wall using brackets, screws and wall plugs when fixing to a masonry wall. When fixing to a partition wall, the fireplace must be bracketed to the timber/metal framework. We do not recommend the use of adhesive alone for fixing the fireplace back to the wall.

Before attempting to lift the fireplace from its packaging, please read the steps below.

1. Ensure you are familiar with the Health and Safety requirements regarding manual handling
2. The weight of the part should be assessed before you attempt to lift it in. In most cases, you will require 2 persons to lift
3. When putting components down on the floor, please ensure suitable supports are positioned so that fingers are not trapped
4. Remove any external packaging first so that you can get a clear view of the crates. Always put the fireplace down on a soft surface and on the back side.

Here are some further guidelines for the handling of your stone or marble fireplace

1. On most occasions each fireplace will come to you individually crated. Please ensure that when your operatives open the crates they do so from side opposite the hearth. Damage to the front of the hearth can easily be caused by people opening a crate with a claw hammer or bar on the side of the crate where the hearth is packed.
2. It is most important that any nails left protruding from the crate are removed before you start lifting any parts from the crate. Leaving nails in often results in the stone being chipped as it is removed from the crate.
3. Please remember that limestone is heavy and all of our solid fireplaces need to be lifted by two people, in particular the hearths.
4. It is good practice for fitters to have old pieces of carpet (or similar) to hand as setting stone down on a hard surface will result in the stone being damaged. Also wooden supports should be used to avoid trapped fingers (these can be placed under the carpet).

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5. The stone may be wet when you receive it therefore, individual components will appear different in colour. Any colour variation will gradually disappear after installation.
6. Repairing stone is very normal as it is almost impossible to get stone that does not have some fissure or crack which needs to be filled. The stone fireplace may have been filled during production. This is normal procedure and should not be seen as a flaw.
7. The back panels may be supplied with a chipped corner, which will not be seen when the fireplace is fitted. In production, the exposed edges will be finished and minor chips on the unexposed edges are a consequence of sawing.
8. We recommend that the fireplace should be sealed after installation once it has dried thoroughly. This will protect the stone against stains such as red wine, tea or coffee. It may darken the stone slightly.
9. To clean the stone, apply warm water with a light detergent. You may use a fine grade wire wool to remove any stubborn marks.

Fixing Guidelines for Limestone fireplaces

- Before you start fitting you must identify the parts that during installation will be secured using wet cement or similar and seal all the surfaces that will come in contact with the wet cement with PVA and this should be allowed to dry before you start. This will avoid yellow or dark stains appearing on the finished surfaces of the fireplace after it has been installed.
- The hearth should be positioned and levelled before fixing. Make sure the surface is sealed with PVA or similar. The hearth should also be sealed as cement can cause yellow stains to appear on the face of the hearth.
- White cement should be used to bed the hearth. Allow to dry sufficiently to avoid slumping.
- The legs should be positioned on the hearth at the correct distance apart to enable the head of the fireplace to be fitted later, carefully position the head of the fireplace to confirm the leg positions and remove again carefully (2 persons are strongly recommended for this task).
- Mark the position on the wall before drilling the holes to take the brackets for the legs.
- The legs should then be fixed to the wall using the brackets and screws.
- The slips or back panel should now be fixed to the wall (remember it must be sealed with PVA on the reverse side if cement is going to be used). If the fireplace has 3 inch rebates the panels will have to be fixed away from the wall and braced to it.
- Position the lintel on the legs again marking the wall before you drill the holes. The lintel should now be fixed to the wall using the brackets and screws. Make sure the mouldings are properly lined up before you fix.
- The shelf or mantle can now be fixed in position (Where this has a large surface area of contact with the head of the fireplace then an adhesive can be used but a good coverage must be put down, taking care that no adhesive is allowed to contact the decorative surfaces of the fireplace, we would recommend clear silicon for this purpose, we recommend that you advise the customer not to disturb the fireplace for the period of the adhesive manufacturers recommended drying time.

N.B The fixing of fireplaces is a specialised trade and should not be attempted by anyone unless they know what they are doing. The information given above is only a guideline.

The fireplace should be properly examined for defects before it is fitted. We cannot accept any responsibility for complaints once the fitting has taken place.