

## Cleaning Instructions

### Recommended Cleaning Procedure and Solution

**Procedure:** Bucket and brush method with the recommended cleaning solution. Maximum water pressure 400 psi.

**Solution:** Sure Klean® Vana Trol®

**Note:** Sure Klean® Vana Trol® is recommended for cleaning this brick because cleaning this brick with Sure Klean® #600 Detergent may discolor or otherwise damage the brick.

Proper pre-wetting is essential to the finished appearance of masonry. Vana Trol® as well as other cleaning solutions have been associated with efflorescence when the masonry has not been preset and the cleaning solution is absorbed into the brickwork. Generous pre-wetting is particularly important to avoid this.

This cleaning procedure and solution is recommended for use in exterior applications with the Hebron Brick listed. **Masonry laid with colored mortar may require the use of specific cleaning products such as Sure Klean® Vana Trol® or Diedrich #202V.** Contact your distributor or Hebron Brick Technical Services (701-232-0781) for any additional information about cleaners and the removal of stains. While only Prosoco Sure Klean® products have been listed as acceptable cleaning solutions, other similar solutions may be used at your own risk. In any case, test cleaning should always be performed to ensure desired results.

#### Test Panel

A test application should be performed on an inconspicuous wall area prior to cleaning the masonry. Test each type of surface to be cleaned to ensure proper dilution rate procedure and desired results. Adjust dilution rate to the lowest concentration of cleaning solution that effectively cleans the masonry surface. After cleaning, the test area should be allowed to dry for 7 to 14 days before final inspection. The brick as well as the mortar should be inspected for possible undesirable effects. Do not proceed if discoloration or efflorescence appears. Contact your brick supplier or Hebron Brick to request additional assistance. Approval of owner or owner's representative should be obtained before proceeding with full scale cleaning.

#### Bucket and Brush Method

1. Protect adjacent building materials and plant life from the cleaning solution. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
2. Remove all large mortar particles with wooden paddles. The cleaning solution alone will not remove all mortar.
3. Dilute the cleaning solution with water as recommended by the solution manufacturer. Based on test panel results use the lowest effective concentration of solution. Always pour the acid into the water.
4. Thoroughly pre-wet the area to be cleaned. Pre-wet any masonry below. Do not allow the masonry to dry before applying the diluted cleaning solution. Inadequate pre-wetting of masonry has been proven to cause efflorescence.
5. Apply the diluted cleaning solution freely in a gentle scrubbing manner with a stiff bristle brush or with a low pressure sprayer. Start cleaning at the top of the wall. Keep the wall surfaces wet below the areas being cleaned. Rinse Regularly to keep these areas free of cleaning solution residue. Scrub bricks, not mortar. Do not use metal tools.
6. Allow the diluted cleaning solution to remain on the surface of the masonry in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations. Do not allow the diluted cleaning solution to dry on the wall.
7. Reapply the diluted cleaning solution as required.
8. Rinse thoroughly with fresh water.
9. Repeat as required, following steps 4-8 above. Multiple applications may alter the color of the mortar.

#### Pressure Washing

Pressures should be limited according to the procedures described for each brick. If allowed, a pressure washer may be used in steps 4 and 8. Be sure to limit water pressure according to the described for each brick. Do not use pressure washing equipment to apply the cleaning solution. Proper pressure washing involves the correct pressure, proper volume of water, and proper nozzle (spray tip). A minimum flow of 3 gallons of water per minute should be maintained, although 4 to 6 gallons per minute is more desirable. A fan type stainless steel spray tip is the most efficient and least likely to cause damage to the surface of the masonry. The spray tip should disperse a 30-50 fan spray. Do not hold the spray tip closer than 12" to the face of the wall. **Do not pressure wash sand-coated brick.**

#### Additional Information

1. Bricks should not be placed directly on the ground at the job site. Protective material should be provided when brick are unloaded. In the case of white, buff, tan, grey, brown or black bricks, complete protection should be provided until used.
2. Protect the wall as work progresses. This includes protecting the base of the wall after the first course of brick is laid and protecting the wall from rain and snow to keep excessive water out of the wall. Cover the tops of the walls and window and door sills at the end of each day's work. It is particularly important to protect sills after the windows have been set but not caulked.
3. Scaffolding should be set far enough away from the wall to allow mortar droppings to fall to the ground. At the end of each workday the scaffold boards closest to the wall should be tilted up and away from the wall to dump excess mortar droppings and prevent rainfall from splashing mortar onto the masonry.
4. Removed excess mortar with stiff bristle brushes or wood or plastic scrapers as the work progresses.
5. Sand and water used in the mortar should be free of mud, salts and debris which may cause the efflorescence or staining. If you don't drink the water, don't put it in the mortar mixer!

**Note:** Because of the extensive variety of applications, job conditions, and cleaning methods available for use with clay masonry, these recommendations do not eliminate the need to test chemicals and procedures for every project. Other cleaning solutions are available for remedial cleaning. Contact your distributor or Hebron Brick Technical Services at (701) 232-0781. Reactions of solutions with materials other than the listed brick are not the responsibility of Hebron Brick Company.

### **IMPORTANT!**

**Do not pressure wash sand-coated brick  
Do not clean brick with muriatic acid**

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