

EFFLORESCENCE HAPPENS

Here's Why

Efflorescence is the migration of lime, a salt, or other dissolved mineral to the surface of a porous material, such as precast concrete, leaving a white powdery residue. When there is an abundance of rainfall or water the lime from inside the concrete mix or the base material below (such as sand, gravel, mortar base, or earth) dissolves inside the concrete. The water flows to the surface and then evaporates leaving the chalky covering behind.



How to Remove It

- Clean the product with a mild cleaner to remove surface dirt; soap and water is fine.
- Next, clean the product with efflorescence remover – a mild blend of acids intended to dissolve masonry efflorescence. Multiple washings of the efflorescence remover may also be required since this step tends to bring about further pulling of lime near the surface.
- Please note that repeated washings with the efflorescence remover will affect the color; repeated use continues to pull the dissolved minerals from the concrete.
- A recommended final step involves sealing the product in order to protect it. A “natural look” penetrating water sealer for stone, concrete, and masonry surfaces will restore your precast concrete to the Stepstone original factory look and finish.

Can I get efflorescence remover or sealer from Stepstone?

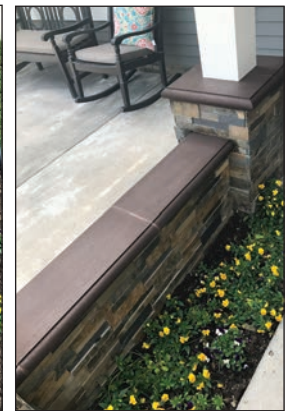
No. These can be found at your local masonry dealer. Eagerly, we'll refer you to a Stepstone Dealer in your area within the state of California.



An efflorescence removal job in progress; before (left) and after cleaning (right).



Before



After

For more information please call Stepstone, LLC at 800.572.9029
Since 1963 Stepstone has manufactured a wide range of wet-cast precast concrete products.

Visit our website: stepstoneprecast.com

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23 7/8" x 23 7/8" x 2"			
Test #	Elapsed Time (Seconds)	Infiltration Rate	
		Inch/Hour	Inch/Minute
1	43.95	873	15
2	42.38	905	15
3	40.08	957	16

8 7/8" x 2 7/8" x 4"			
Test #	Elapsed Time (Seconds)	Infiltration Rate	
		Inch/Hour	Inch/Minute
1	21.83	1758	29
2	21.96	1747	29
3	22.48	1707	28