Color Selection
County Materials recommends immediately verifying the product and color upon receipt and prior to opening pallets. For any discrepancies, contact your local County Materials’ representative before installation. Use of product constitutes acceptance.

Mock-up Sample Unit
Before project installation begins, choose one unit as a mock-up sample in the pattern, type, color, finish and shape specified. This sample must be completed for evaluation of surface preparation techniques, application workmanship, as well as the application methods for any cleaning and sealing agents.

Proper Color Distribution and Installation Techniques
Colors shown may vary from actual hues provided and should only be used as a guide. Because concrete units are manufactured with high quality, naturally-mined aggregates and materials, variations in color or shading should be expected in products that are manufactured at different times and in units having different shapes. This color or shading variation is acceptable in the industry. The contractor must install units in accordance with the landscaping industry’s best practices, according to NCMA and ICPI standard specifications, and the manufacturer’s instructions. The color of concrete products may vary between production lots. Install units from several pallets to ensure distribution of color. County Materials is not liable or responsible for loss or damage resulting from improper storage, handling, maintaining the products or failure to follow installation instructions. Follow recommended warnings, advisories and instructions.

Efflorescence
Efflorescence is a naturally occurring process in all concrete products which may appear in the form of a white powdery film on the unit’s surface. Efflorescence may be more perceivable in darker colors. It does not, in any way, compromise the functionality or the structural integrity of the product or your installation. Although efflorescence cannot be prevented, it will wash off over time or it can be cleaned with an industry cleaner (see Cleaning). County Materials accepts no responsibility or liability for the occurrence of efflorescence.

Cleaning
Always keep units clean during construction. Harsh cleaning methods after units have been installed might mar the surface of units.
Concrete cleaning agents are not required but are an option for Landscape Step Units. There are many different cleaning agents specific to application requirements and desired results. Cleaning agent manufacturers recommended are PROSOCO, EaCo Chem Inc., and SEK-Surebond Hardscapes. Use of the cleaning agent must comply with all instructions provided by the cleaning agent manufacturer, and the cleaning agent method must be performed on a separate mock-up sample unit prior to Buyer approval. County Materials accepts no responsibility or liability for the use of cleaning agents on our Landscape Step Units.

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Sealing

A concrete sealer may not be required on County Materials’ Landscape Step Units but is an option.

There are many different sealing agents specific to application requirements and desired results. Sealing agent manufacturers recommended are TK Products Construction Coatings, PROSOCO, and SEK-Surebond Hardscapes. Use of the sealing agent must comply with all instructions provided by the sealing agent manufacturer, and the sealing agent method must be performed on a separate mock-up sample unit prior to Buyer approval.

County Materials accepts no responsibility or liability for the use of sealers on our Landscape Step Units.