

# Basalt

*Volcanic Stone / Turkey / Vietnam*

Basalt is a dense volcanic stone formed from rapidly cooled lava, characterized by dark grey to charcoal tones and a very fine-grained structure.

It is valued for its exceptional compressive strength, abrasion resistance, and low water absorption.

Basalt is specified where mechanical performance and durability override decorative softness.

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## Recommended Applications

Suitable for: Exterior floors and plazas - Public walkways and urban spaces - Stair treads and ramps - Pool surrounds (non-barefoot zones) - Facades and exterior wall cladding - Industrial and infrastructure projects

Typical use cases: Public squares and streetscapes - Transportation hubs - Commercial outdoor circulation areas - Contemporary architecture with minimal material palette

Basalt is a **functional infrastructure stone**.

## Surface Finishes

Recommended finishes: Flamed – standard exterior specification - Bush-hammered – maximum slip resistance - Sandblasted – balanced texture for pedestrian areas  
Honed – interior floors with controlled use

Finish guidance: Textured finishes are mandatory for exterior walking surfaces - Polished finish is not recommended due to slip and glare - Dark color intensifies heat absorption in direct sun

## Slip Rating (Indicative)

Bush-hammered: R12, Flamed: R11 – R12, Sandblasted: R11, Honed: R10

Suitable for high-traffic exterior environments when textured.

## Dimensional Tolerances

Tiles: ±1.5 mm - Pavers / exterior units: ±2.0 mm

Basalt often allows consistent tolerances even in heavy-duty formats.

## Recommended Adhesive & Installation

Adhesive:

- High-strength cement-based adhesive
- Classification: C2TE S1 / C2TE S2 (EN 12004)

Installation notes: Full adhesive coverage required - Back-buttering mandatory for exterior and large formats - Proper sub-base preparation critical for load-bearing applications - Mechanical fixing recommended for facade systems

## Maintenance & Aging Behavior

Basalt is **extremely low maintenance**.

Expected behavior:

- Minimal surface wear under heavy traffic
- High resistance to chemicals and environmental exposure
- Stable color and texture over time

Surface may lighten slightly in high-abrasion zones, which is considered normal.

## Not Recommended For (Critical)

Basalt should not be specified for: Barefoot pool decks in hot climates - Residential patios requiring thermal comfort - Highly decorative interior spaces  
Projects prioritizing warmth or material softness

*Its limitations are related to **thermal comfort and aesthetics**, not strength.*

## Specification Notes (For Project Documents)

Specify textured finish for all exterior walking surfaces

Consider heat absorption in sun-exposed areas

Define load-bearing requirements and sub-base design

Use honed finish only for controlled interior applications

## Stone Moods Professional Note

*Basalt is not expressive. It is **resolute**.*

*When the project demands longevity, safety, and resistance under constant use, basalt delivers with minimal compromise.*

*It is the stone of infrastructure, not indulgence.*

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Spec Sheet No: SM-CM-9  
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