

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.

STONE
MOODS
STONE · DESIGN · INSPIRATION



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.

Stone Moods

Independent Editorial · Performance-Driven

Written for architects, designers, and serious buyers.

Spec Sheet No: SM-CM-9
www.stonemoods.com