

sTones®

unique cut glass designs
set in hypertufa

What is hypertufa?

Hypertufa is a man-made stone that mimics tufa (too'-fah), a calcium carbonate deposit similar to limestone. First created in the mid-19th century for use in animal troughs, hypertufa is a mixture of peat, vermiculite, Portland cement and sand. It is relatively lightweight compared with stone or concrete.

How is hypertufa made?

Specific proportions of the 4 ingredients, plus colorants if desired, are mixed with water then poured into a mold. Depending on its thickness, the stone takes from 24 to 48 hours to set. The stone is cured for 30 days, during which time it becomes noticeably lighter as the moisture evaporates.

How are the glass designs embedded in the stone?

The designs are cut from colored glass and placed on the bottom of the mold before the hypertufa is poured. Once the stone is set, it is removed from the mold and turned over to reveal the design.

What other designs are available?

All designs are created by the artist and can be personalized. Designs currently available include Alaskan wildflowers, Australian mammals, Aboriginal abstracts, Celtic patterns, dragons, lions...tigers...and bears...oh my!

For your own special sTone, contact:

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Will the glass break or come loose?

The glass is securely embedded in the stone and will not crack or break with normal usage. The stones withstand foot traffic, freezing temperatures and having ice scraped from them. They will not withstand your cousin Vinnie's bowling ball dropped from the second story.

Will the stone break?

A web of steel mesh incorporated midway through the stone provides excellent structural integrity. As long as the stone is correctly installed it will not break. Unless Vinnie's bowling ball ... you get the picture.

How do I install my stone?

Dig a space slightly larger than your stone and about twice as deep. Fill half the space with clean sand and place the stone on top. Wiggle it a bit so it sits solidly with no rocking from side-to-side. Then firmly pack some of the removed dirt or sod around the edges. The stone should be even with the surrounding terrain and not show any movement when stepped on.

In addition to garden paths, stones can be made for memorial headstones, trivets, building facing, and custom sized rocks for landscaping.